

Information from a survey of various factors concerning design and operating performance of gasoline powered cars on the road in the USA.

**Findings: Car engine temperatures and heat dissipation.**

An informal survey (conducted August 20, 2015) of typical operating temperatures for gasoline-powered engines in cars operating in the USA found that for normally functioning vehicles, engine temperatures were typically in the 180 to 220 degrees Fahrenheit, or about 80 to 105 degrees Celsius.

Car engines are typically cooled by a combination of radiators circulating water under pressure and physical characteristics of engine components (such as an annular fin or other high surface-area-to-volume artifacts) and attached elements that dissipate heat from their surface areas.

Newer engines tend to run closer to the 100-degree mark than older cars, but there are many factors. Radiator “blow outs” often occur when cars “overheat” and their temperatures reach well over 110 degrees Celsius.

**Findings: Features and options gaining popularity in newer cars.**

A trend continues in the increasing adoption of electrical accessories in newer models of cars operating in the USA through 2015. Increasingly cars sold offer more numerous and more powerful electrical accessories, from power windows and door locks to music and video entertainment systems and device chargers. Older options such as “air conditioning” and enhanced audio systems are for most cars increasingly considered standard equipment.

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