

Diesel vs Gas Class A — Total Ownership Cost

Diesel Class A versus gas Class A — five years of ownership, all costs in. Different game. Different winner. Numbers.

Round one — purchase. Gas — \$130K. Diesel — \$350K. Gas wins by \$220K. Big head start.

Round two — fuel over 50,000 miles. Gas at 7 MPG and \$4/gal = \$28,500. Diesel at 9 MPG and \$4.50/gal = \$25,000. Diesel saves \$3,500 on fuel.

Round three — maintenance over 5 years. Gas — \$15K (oil, transmission, brakes, generator service). Diesel — \$35K (DEF fluid, particulate filter, more frequent service). Gas wins by \$20K.

Round four — depreciation. Gas loses 35% in 5 years. Diesel loses 20%. Diesel keeps \$145K more of its value.

Total after 5 years — Gas: \$130K purchase + \$28.5K fuel + \$15K maintenance - \$84.5K residual = \$89K spent. Diesel: \$350K + \$25K + \$35K - \$280K residual = \$130K spent. Gas wins by \$41K.

THE BOTTOM LINE

But — diesel is more comfortable, lasts longer, pulls hills like nothing. The \$41K is the convenience tax. Pay it or don't. Comment what you'd choose.