



**Did You Know:**

- There are over 100 public charging stations in the South Bay
- In most cases, fully charging your car at home will be enough to meet the needs of your daily commute, and more
- Apartment and condo residents can install personal charging stations in common parking areas, according to California state law

## Charging Overview

### Electric car charging: the basics you need to know

There are three types of charging available to those that drive EVs: home-based, work-place, and publicly available charging. Typically, EV owners charge overnight at home to top-up for their next day's travels to work; on average, most EV drivers can fully charge their batteries overnight by simply plugging into a common household outlet.

Since the commute to work is often the longest daily trip an EV driver will make, there are many who will require the use of either work-place charging or publicly available charging to "top-up" so that they can make their return trip home at the end of the day. There is an extensive body of research and tracking that has been conducted by the [Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA) regarding work-place charging. of Southern California companies that are providing their employees with the benefits of work-place charging.

Publicly available charging continues to develop at an extraordinary pace – through public infrastructure projects, private networks or joint public/private partnerships. There are many app-based locator tools for EV drivers to find "the closest EV charging station" including:

The Plugshare [locator](#) and the U.S. Department of Energy's [Alternative Fueling Station Locator](#).

## Installing a Home Charger

### Buyer's Guide to EV Charging

Electric cars all come with a basic 120-volt charging cable that can charge the battery from a household socket, if there are no other options. But sooner or later, most battery-electric car owners will want to upgrade to a 240-volt Level 2 charging station that can recharge their car as much as four times faster. This [video](#) explains what an EV car-buyer should consider in terms of charging at home; Green Car Reports has a good [article](#) that explores what you'll need to know about installing a 240-volt charging station in your home and includes a buyers' guide for various models on the market.

## Apartments and Condos

Charging at home is great, if you have your own home. However, over half of Los Angeles residents live in apartments or condos, also known as Multi-unit Dwellings (MUDs). Resident parking in common areas shouldn't be a barrier to EV ownership; in fact, ensuring EV charging for MUDs is essential to the success of EVs in California. The state has passed laws that prioritize Electric Vehicle charging at MUDs, explained [here](#).



## Using Public Chargers



### Charging Etiquette

If you use public charging stations, you can help make the experience a little better for everyone else, simply by being considerate. Some public charging stations are starting to see backlogs, with not enough plugs available to accommodate the needs of drivers. In time, infrastructure will catch up to the demand. But for now, we all need to make do with what's available. Regardless of what

kind of plug-in electric car you drive, if you use public charging stations, you can help make the experience a little better for everyone else, simply by being considerate. [Here are some tips](#) for general courtesy and charging-station etiquette, as well as some best practices in [video](#) form.