

How to store fuel long term

Petrol cannot be stored long-term without using an additive as it begins to deteriorate after little more than a month. As a general rule, the higher the RON (octane) rating of the fuel, the shorter its storage life will be. Running stale fuel through your engine can result in difficult starting and reduced performance at best, and at worst you could be looking at a very expensive repair bill.

So, if you want to store petrol long-term for when it is not available during some disasters, **Sta-bil** is an option. Treating your fuel with STA-BIL keeps it fresh for up to 12 months (or 24 months if you double to quantity of Sta-bil added)

Sta-bil

- stops the formation of gum and varnish deposits within the fuel system
- contains corrosion prevention additives to fight against the damaging effects of Ethanol in fuel
- cleans fuel system components such as fuel injectors and carburettors
- removes water from fuel to help prevent fuel separation
- Eliminates the need to drain fuel tanks before or after storage.



Available from car accessories stores, off the internet or directly from Sta-bil at <https://www.sta-bil.com.au/> Cost is from £14.

How long does fuel last in a jerry can?

When using the right fuel container, petrol can last up to one year, so long as the jerry can remains properly sealed. At 20° Celsius, fuel in a container with a broken seal lasts six months; at 30° Celsius, it lasts three months.

Can old petrol damage your car?

Expired petrol can cause damage to your car's pistons during ignition, which makes it harder to start the engine and reduces your car's performance when revving the engine.

Also, within just a few months, peroxides can form in the petrol in hot weather, which can then start to eat away at metal and rubber, such as the liner on fuel lines, copper in fuel pumps and rubber parts of hoses.

Storing your jerry (fuel) cans:

Make certain your long term fuel storage location is at least 15 metres away from any ignition sources (i.e. pilot lights) and in a well-ventilated area. **Note:** gasoline vapour is heavier than air and can travel along the floor to ignition sources. To prevent gas vapour leak, ensure your approved containers are properly sealed at all time.

Dosage recommendations

For seasonal storage, or when the fuel is likely to sit idle for more than 1-2 months but less than 12 months:

- 30ml for every 9.5 litres of fresh fuel

For longer storage periods e.g. 12 - 24 months:

- 60ml for every 9.5 litres of fresh fuel

For best results always store vehicles and equipment with a full tank of fuel rather than a near empty tank. Always run the engine for up to 5 minutes after adding STA-BIL® to ensure the entire fuel system is treated and not just the fuel stored in the fuel tank.