

Ready for your new electric car?

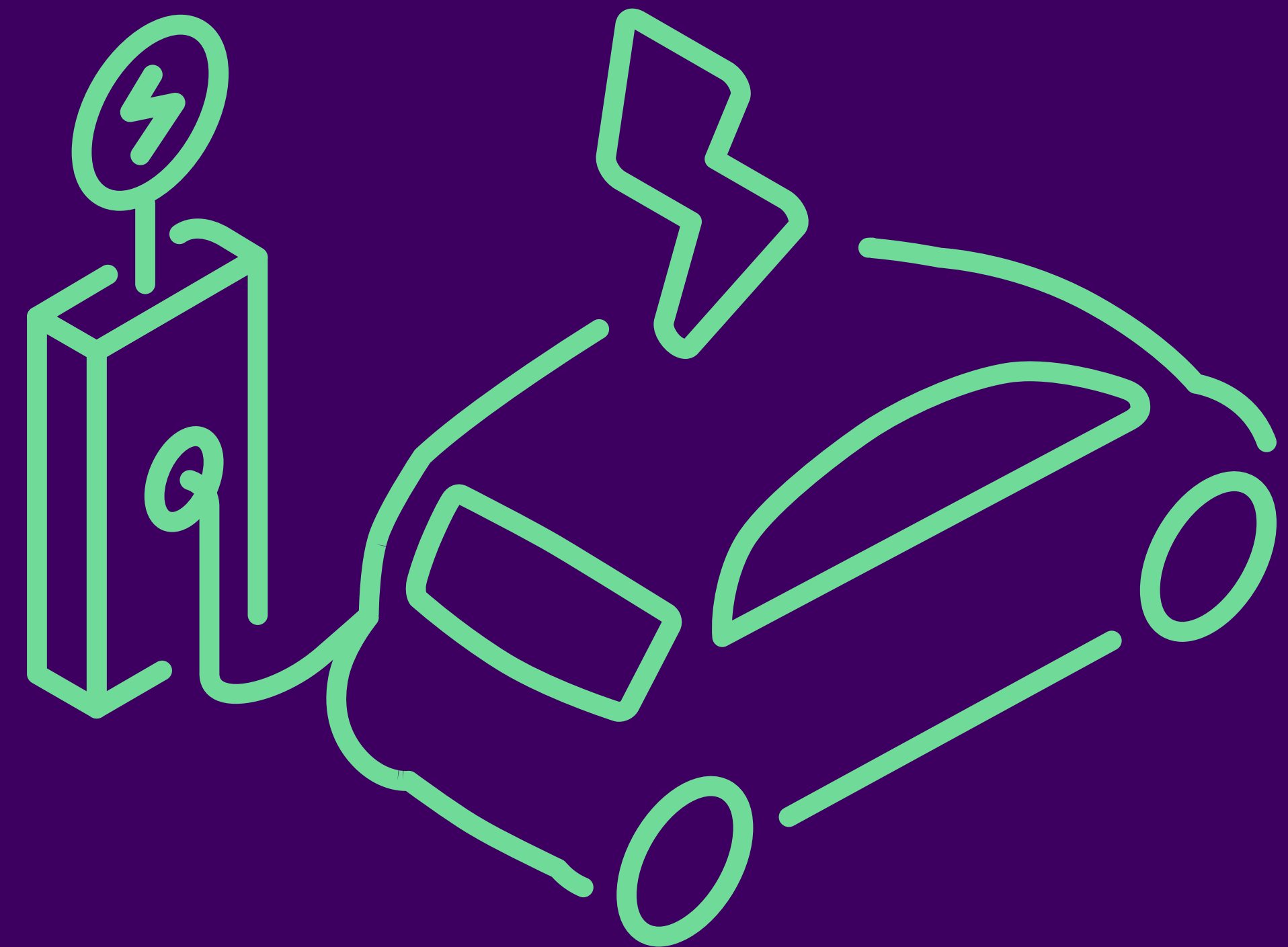
We know you're excited about your new electric car.
Here's a quick guide to help get you started.

Tomorrow. Together

Charging at home

The government's Electric Vehicle Home Charge Scheme (EVHS) covers up to 75% towards the cost of installing a smart charge point. This means that a new unit can generally be supplied and installed for around £300.

From April 2022, the scheme will only apply to homeowners who live in flats or people in rental accommodation. To find out more and to check the full list of eligibility criteria, visit www.gov.uk and search for EVHS.



Questions drivers ask

Is home charging really safe?

Home charging units are generally wired directly into your fuse board, meaning there's no additional load to worry about. They are also fully weatherproof.

Whilst it's possible to use a standard three-pin socket, they are not designed to safely handle these loads on a regular basis.

What about home charging cables?

Most dedicated home charging units have either a standard Type Two socket or a built-in cable which you can plug into your car.

All new electric vehicles sold in the UK feature Type Two connectors, and often come with a cable included. However, it's best to check that your order includes the right cable for you.

How do home charging units work?

Whether you have a separate charger and cable, or a combined unit, the basic process is the same.

Simply open the charging cap on your car and connect the cable as appropriate. The lights on your unit will let you know that charging has started and also when the vehicle is fully topped up.

Should I change my provider?

Most vehicles are recharged in the evening or overnight, so you'll want a provider with good off-peak rates.

Some companies offer discounted Smart charge points as an incentive to sign up and the main renewable energy providers also offer tariffs including electric vehicle charging incentives, such as a charging point or POLAR membership.

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Recharging on the road

You'll find public charging points at service stations, shopping centres, car parks and roadside locations all around the country.

Many employers are also installing chargers for staff to use whilst at work. If your employer doesn't currently offer this then you might want to let them know that the government's Workplace Charging Scheme (WCS) provides eligible businesses with financial support towards the costs involved.

Payment for charging your electric car is generally via a service subscription or on a pay-as-you-go basis. The schemes are run by a variety of operators and so, depending on your travel patterns, you might need to have more than one account set up.

With this in mind, now would be a good time to download one of the dedicated apps to help you locate charging points along your most frequently travelled routes.



Ready for your new electric car?

The best apps for EV drivers



www.zap-map.com

Comprehensive charging point locator with route planning and advice for EV drivers.



www.plugshare.com

Quite similar to Zap Map, but with more of a worldwide coverage.



www.polar-network.com

The UK's largest public charging network, owned and operated by BP.



www.charge.pod-point.com

An established operator with charging units often found in shopping centres and car parks.



www.ecotricity.co.uk

A major provider of charging units at motorway service stations.

Manufacturers

Chargemaster

Many car manufacturers have specific apps for their EV drivers offering a variety of services such as vehicle monitoring and route planning.

Charging tips

To preserve battery life, follow these top tips:

- ✓ Plan trips with charging locations in mind and make a note of convenient charge points along regular routes
- ✓ Try not to regularly let the battery run down too low
- ✓ Keeping your battery at 50-80% capacity will maintain a higher total driving range in the long-run
- ✓ Charging the last 20% takes a disproportionate amount of time and is rarely worth it in public locations

Ready for your new electric car?

A new driving experience

Electric vehicles are great to drive but there are a few differences which might take a little while to get used to.

Firstly, without any of the standard engine noises, you'll be far more aware of sounds coming from the road. You'll also notice that, with all the power instantly available, even smaller vehicles pull away effortlessly every time. That said, accelerating too quickly will significantly decrease your range.



Any questions?

There are plenty of resources online aimed at new and existing EV drivers but your best source of reliable information is generally the relevant vehicle manufacturer. You can also contact our team by visiting NovunaVehicleSolutions.co.uk/existing-customers

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