

HOW CAR ENGINES WORK

Have you ever opened the **hood** of your car and wondered what was going on in there? A car engine can look like a big confusing mix of metal, tubes and wires to the *uninitiated*.

You might want to know what's going on simply out of curiosity. Or *perhaps* you are buying a new car and you hear things like "2.5-liter incline four" and "turbocharged" and "start/stop technology." What does all of that mean?

In this article, we'll discuss the basic idea behind an engine and then go into detail about how all the pieces *fit* together, what can go wrong and how to *increase performance*.

The purpose of a gasoline car engine is to convert gasoline into *motion* so that your car can move. Currently the easiest way to create *motion* from gasoline is to burn the gasoline

inside an engine. Therefore, a car engine is an **internal combustion engine** — combustion takes place internally

Look the meaning for the following words:

Uninitiated

Perhaps

Fit

Increase

Performances

Motion

Currently

Therefore

Match the phrasal verb with its correspondent meaning

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 1) Look like | a) where it happens |
| 2) Going on | b) explore |
| 3) Go into | c) what is happening |
| 4) Take place | d) similar |

Create one sentence for each phrasal verb

1 -

2 -

3 -

4 -

Two things to note:

- There are different kinds of internal combustion engines. **Diesel engines** are one type and gas turbine engines are another. Each has its own advantages and disadvantages.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of each one?

- There are also, **external combustion engine**. The **steam engine** in old-fashioned trains and **steam** boats is the best example of an external combustion engine. The fuel (coal, wood, oil) in a steam engine burns outside the engine to create steam, and the steam creates motion inside the engine. Internal combustion is a lot more efficient than external combustion, plus an internal combustion engine is a lot smaller.

Give another example for external combustion engine