

EVS, MYTHS AND CHARGING TIME REALITY

Rapid charging is quicker than many people expect



32
minutes

A typical 0–80% ultra-rapid charge is around 32 minutes, not the hour many consumers expect.

Charging has changed faster than many people realise. The UK now has public chargers across motorway services, retail destinations, residential streets and dedicated hubs - but confidence has not always kept pace with coverage. The latest data shows a network that is larger, faster and more visible than many drivers expect.



THE CAR MATTERS

Earlier EVs typically accepted charging speeds of around 30-50kW. Today, many mainstream models can charge at well over 100kW, while some vehicles can accept 250kW or more under the right conditions.



RANGE AND CHARGING HAVE IMPROVED TOGETHER

Advances in electric vehicle design have not only increased charging speeds but also extended driving range. This means drivers can travel further between charging stops and, when they do need to plug in, spend less time waiting to continue their journey.



PROGRESS HASN'T STOPPED

Public rapid charging once centred around 50kW chargers. Today's ultra-rapid network increasingly includes 150kW and 350kW infrastructure, dramatically reducing charging times for compatible vehicles.

The next phase is already emerging. Manufacturers including BYD have demonstrated flash charging systems capable of charging from around 10% to 70% in approximately five minutes under test conditions. While still being introduced to market, technologies like these demonstrate how quickly charging capability continues to evolve.



PERCEPTIONS OF TIME IT TAKES TO CHARGE A BEV TO 80% USING AN ULTRA-RAPID CHARGER

(Percentage of responses) Charge time: Ultra-rapid charger

