

All About Eve

Three options for EV charging

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ONE OF the most popular questions that we receive about Eve, our nickname for Claverack's Tesla Model 3 electric vehicle, is "How long does it take you to charge your car?"

That depends on the type of charger being used. There are three different levels of charging, generally known as Levels 1, 2 and 3.

Level 1 refers to charging from a 120-volt regular wall receptacle outlet, which is the same voltage used to power common household items, like a lamp or a cellphone charger. If the car's bat-

teries have been fully depleted, it would take about 57 hours for Eve to reach a full charge at this level. The general rule of thumb is a Level 1 charger will add about five miles of range per hour of charging. This is not ideal, but it is a convenient option to top off the battery overnight or during a planned stay that will involve a few days of down time for the car.

Level 2 charging is a much more efficient and common way to charge, but it requires the use of a 240-volt receptacle, which is the same type of outlet

used for an electric dryer or oven. A Level 2 charger will typically supply a charge of 12 to 60 miles of range per hour, depending on the charger and the vehicle.

Many hotels and bed and breakfasts offer complimentary Level 2 charging at their facilities, since an eight-hour overnight stay can equate to a fully charged vehicle, and most EV owners opt to install a Level 2 charger at their homes.

Level 3 chargers, typically called "fast chargers," are 480-volt charging stations found at fueling stations and rest areas along major interstate highways. Level 3 chargers, which are very expensive to install and require direct connection to the electric grid, can provide an 80% charge in approximately 30 minutes. There is typically a cost involved with "filling up" at a fast-charging station.

Our Tesla Model 3 came with an AC-to-DC charger built into the cord. We installed a 240-volt receptacle at the Claverack office so we could charge the car at work. We also purchased several cord adapters to give us the ability to use other Level 2 chargers, as well as Level 1 receptacles, all using the same cord. We typically fully charge Eve overnight using our Level 2 charging option.

If you have an EV-related topic or question you'd like us to explore, please send an email to: mail@claverack.com. ☀