

Wheels: An e-mail from Tom says, “I have read several articles in the Dayton Daily News about installing a different computer to change the timing and increase fuel flow. In a small Dodge 4-cylinder (110 hp), what kind of results could you expect? Would it be necessary to use gas with a higher octane? Are there any other important considerations?”

Halderman: DaimlerChrysler does offer a high-performance package for some models that includes a recalibrated computer as well as other enhancements that will increase the power and performance of your engine. These changes do require that you use premium grade gasoline because the recalibrated computer advances the ignition timing over the stock settings. You may notice increased engine and exhaust noise if you select a cold air induction package and low restriction exhaust system that are usually recommended with the computer upgrade. I have installed an aftermarket exhaust on my own vehicle and, while I do like the sound, it can get annoying on a long trip.

