

**Wheels:** George of Dayton writes, “I have a 2001 Ford F-150 with a 4.2L V-6 and a five-speed manual transmission. I would like to have more power and torque at the low to mid range for better acceleration and passing, but not necessarily at the expense of lower gas mileage. I am thinking of installing an aftermarket air induction system such as those offered by K & N, MAC, Airaid, and Volant). One, I would like to know if these systems work as advertised (better gas mileage, better horsepower? Two, does any one system have any advantages over the others? Three, will the installation of this sort of system void a factory warranty? Thanks for your advice.”

**Halderman:** Yes, these air intakes do provide more power and economy in most cases, but they also increase the noise, especially during hard acceleration. While I like the sound of a cold air intake, many vehicle owners prefer quiet. Look at each system to be sure that hot underhood air is separated from the air intake. For best results, the air should be drawn from the fender well or other places and not from hot underhood air. Engine power is increased about one percent for each ten degree decrease in the temperature of the intake air. There should not be any warranty issues unless the installation causes damage to a part of the vehicle, which is unlikely unless an error is made during installation.

