

Fuel System Upgrade Checklist

1. Define the Mission

- Horsepower target set — crank or wheel HP.
- Usage nailed down — street, street/strip, or race.
- Fuel type decided — pump gas, E85, race gas.
- Induction type — carb, TBI, multi-port EFI, boosted.

2. Baseline the Existing System

- Verify pump type and model.
- Record line sizes (feed/return/material).
- Check filter locations.
- Measure fuel pressure at idle & snap throttle.
- Inspect tank condition (rust, varnish, debris).
- Inspect electrical feed (gauge, relay, ground).

3. Plan the New System

- Pump sized for HP with 20–30% headroom.
- Correct pump style chosen (in-tank/external).
- Feed line sized for flow & future power.
- Return line sized to avoid restriction.
- Filters chosen (coarse pre-pump, fine post-pump).
- Regulator matched to carb/EFI.
- Injector size calculated (<80% duty).
- Safety devices planned (inertia/oil-pressure).

4. Parts Checklist – Core Components

- New fuel pump.
- Mounting hardware.
- Feed and return lines.
- Pre- and post-pump filters.
- Fuel pressure regulator.

- Carb/EFI components.
- Tank/cell parts (sump/hanger/hat).
- Heat/abrasion protection.

5. Electrical & Control Checklist

- Dedicated fuel pump relay.
- Correct wire gauge selected.
- Proper fuse or breaker installed.
- Clean ground path.
- Trigger source chosen.
- Safety interlock wired in.
- Voltage-drop check planned.

6. Install Prep Checklist

- Car safely supported.
- Battery disconnected.
- Fuel drained or pressure relieved.
- Line routing planned.
- Bulkhead/grommet locations marked.
- Fire extinguisher ready.
- Proper tools on hand.

7. Startup & Verification

- System pre-primed.
- No leaks at any connection.
- Base pressure set correctly.
- Pressure stable under load.
- Voltage at pump within spec.
- Return flow verified.
- Fuel trims/plugs checked.

8. When to Reassess

- Pressure drop at RPM.

- Pump noise change.
- Evidence of tank contamination.
- Hot electrical components.
- Fuel smell in cabin.