



# Auto Insurance Buying Tips

## **Shop Around**

Get at least three price quotes. You can speak to an agent, call companies directly or access information on the Internet. But don't shop by price alone. You want a company that answers your questions and handles claims fairly and efficiently.

## **Before You Buy a Car, Compare Insurance Costs**

Your premium is based in part on the car's sticker price, the cost to repair it, its overall safety record and the likelihood of theft. Many insurers offer discounts for features that reduce the risk of injuries or theft, such as air bags, anti-lock brakes, daytime running lights and anti-theft devices.

## **Ask For a Higher Deductible**

Your deductible is the amount of money you pay out-of-pocket before your insurance policy kicks in. By requesting higher deductibles, you can lower your costs substantially.

## **Reduce Coverage in Older Cars**

Consider dropping collision and/or comprehensive coverage on older cars. It may not be cost-effective to continue insuring cars worth less than 10 times the amount you would pay for coverage.

## **Buy Your Homeowners and Auto Coverage From The Same Insurer**

Many insurers will give you a discount if you buy two or more types of insurance from them.

## **Take Advantage of Low-Mileage Discounts**

Some companies offer discounts to motorists who drive a lower than average number of miles per year. Low mileage discounts can also apply to drivers who carpool to work.

## **Ask About Group Insurance**

You may be eligible to get insurance through a group plan from your employer, or through professional, business and alumni groups or other associations. Group plans often provide substantial discounts.

## **Maintain Good Credit**

Your credit rating may affect what you pay for insurance, so monitor it carefully.

## **Seek Out Safe Driver Discounts**

Most insurance companies offer discounts to policyholders who have not had any accidents or moving violations for a number of years. Be sure to inquire about discounts when shopping for a policy.

