TAKE CONTROL BEFORE YOU ROLL

Leasing an Automobile

What is a vehicle lease?

A vehicle lease is paying for the right to drive a vehicle purchased and owned by someone else. In most instances, you will be responsible for all maintenance on the vehicle, including the maintenance required to maintain warranty coverage.

Advantages of Leasing A Vehicle

There are several advantages of leasing a vehicle rather than purchasing the vehicle. If you change vehicles every few years and you are comfortable with always having a car payment, leasing might be the right choice for you. Or if you seek to reduce or eliminate a cash down payment, leasing may be for you. If you want to own your vehicle and plan to keep driving it after it's paid for, you may be better off buying it.

Additional Costs of Leasing

However, there are additional costs when leasing a vehicle, other than the amount of the monthly payment. Lease agreements may contain costs that are not apparent from the ads. Do not make a decision to lease based solely on the amount of your monthly payment.

Before you sign your contract, make sure you clearly understand how much you pay in:

UP FRONT COSTS such as the first and last month's payments, security deposit, insurance, acquisition fee, sales tax and license, registration and title fees

MONTHLY COSTS

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR COSTS since you are usually responsible for routine maintenance and mechanical and body repairs

PENALTIES such as those which may occur if you move out-of-state or terminate the lease early

END OF LEASE COSTS such as fees for excessive wear and tear or exceeding the yearly mileage allowance