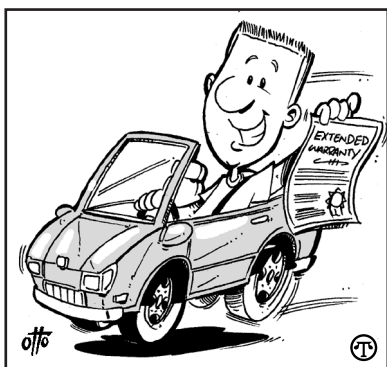


BUDGET STRETCHING IDEAS

Extended Warranties Avoid Costly Repairs

(NAPSA)—Life is expensive and stressful; maintaining a vehicle doesn't have to be. An extended warranty can help defray the costs, and these pointers may help you decide if such a plan is right for you and your car.



Extended warranties can help reduce the cost of owning a car.

1. Check out the repair history for cars of your make, model and year. You can do this online at carfax.com.

2. Make an educated “guess-timate” regarding the cost of repairs for the next several years. If you're not good at guessing, visit autocheck.com for help from experienced automotive professionals.

3. Share this figure with your mechanic, who should be able to tell you if you're on the money.

4. Consider a cap on the repair expenses you're willing to incur. Compare that cap to the cost of extended warranties.

5. Choose an extended warranty in your price range by shopping online—and make sure it comes with a money-back guarantee.

6. Once the warranty is in place, make sure you keep up on suggested scheduled maintenance.

To learn more about extended warranties, visit the Web site at www.warrantybynet.com.