

The Some Times Newsletter

Top 5 Automotive New Year's Resolutions

1. Resolve to schedule two checkups this year with a mechanic & know your maintenance history. Regardless of how well you think you know your vehicle, a well-trained, trustworthy mechanic can spot things that you might miss. Preventative maintenance at the hands of a qualified professional is cheap insurance. Also, keep all the documentation. Being able to provide a potential buyer with all of your service records is a major buying incentive
2. Resolve to keep up with fluid changes. Checking on your vehicle's fluids is paramount to its longevity. Mark one day on your calendar each month to make sure all your fluids are topped off. It's quick, easy & can save you some serious repair dollars down the line. Remember to change those fluids when your service manual requires it, too!
3. Resolve to address minor problems early. It's easy to hear a strange noise in your vehicle & hope that it will go away. Don't put off minor maintenance or easy repair work. Doing so can lead to bigger problems & larger repair bills in the end.
4. Resolve to keep your car clean. Excess dirt & grime can act like sand paper, creating unnecessary abrasion that can wear down upholstery & carpeting. Purchase a good set of floor mats if your vehicle didn't come with them, & vacuum your car on a regular basis
5. Resolve to check on your tires & wheels. If your tires have worn unevenly or your wheels are unbalanced, vibration can cause excess stress on suspension components. Excess stress can mean extra trips to the mechanic & a hefty repair bill.

www.carcare.org



Our goal is to serve you properly in a timely manner.



Should you have an issue, please discuss it with us and we will do our best to make things right.

Our business survives by providing good service done at a reasonable expense. Referrals and online reviews are important to us.

We would sincerely appreciate your online review.



Little-Known Facts About Money

Though most of us think about money mostly when we don't have enough of it, its history and development can be fascinating. Here's a quick list of some surprising facts about U.S. cash

The biggest bill. The highest U.S. denomination was the \$100,000 bill, bearing the likeness of Woodrow Wilson and issued in limited numbers in 1934 for Federal Reserve Bank transactions. The largest bill in public circulation was the \$10,000 bill, bearing the face of Salmon P. Chase.

The smallest bill. Paper money was first introduced in the U.S. during the Civil War to combat a shortage of coins. Bills were printed and distributed in denominations of 20 cents, 25 cents, and 5 cents.

Groovy coins. A dime has 118 grooves along its edge; a quarter has 119. Ridges originally were added to make counterfeiting difficult; today they mainly serve the purpose of helping people with impaired vision to identify coins by touch.

Change for a dollar. There are said to be 293 different combinations of coins capable of making change for one dollar.

The weight of wealth. One million dollars in one dollar bills would weigh about 2,040 pounds; in 100-dollar bills, that cool million would weigh in at about 20.4 pounds.



Old vs. new money. A dollar bill typically lasts about 18 months in circulation before being "retired." Five-dollar bills endure for about two years. Fifty- and hundred-dollar

Photo Finish

The line for driver's license photos at the Motor Vehicle Bureau office was long and slow. By the time one man reached the front, he was so grumpy he couldn't relax to smile for the camera. When he finally got his license, he told the clerk, "You know, I had to wait so long for this that I look completely ticked off in this picture."



The clerk shrugged apologetically.

"If it's any consolation, this is probably how you'll look when the cops pull you over."

Consumer Reports...Regular Car Maintenance Can Save Owners More Than the Original Price

YONKERS, NY - "With proper care, many of today's cars can last 200,000 miles or more," says Consumer Reports. In addition, "Owners seeking to limit repair costs by trading in their vehicle every three to five years may lose out on thousands of savings." The key is **regular**, quality maintenance.

When comparing the costs of buying and keeping a car for 225,000 miles over 15 years to buying and financing an identical model every five years, CR found the savings could be more than the original purchase price of the vehicle-- and even greater if the savings were invested.

For motorists looking to make their car reach 200,000 miles, **Consumer Reports** offers the following tips:

1. **Go by the book** - Follow the maintenance schedule in the vehicle owner's manual and make necessary repairs promptly. If you think you're saving money by skipping an oil change, think again. *Missing even one oil change can accelerate premature engine wear and cause engine damage.* The manual contains a maintenance schedule.
2. **Use the right stuff** - When it's time for maintenance or repairs, use only parts and fluids meeting manufacturer specifications. Using the wrong type of oil or transmission fluid, for example, could result in damage leading to expensive repairs.
3. **Know what to look for** - *Problems can arise at any time* and for inexplicable reasons. So it helps to get in the habit of opening the hood and looking, listening, and smelling what's happening in your engine bay. Look for fraying or cracks in belts, and cracks or bulges in hoses. Investing in a vehicle service manual, available at car dealerships and most auto-parts stores, will help show you what to look for and assist you with minor repairs.
4. **Keep it clean** - Get out the cleaning products periodically. Regular cleaning inside and out can make the car a more pleasant place to be as you roll up the miles, and washing and waxing can help preserve the paint and keep the sheet metal below it from rusting. Vacuuming sand and dirt out of carpets and seats can minimize premature wear that leads to tears and holes.
5. **Buy a reliable, safe car** - Buy a car with a good track record. Consumer Reports offers comprehensive reliability ratings in every April Autos issue and to ConsumerReports.org subscribers. Buy a car that has performed well in government and insurance-industry safety tests and has the latest safety equipment, like electronic stability control and curtain air bags. If you're going to live with a vehicle for a long time, you will want it to provide maximum safety protection.
6. **Find a quality repair shop** - The emphasis here is on **quality** and that also means a repair **shop you can trust**. There are several things to look for. Starting with their guarantee, a **great guarantee** is an indicator that the repair shop is **using quality parts and employing properly trained technicians**. A great guarantee means that they are willing to stand behind their work.
7. **Be Consistent** - If you have a relationship with a quality repair shop only go there, allowing them to get to know your vehicle is to your advantage and will usually save you money. They will know what maintenance your vehicle is in need of, and a quality repair shop will **not sell you something you don't need**. Going to multiple shops can cause confusion. When it comes to keeping your car a long time, **value that relationship**.

This report reprinted from Consumer Reports is compliments of STAR Automotive

Did You Know?

You don't have to go back to the Dealer for service or maintenance on your new or used vehicle!

Federal Law (Magnusen-Moss Act 1975)

prohibits new car dealers from implying or denying warranty service because routine scheduled maintenance was performed at an independent repair facility. STAR Automotive can handle your maintenance and repair needs. Just give STAR a call to schedule any of your preventative maintenance requirements.

(541) 476-9646



Jolene's Corner

Have you noticed in the past few years how salad dressings have changed, there seems to be more vinegar in them which decreases the flavor of the dressing and adds too much acid. I find this true with my favorite Ranch dressing. So I have tried to make my own. I searched many recipes online and found that they contained powdered buttermilk. I love buttermilk but I do not like this powdered buttermilk. I have now found my favorite mix to make my own Ranch dressing and I share it with you.

Ranch Dressing Mix

1 cup powdered milk
 3 Tablespoons dried parsley
 2 Tablespoons garlic powder
 4 teaspoons onion powder
 4 teaspoons dried dill
 2 teaspoon onion flakes
 2 teaspoon kosher salt
 1 teaspoon ground black pepper



Place all the spices in a mixing bowl and whisk together.
 Store in a jar or container with a tight fitting lid.

**To Make Dressing**

1 cup buttermilk
 2 Tablespoons Ranch dressing mix
 1 cup mayonnaise
 Add ingredients together in a bowl and whisk together. Store in jar with lid.

Hint: I use a Tupperware shaker. It has a cup with a dome, a pouring spout and a disk that fits between the base and the lid for easier mixing. It is great for storing your dressing.

Can Your Belts and Hoses Survive Another Annual Temperature Swing?

Manufacturers Recommend Changing Belts and Hoses Every 4 Years

Save 15% When You Replace Your Belts and Hoses

Being Pro-Active Means NOT Breaking Down!

Valid Through January 30, 2026

Thanks for the kind words!

" I took my car in for routine maintenance. Customer service staff were polite and aware. My car came back to me in less than four hours with all the maintenance completed. This is where I will bring my car in from now on".

Michael



\$15 Off Labor Coupon

You must present this coupon at time of service.
 Coupon will not be accepted after repair is completed and paid for. One coupon per person per repair order. Cannot combine with other coupons.

Valid Through January 30, 2026
- Not Valid On Oil Change -



January 2026

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Facts About Money

Consumer Report

Automotive New Years Resolution

Jolene's Recipe

Much More...

Right the First Time, On Time, Every Time since 1975

**Happy New Year! Start the New Year right.
Take care of your car and it will take care of you.**

You hear us talk about it frequently. **Manufacturer Recommended Maintenance.**

Oil Changes. Routine Maintenance. Transmission Service. Brake Fluid Exchange.

Power Steering Fluid Exchange. Cooling System Exchange (anti-freeze). 30K, 60K, 90K, 120K Scheduled Maintenance.

If you want your car or truck to last a long time, run well and be dependable, you've got to take care of your vehicle. Should you choose not to regularly maintain your vehicle, it will cost you more money in the long run and may leave you stranded when you most need your ride. It is less expensive to replace a timing belt and water pump at the recommended time/mileage interval than it is to replace it when it breaks on the road or breaks and damages your engine. Take care of your car and it will take care of you.

25% OFF

Any regular scheduled maintenance in January 2026. This includes 30K, 60K, 90K, 120K + maintenance service intervals, timing belt/water pump replacement, "Tune-Up", brake service, brake fluid flush, power steering flush, transmission service, cooling system flush. Even Oil Changes.

Any Regular Scheduled Maintenance or Service.

Fix it before it breaks. Maintain your vehicle. **Valid Through January 30, 2026.**

You Must Present This Coupon At Time Of Service.

You may not combine this offer with other coupons or special offers.