

Smart Tips to Refinance Your Auto Loan

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When you purchase a new or used vehicle and finance the cost, you're stuck with whatever loan you're able to get at the dealership, right? Wrong! There are many refinancing options that can help you improve your car loan and make it a good fit for your budget.

Rates

Check for low rates and flexible terms so you're comfortable with your loan. Even if your financial institution cannot beat your current rates, they may have other benefits and services that would help you make the decision to move your loan. For example, some credit unions provide a bonus dividend at the end of the year to their members; Clark County Credit Union gave back nearly \$3 million in 2017 and every single member received a dividend.

Better Credit

If your credit has improved since you initially applied for an auto loan, chances are you're ready for a better loan. Your current credit rating is the central part of building an auto loan package. If you had a couple of dings to your credit, or if your history was too short to have a high enough score, then you may not have had the best possible options at the time of purchase. If you've worked hard to improve your score, then you should be rewarded!

Buying a new or used vehicle can be a stressful process, and many dealerships can make you feel like you have no choice in how the transaction takes place. You may have been intimidated by fast-talkers or felt like these "experts" knew more than you did so you weren't comfortable asking questions or shopping around for rates.

Your improved credit score can help you get a better rate and payment, freeing your money up for other important needs or wants.

Easy Trade-Ins

Eventually you will pay off your refinanced loan and you find yourself ready to upgrade to a newer vehicle. This time, consider trying a licensed auto brokerage service and skip the hassle of a high-pressure auto dealer with another loan that isn't right for you. A broker like Members Auto can handle the entire transaction, from shopping for the right vehicle to getting the right auto finance for your new or used car.

Mind the GAP

If and when you do get a new car, consider getting GAP protection – Guaranteed Asset Protection. Don't get stuck paying for a car you don't have anymore due to an accident or theft. If your vehicle is declared an insured total loss, auto insurance will likely cover only the replacement value. You remain liable for payment of the difference between the insurance settlement and the remaining loan balance. This deficiency can sometimes

amount to thousands of dollars. GAP Protection is an affordable way to cover the gap. For just a few dollars per month, you can protect yourself against this unfortunate expense and start fresh with a \$1,000 credit towards your next vehicle purchase.

Get Started!

You don't have to feel trapped in your current auto loan, especially if you have four or more years left in your loan. Get out there and