

Personal Lines

PERSPECTIVES



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There are a number of steps parents can take to start saving today in order to ensure their children are financially prepared for the future. Read on to learn more.

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The kitchen is home to a number of appliances Canadians use on a daily basis. And while these appliances are incredibly useful, they can also be dangerous if they are used incorrectly or break down. Read on to learn more.

PREVENT VEHICLE RUST

While dirt on a vehicle is unsightly, it can also wear away your car's finish and accelerate rusting. This can be expensive, difficult to reverse and even negatively affect your car's resale value. Read on to learn how to protect your vehicle from rust.

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LIFE

Tips for Saving for Your Child's Future

Saving for your child's future is important, especially when you consider how expensive college is. Thankfully, there are a number of steps parents can take to start saving today in order to ensure their children are financially prepared for the future.

The following are some easy tips to consider:

- Start saving the day your child is born and save as much as you can. Compounding interest will also make your savings grow.
- Save money on a consistent basis rather than on a random schedule. Consider setting up an automatic payroll deduction or having your bank automatically move money from your chequing account to a savings account.
- Establish a savings goal to measure how well you are saving, and modify that goal as your salary increases.
- Ask relatives to contribute to the savings account in lieu of birthday gifts.
- Teach your children about the importance of saving. When they're old enough, encourage them to get a job to further build upon their savings.

When it comes to any kind of savings, the earlier you start the better. There are a number of resources online that provide parents with a better sense of how much they should be saving based on their own income and inflation.

HOME

Kitchen Appliance Safety Tips

The kitchen is home to a number of appliances that are used on a daily basis. And while these appliances are incredibly useful, they can also be dangerous if they are used incorrectly or break down.

In order to protect your home and family from injuries caused by kitchen appliances, consider the following safety tips:

- Unplug appliances when they are not in use to reduce the risk of electrical shock. If this is not an option, ensure that plugs are kept away from sources of water, like sinks.
- Ensure that appliance cords are tucked away neatly and out of general walkways. Hanging cords can create tripping hazards or endanger small children that might tug on them.
- Store countertop appliances like toasters and microwaves away from sources of heat, like stoves. Some kitchen appliances are made of plastics and can melt if exposed to excess heat, creating a fire hazard.
- Only use microwave-safe utensils and cookware when reheating food items.

Above all, it's important to install fire alarms in your kitchen and avoid using outdated appliances.

AUTO

Prevent Vehicle Rust

While dirt on a vehicle is unsightly, it can also wear away your car's finish and accelerate rusting. This can be expensive, difficult to reverse and even negatively affect your car's resale value.

To protect your car's finish, practise the following:

- Wash your car often, especially after the winter months. Salt that builds up during this time can create holes in the body of your car.
- Wax your car from time to time to protect the finish. This can help prevent oxidation that leads to rusting.
- Utilize car washes that feature hand-held pressure wands. Pay close attention to the undercarriage during washes, as that's the primary risk area for rusting.
- Address scratches and dents that appear on your vehicle's body, as they can easily lead to rusting.

Experts recommend that you wash your vehicle at least once a month if possible. Keeping these tips in mind will help preserve the car's resale value and help you save thousands on body work.



IN THE KNOW

Parking Lot Safety Tips

Parking lots are a common hazard for drivers and vehicles alike. Slips, falls, auto accidents, theft, harassment and assaults are just some of the risks individuals face while using parking lots.

Thankfully, there are a number of precautions drivers can take in order to protect themselves and their vehicles, including the following:

- Park in a well-lit area, preferably one with surveillance cameras and security patrol services.
- Avoid parking near shrubbery or other areas that could conceal attackers.
- Park as close to an elevator as possible when using garages.
- Lock your doors when leaving your vehicle. Have your keys ready when you return to ensure quick entry.
- Remain vigilant and notify security or the authorities if you notice suspicious behaviour.

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