

Consumer Corner

Car Hunting On The Internet Is Becoming Auto-Matic

Web Sites Put People In The Driver's Seat

(NAPS)—Let's face it: buying, selling or owning a car can be frustrating. Figuring out what to purchase, where to get it repaired, how much to spend, and a whole trunk load of other questions, can make you feel like you've run out of gas.

But, never fear, the World Wide Web, offering expert advice, financing options, insurance services, maintenance resources, and more, can help steer you in the right direction and speed you on the road to what you're seeking.

Put the Mouse to the Metal

One of the most comprehensive auto-related resources online, **Yahoo! Autos** (<http://autos.yahoo.com>), helps simplify all aspects of buying, selling and owning a car. Whether you're researching new or used car prices, comparison shopping, looking at loan rates, locating repair and maintenance guides, or in the market for auto insurance, Yahoo! Autos is worth a stop.

One Stop, Online Auto Shop

Deciding which car to purchase is not always simple. By providing new and used car information, auto-industry news and reviews, nationwide car listings and more, Yahoo! Autos makes choosing the perfect set of wheels a little less like you're spinning your own.

Whether you're looking to buy new or used, Yahoo! Classifieds' autos area, accessible via Yahoo! Autos, offers free listings for cars for sale by individuals and dealers nationwide. Will it be the Integra or a Volvo sedan? The **Compare 2 Cars** service allows you to examine two models side-by-side to get a clear sense of what each offers. You can also obtain free reports about new cars through the **New Car Guide**, or examine **Edmund's Used Car Guide** for used car trade-in and market prices, rating data and recall information.

When researching a used car online, consumers should also



Cruising the Web may make car buying or selling easier.

squeeze in a visit to the **Lemon Check**, designed to alert car buyers to red flags about a particular car. Just enter the vehicle ID Number (VIN) and the service instantly culls its nationwide database of more than 700 million vehicle records to determine if yours is sour. Using Lemon Check, you can even order the full history of a used car.

Doing the Numbers

Once you've selected a make and model, you'll need to consider loans, insurance, and financing. You can look at loan rates in your area with Yahoo! Autos' loan links. At the **Auto Insurance Center**, you can find out how much coverage you need, get quotes and catch up on the latest insurance news. Yahoo! Autos' credit report link even lets you run your own credit check in a matter of minutes.

Banana In Your Tailpipe?

From antilock brakes to lubrication and tailpipes to struts, the **Repair Guide** helps you keep your car in shape and gives you a sense of what is wrong, before you take your car to the shop. Peruse the repair index where you'll find answers to burning repair questions like: why do my brakes vibrate every time I stop; why isn't my heater giving out much heat; and more. The troubleshooting section also explains wrenching problems including clunks, clicks, rattles, veering, and uneven tire wear.

Shift Gears and Get Online

For more information about what's online at Yahoo! Autos, visit the site at <http://autos.yahoo.com>.