
Subject: Re: What new car to buy (for me)

Posted by [Crimson](#) on Wed, 05 Sep 2007 17:35:30 GMT

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Leasing is for people who always want to be driving a new car and can afford to always have a car payment. You'll never own a car outright, but you'll get into new cars more often than owning them. You also shouldn't lease if you drive more than 12,000-15,000 miles each year.

Sure, it's not SENSIBLE, but not everyone wants to drive a car into the ground and deal with costly repairs once the warranty is up and the mileage gets high. Leasing puts you in a new car with a warrant every few years.

Compare this:

I bought my car for an original loan amount of something like \$32k. This was a \$719/month payment for a 6 year loan. (I actually got a pretty good deal overall considering I have about \$2000 upside-down on my previous car, I purchased extra warranty extensions, and once you add in all the taxes and licensing fees, the car's sticker price was \$32k, so I got then to take a good chunk of it off in negotiation.

Anyway, I refinanced about 18 months ago to bring my payment down to \$641/month. Now I've had the car since May 2004 and I currently owe about \$20k on it. The Blue Book price, if I bought the car from a dealership (meaning it would be dent-free and inspected/fixed and certified) is about \$18k. So I'm still upside-down after 39 months of payments.

But if I LEASED for 39 months (which is a strange, but common lease term, and the same one Blazer got) then I am guaranteed NOT to be upside-down AND I can turn the car in and start over with a new one. The only way you could still owe money on a lease return is if you turn it in damaged or go over your allowed miles.
