

INSURANCE UPDATE

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Frequently Asked Personal Umbrella Questions

You insure your home and your automobiles, but have you ever considered purchasing a personal umbrella policy as a way to protect your assets and future earnings?

A personal umbrella policy, such as one offered by Auto-Owners Insurance, offers additional limits of liability – the maximum amount your insurance company will cover – and is a great low-cost investment to protect your assets from a substantial third-party lawsuit.

Let's look at a few questions you may have about an umbrella policy:

Q: Who needs a personal umbrella policy?

A: Do you own a home, car, boat or recreational vehicles? Do you have children or pets? Do you entertain guests? Do you have a swimming pool or playground? If you answered yes to any of these, you may need an umbrella policy. An umbrella policy is an affordable way to protect your assets from an unexpected catastrophic loss.

Q: I already have an auto policy and a homeowners policy, why do I need a personal umbrella policy?

A: A personal umbrella policy will provide additional limits of liability coverage for those policies at a low cost. In addition, it may provide coverages not available on your auto or homeowners policy, such as coverage for traveling abroad.

Q: How much does a personal umbrella policy cost?

A: If you have one home and one auto, you may pay only \$150-\$200 annually for \$1 million in coverage. As the exposure increases for items such as additional autos, recreational vehicles or watercraft, the premium will increase.

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What's New in Customer Center?

The Auto-Owners Customer Center was designed with YOU in mind. That's why your feedback is so valuable, and why Auto-Owners continues to make enhancements to meet your needs.

Logging in to Customer Center has never been so easy! The Auto-Owners Insurance mobile app now offers touch and face recognition, compatible with devices that offer these features. Download the mobile app via Apple's app store or Google Play.

If you recently had a claim, you may have received an email prompting you to enroll or log in to the Customer Center. This is a convenient way to track the status of your claim. It also provides you with contact information in case you have questions about your claim. Soon you will also have the option to view and upload claim documents, all from the Customer Center.

Other popular Customer Center features include:

- View or pay your bill online
- Turn on automatic payments with credit card or electronic funds transfer
- View or print your policy documents
- Go paperless

Don't forget, you can receive a \$5 green discount when you elect to go paperless on eligible policies.

To enroll or log in to your Customer Center account, go to auto-owners.com or download the Auto-Owners Insurance mobile app on your device.

Contact our agency or Auto-Owners directly for more information on how to get signed up.

Umbrella FAQs CONTINUED

Q: Do I need an auto policy and a homeowners policy if I have a personal umbrella policy?

A: Yes. An umbrella policy will only provide liability coverage, where your auto and homeowners policies will provide physical damage coverage for events such as a deer claim or fire, in addition to providing limited liability coverage.

Q: What are some personal umbrella claim examples?

- A:**
- Your friend was driving your snowmobile and it flipped, ejecting them. Your friend sues for \$1 million in medical bills.
 - Your teenager posts a discriminating photo of a schoolmate on social media. The other teen's parents sue for \$2 million for mental anguish damages.
 - You host a holiday party at your home. A guest is involved in an accident after having too much alcohol. Your guest sues for \$3 million in property damage and medical bills.

Contact our agency for more information regarding an Auto-Owners umbrella policy and how it can help protect you and your family.

When to Review Your Life Insurance

You did your homework. You researched how much life insurance you needed, what type of products were best and purchased a life insurance policy when you were young and healthy. You are ahead of the game – or so you think.

According to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, you should regularly review your life insurance policies. Your policy should never be tucked away and forgotten.

As a general rule of thumb, you should perform an annual review of your policy to ensure that it is still meeting your needs. However, if you experience a major life event, you should review your coverage immediately.

Items to consider or review annually:

- Amount of debt
- Financial responsibilities
- Beneficiaries
- Permanent or temporary coverage
- Policy performance, if cash value is included
- Company standings

Events that warrant immediate review:

- Marriage or divorce
- Addition to the family or becoming empty nesters
- Change in jobs or retirement
- Major purchases – home, business, etc.
- Loss of a loved one

As your life changes, so should your life insurance. Contact our agency to review your life insurance today.



Protect Your Business: Garagekeepers Coverage

Managing your garage business can be challenging – you are responsible for numerous important aspects of your business, from advertising and accounting to servicing your customers.

Add those jobs to having to order parts and hire qualified mechanics, and you have a full plate of duties. You may also be responsible for customer vehicles left in your care, triggering the need for garagekeepers coverage.

Garagekeepers insurance is an optional liability coverage endorsement meant to protect your customers' vehicles or watercraft from damages while under your care, custody, control or possession.

This coverage can be essential for any garage business dealing with automotive services. This includes repair shops, auto body shops, service stations, car washes and many others.

Vehicles in your care are subject to a variety of perils:

- An employee could get into an accident while test-driving a customer's vehicle that was just serviced.
- A hailstorm could damage vehicles awaiting pickup.
- A fire could damage vehicles both inside and outside the shop.
- And let's not forget about the possibility of vandalism and theft.

While you do your best to prevent these situations, there are always unforeseen circumstances. Having garagekeepers coverage can help protect you by minimizing your liability exposure, and strengthening the reputation and trust in your business.

Our agency is available to help you choose the right coverage for your business.

Auto-Owners
INSURANCE

LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS