## Teachers Mutual Bank We put you first

## TO FREEDOM

How to save smart for a sweet ride

# Awesome with a capital

#### Whether you're 15 or 16, it's time to start thinking about getting into the driver's seat.

The years of sitting in the backseat are almost over. It's time to think about how you're going to get yourself behind the wheel. In most states you can get your learner licence when you turn 16 (15 years and 9 months if you live in the ACT), so it's a perfect time to start setting some real savings goals.

We aren't talking about putting money aside for gigs and gadgets – we're talking REAL money. You might need to give up stuff and make a few sacrifices, but getting your learner licence is worth the effort.



## The rules of the road

#### There are a few important steps to take before jumping in the driver's seat.

Getting your Ls takes hard work and dedication. You'll need to take a test about the rules of the road, and if you pass you'll also need to be able to pay for your licence.



Visit **keys2drive.com.au** to check the costs and test requirements for getting your learner licence where you live.

Getting your Ls can cost up to \$200 – so now's the time to start thinking about budgeting. You might try tucking away \$20 every week for 10 weeks. Have a chat with your parents about how to create a budget and save.

## L is for learning

#### How to make the bold step from L plates to P plates.

On average, the journey from Ls to Ps takes about 12 months. There'll be lots of new skills and rules you'll learn along the way – how to handle highways, heavy traffic and even angry drivers. Choosing the right teacher will make learning to drive way more enjoyable. You'll need to clock upwards of 120 hours on the road with a registered driver. The more enjoyable those hours are the faster you'll learn!

Parents can be a great go-to option, but teaching someone to drive can be stressful. If you're feeling pressure driving with your mum or dad, suss out a good professional instructor. Driving lessons can cost up to \$90 an hour so it's worth checking in with family on how they can support you. Suggest driving lessons as a gift from family for your upcoming birthday or even for Christmas.

Learning to drive is an important skill, so give yourself the time you need to do it safely.

## Beep, beep!

#### It's `first-car-o'clock'

It might be your dreamcar...your new best friend... even, the love of your life! Or it might just be some hatchback your nan has going cheap. Whatever it is, you've got to work out how you're going to afford your first car.

Before the hype takes hold and you lose your mind with excitement, take some time to think about the long-term costs of owning a car. A new or small car will be more fuel-efficient than an older or larger car. Popular cars will be cheaper to repair, because parts are more readily available. And a cheap car could become an expensive one quickly if it keeps breaking down!

Buy the most reliable car you can afford, not one that will drive you into the ground financially.

























## Do you really want to buy a car?

Before taking your car for a spin, put some thought into the extra things that costs money once you've got a car on the road:

- Insurance
- Major and minor scheduled services
- Registration
- Tyres
- Petrol

These costs will differ depending on where you live and the type of car you drive. Even your age will affect your insurance costs.

It's always a good idea to have a little money tucked away for those expenses you weren't expecting. Have a chat with your mum and dad to find out how they budget for on-road costs.

## So, what's next?

For more info on getting your L plates and the ways in which Teachers Mutual Bank can help you, visit us at the URL below. If you need help with anything, let us know. Call 13 12 21 8am-7pm weekdays, 9am-3pm Saturday or email enquiry@tmbank.com.au



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## Any questions? Ask away.

### Call 13 12 21

8am to 7pm, weekdays 9am to 3pm, Saturdays

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