

Low-cost car insurance designed to fill gap in market

A car is not just another possession - it's a way of getting to work, taking kids to school and visiting friends and family. It can also be one of your most valuable assets. But Fareedah Benjamin of insurance company Chartis says 65% of South African car owners have no insurance: "If their cars are stolen, hijacked or written off in a crash, those people could be left stranded."



(Image: Wikimedia Commons)

"Comprehensive car insurance is the ideal," says Benjamin, who is personal lines manager at Chartis. "It will pay for repairing almost any damage to a vehicle. But not everybody can afford it. In the current economic climate especially, many people struggle to find the money. That's why we have introduced the Car Cash Plan."

The Car Cash Plan is a simple, back-to-basics form of car insurance that will pay out the full market value when a car is completely lost due to being stolen, hijacked or written off, says Benjamin. "Our customers have told us they can live with a few dents or scratches - but they can't live without their cars," she says. "The Car Cash Plan makes sure they can replace their cars if the worst happens."

With premiums starting at just R120 a month, the Car Cash Plan is quick and easy to apply for, says Benjamin. "All you need to do is phone our call centre or send us an SMS, and one of our consultants will help you.

Third party cover also available

Claiming is just as simple, she says. "If your car is stolen or hijacked, you just need to contact our call centre with your police case number. If the car is damaged in an accident, we will send someone out to check the damage and see how much it will cost to fix. If the cost will be more than 70% of the car's market value, we will pay out."

For an extra R45 per month, customers can also get third party cover. "If you damage someone else's car in a crash that is your fault, they can make you pay for the repairs," explains Benjamin. "If they have a fancy car, that can put you in deep

trouble. With third party insurance, we will pay for those damages."

To apply for the Car Cash Plan, contact the Chartis call centre on 0860 967 520, SMS your name to 37848 or go to their website at www.carcashplan.co.za.

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