

THE COST OF RUNNING A VEHICLE

JANUARY 2019

This document should help you get an overview of the actual costs involved in running a vehicle. When you've read through the information below you should be able to estimate the annual cost to run your own vehicle by completing this table.

COMMON OPERATING COSTS TO CONSIDER	YOUR COST ESTIMATE FOR 12 MONTHS
Vehicle licensing	
Warrant of Fitness	
Tyres	
Vehicle service, repairs and maintenance, including service	
Petrol	
Vehicle insurance	
Other	
Total cost	

COMMON OPERATING COSTS

Below is some information about common operating costs for a vehicle. These costs may not be exactly the same for your vehicle, but it will give you a good overview of what you need to consider.

COMMON OPERATING COSTS TO CONSIDER	AVERAGE COSTS
Vehicle licensing	<p>For a list of licensing fees, go to www.nzta.govt.nz/vehicle-fees or call the NZ Transport Agency motor vehicle contact centre on 0800 108 809.</p> <p>You can check the full cost of licensing (rego) your vehicle here: www.rightcar.govt.nz/rego</p>
Warrant of Fitness	<p>The cost of a Warrant of Fitness inspection varies, but is an average of \$50–\$60.</p> <p>Please note you must have your vehicle inspected for a warrant of fitness (WoF):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> every 12 months, if your vehicle was registered on or after 1 January 2000 every six months, if your vehicle was registered before 1 January 2000 More information on WoF is at www.nzta.govt.nz/wof

COMMON OPERATING COSTS TO CONSIDER	AVERAGE COSTS
Tyres	The cost of tyres varies and depends on the size and quality of tyre. A set of tyres will usually last 30,000 to 40,000km.
Vehicle service, repairs and maintenance	Your vehicle should be serviced at regular intervals – usually every 10,000km or every 12 months (whichever occurs first). This may vary depending on your vehicle. Check your manufacturer's recommendation. Repairs and maintenance required for your vehicle vary and could include replacing wiper blades, topping up oil, power steering fluid or brake fluid, or replacing brake pads.
Petrol	The cost of petrol per litre fluctuates so the annual costs will vary. To roughly work out the cost of the petrol you use each year, check www.fuelsaver.govt.nz/car Or you could look at your past expenses to estimate how much you spend a week or month.
Vehicle insurance	The annual cost of vehicle insurance depends on the type of cover you have and varies for each individual. Check your insurance policy to find out the annual costs that apply to you.

OTHER COSTS TO CONSIDER

- Driver licence renewal fees if needed
- Driver licence medical certificate and/or eyesight certificate if needed.

For information about driver licensing fees and if a driver licence medical certificate is required, www.nzta.govt.nz/vehicle-fees or call the NZ Transport Agency driver licensing contact centre on 0800 822 422.

EXAMPLE

Dawn owns a 2016 automatic Mazda3 that she keeps regularly maintained and serviced. She uses her car one to two times a week to go to the shops or to visit her friends. Often Dawn's daughter drives her to the places she needs to go, such as to the supermarket or a medical appointment.

Dawn is turning 82 years old and her driver licence is up for renewal. She also needs to relicence her car and obtain a new Warrant of Fitness. As she rarely uses her car, she is looking into the expense of running her vehicle over a year. Here is an estimate on how much it may cost to run her vehicle during 2019.

COMMON OPERATING COSTS TO CONSIDER	ESTIMATED ANNUAL COSTS FOR A 2016 AUTOMATIC MAZDA3 (AS AT 9 JANUARY 2019)
Vehicle licensing	\$76.92
Warrant of Fitness (annually for vehicles less than six years old)	\$60.00 (estimated average)
Tyres	\$0 (Dawn doesn't need to purchase new tyres until next year)
Vehicle service, repairs and maintenance	\$369.00

COMMON OPERATING COSTS TO CONSIDER	ESTIMATED ANNUAL COSTS FOR A 2016 AUTOMATIC MAZDA3 (AS AT 9 JANUARY 2019)
Petrol	\$580.00 (estimated at 5,000km per year, and assuming the average petrol cost of \$2.00 per litre) www.fuelsaver.govt.nz/car
Driver licence renewal (Dawn is 82 and needs to renew her licence as it expires this year)	\$18.70
Drivers licence medical certificate (as Dawn is over 75 she must provide a medical certificate when she renews her licence).	\$50.00 (estimated average cost)
Vehicle insurance (full cover)	\$840.00 (estimated based on Dawn's insurance/driving history).
Total costs for one year	\$1,994.62

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