

6 EASY WAYS TO SAVE MONEY ON YOUR MOTORCYCLE INSURANCE!

8 WAYS TO SAVE ON THE COST OF YOUR INSURANCE...

When it's time to shop for Motorcycle Insurance, you need to be able to make well informed decisions so you can spend your money wisely. Here are at least 8 tips on how to shop for your motorcycle insurance – and SAVE!

1. **One Company, Multiple Policies** – Do you have an auto insurance policy? If so, is it with the same insurance company that provides your motorcycle insurance? If the answer is no, *you may be paying too much – for your motorcycle insurance.* Ask your agent if he represents carriers that give a discount for having your car insurance with the same carrier.. Usually, these discounts are at least 10% on the motorcycle policy – or more.

* **Tip.** Talk to your agent about multi-policy discounts.

2. **Discounts for NOT using your cycle to drive to work (or using Other Mass Transit)** – Do you drive to and from work on your bike? If you don't, let your agent know. Sometimes there are reduced mileage discounts or discounts for using your auto to drive to work (or mass transit). Insurance companies charge you significantly higher premiums if you drive to work or have higher annual mileage.

* **Tip.** Remind your agent that you are NOT driving to work, or that you use your car to drive to work so you receive the appropriate discount.

3. **Raise Your Deductible** – The deductible is the amount you pay before insurance kicks in if you have a claim. For example, if you have a \$250 deductible and you have an accident in which your motorcycle sustains \$1,000 in damage, you pay the first \$250 and your insurer pays the balance, \$750. The lower the deductible you choose, the more you pay. If you have assets, you can probably afford to absorb at least \$250 and probably \$500 if you have a claim.

* **Tip.** If it's been years since you've had an accident, you may be better off raising your deductible and paying less each year for insurance.

4. **Drop Unnecessary Coverages** – Let's say you have an older motorcycle, one not worth very much. There's really little point in having collision and comprehensive coverages on that bike. You don't have much to protect. Remember, too, that you have to subtract your deductible from any potential payout you might get.

* **Tip.** As a general rule, any motorcycle worth less than \$1,000 shouldn't have collision and comprehensive coverage.

5. **Discounts, Discounts, Discounts** – Many motorcycle insurance companies offer several discounts for a variety of reasons. Helmet discounts, defensive or cycle safety

course discounts, motorcycle club discounts, and more. But you **HAVE TO ASK** your agent! Sometimes he is not aware you qualify, or has not checked. So be sure to **ASK!**

* **Tip.** Make sure you are taking advantage of all the discounts available to you! Ask your agent if there are any discounts that you are **NOT** currently receiving.

5. **Low-Cost and High-Cost Areas** – Are you planning to move? Or do you have an alternate garaging address where you use the bike, such as up in the country or at a vacation home? If you do, advise your agent of your alternate garaging address. Generally, the more urban the area, the higher the premium. The costs can vary even within a community.

* **Fact.** Rates can really vary from state to state. If you're living in New Jersey, Massachusetts or Hawaii, you're paying several times more, on average, than you would in North Dakota, South Dakota or Idaho.

* **Tip.** Make sure to tell your agent if your motorcycle is garaged in a lower priced rural area.

6. **One Call is All it Takes Sometimes** – Every so often call your agent, especially if he is an independent agent. Ask if there are ways he can reduce the cost of your motorcycle coverage. Sometimes an agent receives a new company appointment or has special programs that come up from time to time, and he can move your coverage for a lower rate. Many times, if an agent doesn't hear from a client, they will assume the client is satisfied.

Whatever your driving record or coverage needs, you should shop around, or let an experienced insurance professional shop around, for the best deal for you. There are literally thousands and thousands of coverage options from hundreds and hundreds of insurance companies.

In addition, not only should you try to get the best deal you can, you also need to make sure you have all the coverage you want/need. Using an Independent Insurance Agent is usually your best bet to get the most value for your auto insurance dollar.

Our Agency takes a personal interest in our customers. We like to share information that comes to help you protect yourself and your family from financial loss. If you have any questions, regarding this information or your insurance coverage, please don't hesitate to call us at the number found on our website.