

or total the vehicle. You may be asked to collect estimates for repair of minor damage and submit them to the responsible party's insurance carrier. The insurance company will cut a check in the amount of the repair. For a collision claim, the amount will be minus the collision deductible.

QUICK TIPS

INSURANCE CHECK-UP

Includes asking three questions:

1. What type of coverage do I have?
2. How much coverage do I need?
3. What are my discounts and deductibles?

EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS

A homeowners policy usually DOES NOT cover:

- Flood
- Earthquake, landslide, or mudslide
- Sewer backup
- Identity theft

Your homeowners or renters policy MAY NOT cover claims related to:

- Dog bites
- Swimming pools or trampolines
- Operating a business from your home

Be sure to ask your agent about the exclusions. You may be able to buy a separate policy to cover some or all of the events your homeowners policy includes these circumstances.

A homeowners policy usually LIMITS coverage for these items:

- Mold
- Jewelry, guns, electronics, collectibles, and antiques
- The costs of meeting updated electrical, fire, plumbing, and building codes

QUESTIONS TO ASK AGENTS

1. Are the agent and the insurance company licensed by my state insurance department? For how long?
2. How can I find out the claims history of the home before I buy it?
3. If I submit a claim, how will it affect my premium when I renew the policy?
4. What discounts are available?
5. What does the policy cover? What doesn't it cover? What are the limits to the coverages?