

# Shop Smart for Homeowners Insurance

Information	Company A	Company B	Company C
<b>Company Information</b> Company Name Agent or Representative Phone Number			
<b>Coverage Limit</b>			
<b>Deductible</b>			
<b>Coverage</b> Actual Cash Value Replacement Value Personal Property Guaranteed Replacement Cost for Personal Property Personal Liability Medical Payments Mold and Foundation			
<b>Discounts</b> Burglar Alarm Fire Extinguishers Hail-Resistant Roof Smoke Detectors Sprinkler System Senior Citizen Other discounts:			
<b>Total Annual Premium</b>			

# Shop Smart for Homeowners Insurance

Prices for homeowners insurance can vary from company to company, so it may be worthwhile to collect price quotes. Note that some insurers use independent agents, some use insurance agents affiliated with their company, and some sell insurance directly via telephone or Internet.

Below are descriptions and helpful information on some of the coverage and discounts homeowners insurers offer. Remember, each insurer offers different discounts; simply ask your agent or company which ones apply to you. Use the worksheet on the other side of this paper to guide you through the process.

## Explanation of Coverage and Discounts

**Total Amount of Coverage** – The total amount you can receive in event of a claim.

**Deductible** – The maximum amount of a claim that the policyholder must pay. Raising your deductible can lower your homeowners insurance rates.

### Coverage

**Actual Cash Value** – If your policy only covers the actual cash value of your property, you are only covered for the depreciated value of that property in event of a claim.

**Replacement Value** – If your policy covers your property's replacement value, you are covered for the cost of replacing the damaged property. This is more comprehensive coverage.

**Personal Property**– Pays when household items, such as clothing and furniture, are destroyed. With personal property insurance, contents are covered at actual cash value up to 40 percent of the value of the policy.

**Guaranteed Replacement Cost for Personal Property** – Provides replacement value coverage for personal items.

**Personal Liability** – Provides coverage in case someone is injured on your property.

**Medical Payments** – Greater coverage than personal liability, medical payment coverage ensures that the injured person's medical treatment is covered.

**Mold and Foundation** – Coverage for mold and foundation damage. Many companies are now able to offer this coverage separately..

### Discounts

**Burglar Alarm** – If you have a qualifying burglar alarm, you can reduce your insurance premium by 15 percent. Call your local police department or sheriff's office to get an inspection to qualify.

**Fire Extinguishers** – Having fire extinguishers located in the kitchen and near other fire hazards can save up to 2 percent off your policy.

**Hail-Resistant Roof** – You may be able to save up to 35 percent for impact-resistant roofs, which are less likely to be damaged by hail.

**Smoke Detectors**– Some insurers may offer a discount for certain smoke alarms.

**Sprinkler System** – An approved fire protection sprinkler system can save you 8 percent on your homeowners premium. To find out if a sprinkler system qualifies, contact the Texas Commission on Fire Protection at 512-918-7100.

**Senior Citizen** – Often, those older than 55 can receive a 5 percent discount.