## **Car Loans Versus Car Leases**

| Factors                | Car Loans  | Car<br>Leases  |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Ownership<br>potential | <ul> <li>The car belongs to you and the bank thatgave you the loan until you have paid offthe loan.</li> <li>Then, the car becomes yours.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>You are essentially renting the car from the dealership. You makemonthly payments to the dealership for a set number of months.</li> <li>The car does not belong to you. When the lease ends, you have toreturn the car to the dealership.</li> <li>You may decide to purchase the car at the end of the lease. However, the total cost generally ends up being more than it would have been if you had bought the car in the beginning.</li> </ul> |
| Wear and<br>tear       | There are no charges for wear and tear.  | <ul> <li>Most leases charge you extra money for any damage found at the<br/>endof the lease that goes beyond normal wear and tear.</li> </ul>  |
| Monthly payments       | <ul> <li>Payments are higher, because you are<br/>purchasing the vehicle, but you only paythem<br/>for a set term. Then, you own the car.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Payments are lower because you are not paying to purchase the car.</li> <li>As long as you lease a car, you will continue to make monthlypayments.</li> </ul>   |
| Mileage<br>limitations | There are no mileage restrictions.   | <ul> <li>Leases restrict the number of miles you can drive the car each year.</li> <li>If you exceed the mileage allowed, you have to pay the dealer for eachmile over the limit, according to your lease.</li> <li>For example, a dealer may charge you \$.15 for every mile that youdrive over 24,000 miles in 2 years. If you drive the car an additional</li> <li>3,000 miles, you would owe the dealer \$450.00 for those miles.</li> </ul>             |
| Auto<br>insurance      | It is usually less expensive than auto insurance for leased cars.  | <ul> <li>Insurance on a leased vehicle may cost more because of highercoverage requirements.</li> <li>Some insurance carriers may also consider leasing to be higher risk than purchasing.</li> </ul>  |
| Cost                   | <ul> <li>Purchasing a car is usually more cost<br/>effective if you plan to keep the car over<br/>several years.</li> </ul>                          | <ul> <li>Exceeding the mileage on a leased car and/or decide to buy it<br/>outright once your lease has expired, it will end up costing you<br/>more.</li> </ul>   |

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| Factors | Car Loans   | Car<br>Leases                                    |
|---------|---|--|
|         | However, in the short term, the costs will probably be greater than a car lease because of the higher monthly payments. | When your lease term ends, you do not own a car. |