

Guarantees/Warranties on appliances

For the consumer, the terms guarantee and warranty mean the same. Many manufacturers of home appliances prefer warranty.

The guarantee-warranty is a written statement of a manufacturer's responsibility to replace defective parts or workmanship within a certain time limit. A card is usually included with the product, which should be filled out and returned to the manufacturer for the warranty to be valid.

When a consumer buys a freezer, washer-dryer, car, or T.V. he is also paying for the warranty. Therefore, look at the warranty carefully and ask any questions at the time of purchase.

Look for these points when

ready a warranty:

What is the length of the warranty period? When does it begin and end? Not all warranties are the same. Parts of an appliance can vary, too. For example, a refrigerator may have a 5 year warranty on the sealed compressor, but other parts are guaranteed for 2 years.

What does the warranty cover? The whole item or certain parts are covered. Exceptions will be listed. Labor for replacement of parts may or may not be included. For small appliances, labor is covered only if the item is returned to the factory.

What are the conditions stated in the warranty? Usually,

there will be a statement that the warranty is not in effect if the product has been misused, neglected, or is not operating because of an accident. The warranty may be void if repairs are not made by an authorized person.

It only applies to the first owner and is void if the product is resold.

Who is responsible for fulfilling the terms of the warranty? This may be the dealer or the factory or both. Check what you as the owner must do to fulfill the terms.

Will the warranty be effective if you move? Usually arrangements can be made, but have a clear understanding.

As the owner, you have

responsibilities, too:

1.) Read carefully the instructions - follow them! If there is evidence of misuse of the appliance, the warranty is void.

2. Before reporting trouble, check for blown fuses or failure to plug in the appliance.

3.) Do not tamper with an appliance.

4.) When you report trouble, be specific as to what is wrong.

5.) Always identify the appliance by model and serial number when making a complaint.

6.) Give the date of purchase when making a claim under warranty.

7.) Keep your warranty in a safe place.

What To Look

For When

buying clothing

When going clothes shopping, ask yourself these questions:

What do I want?

What do I really need?

What is the care and cleaning of this article of clothing?

How well-made is the clothing?

Now compare your answers to the cost of the item. Does the your-need, ease of care, and quality of fabric and construction make it worth the price?

Examine clothing for good construction and quality of fabric. Look for snags and small tears, missing buttons and snaps, loose threads, and stitching that has come out. Check that the fabric is on grain and that plaids and stripes match.

Always try on a garment for proper fit before buying it. The article should allow ease for extra movement and hang well, which is a sign of proper fabric grain. An item with poor fit will have a poor appearance on the wearer. Do not buy a garment that will need alterations, for too many changes will distort the design.

Every garment has a clothing care label that will tell the consumer type of fabric (wool, cotton, polyester); recommended cleaning methods; and warn against care methods that would harm the item. The buyer will want to check clothing labels to see how easy or difficult cleaning a garment will be.

LARGE APPLIANCES

The following prices compare a certain brand or similar brands and models between stores. Prices have been rounded off to the dollar.

	MADRAS	GRESHAM		BEND	CATALOG	
	Music Ctr.	Payless	K Mart	Payless	Wards	Sears
Freezer -- 16 cu. ft. upright	\$389	\$335	\$329	\$328	\$328	\$310
Refrigerator -- 15 cu. ft. frost-free	459	450	389	438	450	400
Electric Range and Oven	330	330	300	297	350	310
Dishwasher -- portable with cutting board	330	370		330	370	365
Washing Machine	297	288		244	310	270
Automatic Dryer	234	188	188	188	220	210

STEREOS & TV'S

These prices reflect the range of prices found in stores. The brands of TV's and stereo equipment vary between stores and cannot be compared here. Costs are rounded to the nearest round number.

ITEM	MADRAS			GRESHAM AREA			PORTLAND		BEND	DALLES	CATALOG
	Sound Cellar	Music Center	Round ButteTV	Payless	K Mart	Fred Meyers	Radio Shack	Jaffco Beaverton	Payless	Radio Shack	Sears
<u>STEREO COMPONENT SETS</u>											
8-track, AM-FM receiver, turntable, speakers											
LOW	\$170	\$150	\$350	\$170	\$170	\$200	\$130	\$160	\$200	\$170	\$180
AVERAGE	230	280	425	240	240	270	170	200	280	220	200
<u>COLOR TV SETS -- 19" screen</u>											
LOW	\$360	\$460	\$490	\$390	\$440	\$330	---	\$430	\$380	\$350	\$300
AVERAGE	390	500	550	450	490	390	---	400	440	--	300
HIGH	450	570	570	730	---	---	---	620	730	600	490
<u>BLACK AND WHITE TV SETS --</u>											
19" screen											
LOW	\$150	\$160	\$180	\$170	\$150	---	---	---	---	\$150	---
AVERAGE	150	160	180	170	160	160	---	160	---	160	160
HIGH	170	170	200	180	170	---	---	---	---	180	---