

# INSURANCE TIPS BEFORE GETTING MARRIED



Before you plan your special day, read these 10 insurance-smart tips to do before you get married:

- Before combining auto policies, have a frank conversation about your individual driving records. If combining policies doesn't make mathematical sense, look into named-driver exclusions. However, be very careful about accepting a named-driver exclusion, as it voids coverage if that person drives the car.
- Renters, take the time to update your renter's insurance limits to cover your soon-to-be spouse's personal items. If you don't have renter's insurance, now is a great time to educate yourself and consider purchasing it.
- Buying your first home together? Carefully consider location, construction type and square footage as these likely will impact homeowners insurance premiums.
- If you're considering a fixer-upper as your first home, note that a renovation investment can change the property's replacement value and your insurance needs. Before you buy, think about what the structure will offer today ... and tomorrow.
- Create a home inventory to prepare yourself for unexpected disasters. The NAIC's Home Inventory app helps you catalog your belongings room by room using your mobile device. Available for Android® and iPhone®. For more tips, visit:

<https://insurance.maryland.gov/Consumer/Documents/publicnew/Home-Inventory-List-FAQ.pdf>

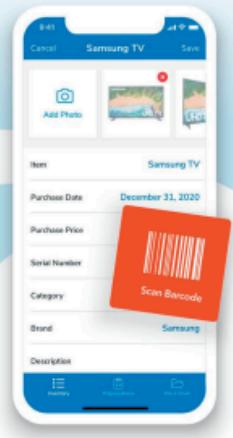
Group Your Belongings  
By Room And Categories



Quickly Take Pictures  
Of Your Belongings



Scan Barcodes  
For Accuracy



 DOWNLOAD

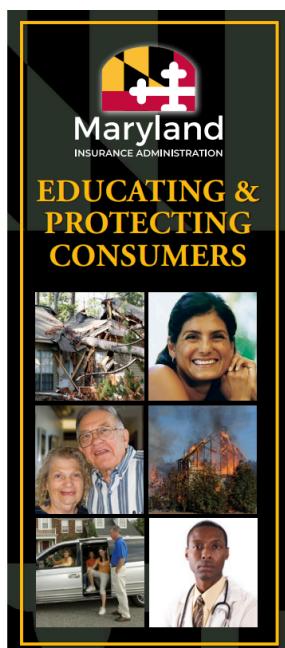
the APP



# BEFORE GETTING MARRIED - CONTINUED

- Consider more than just the lowest premium when deciding whose health insurance plan to keep. Review provisions related to deductibles, co-pays and coinsurance. Pay particular attention to what is NOT covered.
- Most group insurance providers view marriage as a qualifying major event allowing you to make related policy changes outside the approved open enrollment period. To avoid coverage gaps, report your change in family status promptly after.
- Now that "I" means "we", revisit life insurance coverage assumptions. Include future income potential, the cost of raising kids and outstanding mortgage payments in your calculation.
- Proactively contact your HR department or individual life insurance provider to name your spouse and/or stepchildren as beneficiaries. Beneficiary changes don't happen automatically.
- Revisit all existing insurance policies to see if you qualify for better rates. Many insurers consider married couples lower risk, which may result in lower premiums.

## ABOUT THE MARYLAND INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION



The Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) is the state agency that regulates the business of insurance in Maryland. If you feel that your insurer or insurance producer acted improperly, you have the right to file a complaint. The MIA can investigate complaints that an insurer or insurance producer has:

- Denied or delayed payment of all portions of a claim
- Improperly terminated your insurance policy
- Raised your insurance premiums without proper notice or in excess of what the law allows
- Made false statements to you in connection with the sale of insurance or the processing of insurance claims
- Overcharged you for services, including premium finance charges

**Contact the Maryland Insurance Administration at:**

**200 St. Paul Place, Suite 2700  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202**

**410-468-2000 | 800-492-6116 | 800-735-2258 TTY**

**<https://insurance.maryland.gov/Consumer/Pages/FileAComplaint.aspx>**



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