

In today's difficult and worrisome economy, many families and individuals have decided to hang onto their "paid for" cars and trucks – to avoid taking on the added expense of a monthly car payment.

And this means, of course, you need to take extra special care of your current vehicle if you want to get more miles out of it and save money over the long run. Today's newer cars and trucks are built to last well in excess of 100,000 miles, with many attaining a lifespan of more than 250,000. But this doesn't happen without routine maintenance and the replacement periodically of certain vital components.

Knowing which of your car's components are likely to fail, and being aware of when to replace them before they leave you stranded can save you a lot of money and heartache.

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