

Hoot guide to young driver car insurance and running a car at University

For some of us here at Hoot, memories of University life are a dim and distant glimmer of recollection: some of us graduated last year and some of us went back to Uni as mature students (at the ancient age of 35). Now, we are safely lodged in the Hoot office, dedicated to providing cheap young driver car insurance for new generations of education hungry motorists.

So, without further ado, we give you our top tips on Higher Education car ownership. (Not as difficult to grasp as The Paradoxical Principles of Descartes and the Passions of the 'Sole' – chips anybody!?)

1. Talk to the University about your car and all things car related

Before you set out in your battered little Fiat Punto with the sports kit light set and fluffy football air freshener, find out if you are actually allowed to take your car to the campus. Many Universities do not permit students who are in on-site halls of residence to keep a car. It's all to do with parking – more of that later. So, don't turn up expecting a garage and a valet, 'cos it just won't be there.

2. Arrive early at the car park, it's smaller than you think

Ok, so you're living off campus and you're allowed to drive your jalopy to your venerable seat of learning. Sorry, but you're going to have to get up early to avoid the crush. Remember, as well as you hairy (and not so hairy) students, there are a wealth of other people who want to park in the car park: library staff, catering staff, security guards, administration clerks, and, oh yes, lecturers (no, they don't sleep in cardboard boxes under a desk in a tutorial room.)

Forward planning is the key here. Know when your lectures are, the likelihood of there being a space, and then set off early.

3. Learn how to talk politely to disgruntled local residents (who think all young drivers should be banned from the roads)

So, you didn't get to the Uni car park on time. What are you going to do now? You park in nearby streets, don't you? WARNING, WARNING! Local residents can get extremely narked when year after year, hordes of lazy students park in front of their driveways, on grass verges, on double yellows and generally without a thought for the neighbours.

Universities are constantly harangued by locals about parking and consequently, they will probably have a go at you. Park wisely and you may never have to speak to a middle aged woman in a pinny who was waiting for her new fridge freezer to be delivered, and you were blocking the road, so they wouldn't deliver the item, and it's going to cost her... (it happens – honest!)

4. Make sure you're covered with young driver car insurance– that's why you've come to us, right?

The University Dean will not take kindly to illegal cars on campus. Get your cheap car insurance from Hoot, make sure your vehicle is taxed, roadworthy and insured, and remember these things have to be done annually, even when you're putting your heart and soul into molecular physics; the science of plutonium particles and the carrot.

5. Keep the car working

Break downs are a nightmare, so servicing your car regularly is a must. Take it home at Christmas and ask Dad to sort it out. He'll love that you still ask his advice on some things, and he might even pay for it, if you're lucky.

6. Mexican Night and Puntos don't mix

You know the rules, don't drink and drive. If you're going to the Uni bar's Beach Party extravaganza, (girls in bikini tops, boys in Bermuda / flip-flop combos, and the odd beach ball flying about) don't be tempted to drive home after sampling the local brew. Get the bus, get a taxi, crash on your mate's floor. It doesn't matter how good your young driver car insurance is, it won't get you off a drink driving charge. So, don't risk it – it is simply not worth it.

7. Car pool whenever you can

When you've sobered up and you have to leave your student house to go to lectures (sorry, but you will have to go to some lectures), try to share a car with your mates. It saves on fuel, congestion and makes it easier to find a parking space (less cars + more pairs of eyes = parking space – where spaces ≠ to students = hangovers∞).

8. Remember where you parked the Punto

The security guard/parking attendant will not, I stress not want to spend half an hour helping you find your precious little four wheeled marvel. So, make a note of where you parked it that morning – not where you parked it yesterday, 'cos it won't be there. And if you really, really can't find it, it might just have been stolen – sorry, but it happens! Don't worry, you've got cheap car insurance from Hoot, so you're covered.

9. Take the car home

Lastly, when you've finished your studies, cleared out your room and said good-bye to all your mates from Nantwich - remember to take the car home. Because it's very unlikely that your landlord will accept the pile of battered rust that was once your pride and joy Punto as payment for the last month's rent.

So, you've got the texts books, you've got the plastic chicken for the 'getting to know you' bash and now all you need is your young driver cheap car insurance from Hoot. We are an online car insurance company and we save lots of money on unnecessary things like swanky premises and fancy advertising campaigns. (Remember, as a student, food and toilet paper are necessary and will not be provided free of charge). We do, however, believe in top notch education and want to teach you how to get the best motor insurance quote you can. Call us on 0800 954 97 55 or click below to get covered.