

Working Title: Car Repair Fraud Prevention for U.S. Immigrants (in Spanish)

Linking Audience: Webmasters concerned with the financial lives of US Immigrants; could support a guest posting effort too, but was not designed to do this

Reading Audience: English-first relatives of Immigrants + Spanish-first Immigrants

In-Funnel Audience: none - this piece is primarily for authority link building.

What this article does, and for whom:

For many immigrants in the U.S., driving is a necessary part of life. And it's about more than simply getting from place to place. As the Immigration Policy Center's report, "[Living in a Car Culture Without a License.](#)" asserts, having a car or access to a car is connected to earning higher wages.

Some mechanics take advantage of their customers' lack of knowledge. In fact, as FraudGuides.com notes, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that [tens of billions of dollars](#) are paid out each year by consumers for faulty or unnecessary car repairs.

In this guide, Spanish-speaking immigrants and/or their English-speaking relatives can learn about auto repair fraud prevention, common scams, and how to find a mechanic they can trust. It presents articles, tips, advice, and other resources.

NOTE: all the research and design below was written into a Spanish-language document by our good friends at <http://alturainteractive.com/>)

Table of Contents

- Overview
- Don't Let Car Repair Fraud Happen To You: Tips for Prevention
- The Facts about Common Scams
- How to Find a Trustworthy Mechanic

Overview

Per National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, consumers lose [“tens of billions of dollars each year due to faulty or unnecessary car repairs.”](#)

Don't Let Car Repair Fraud Happen To You: Tips for Prevention

[Research mechanics before you have a problem.](#)

[Know your rights.](#)

[Ask any questions you have.](#)

[Think about how best to describe your problem.](#)

[Know these guidelines.](#) (5 videos)

[Get an estimate in writing before repairs are made.](#)

[Avoid overly aggressive sales pitches.](#)

[Get several quotes before choosing a mechanic.](#)

[Ask for your old parts back.](#)

[Pay with a credit card.](#)

[Keep up with the needed paperwork.](#) (from the “Resolving Disagreements Over the Bill” section)

[If you think you're a victim of fraud, file a complaint.](#)

The Facts about Common Scams

[Premature filter replacement](#)

[The "While You Were Away" Scam](#)

[The Bait and Switch](#)

[Used Part Replacement](#)

[Broken Axle Boots](#)

[Unnecessary Fluid Flushes](#)

[The "Free" Alignment Check](#)

[Making Needless Repairs](#)

How to Find a Trustworthy Mechanic

[Check out online reviews.](#)

[Ask what certifications the mechanic\(s\) have received.](#)

[Call the Better Business Bureau.](#)

[Go to a shop endorsed by AAA.](#)

[Check car forums.](#)

[Ask family and friends.](#)

[Check out the shops in person. Are they clean? Well organized?](#)

[Ask if they're ok with showing you the problem.](#)