

# Lemon Law Basics

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Lemon laws are laws to protect consumers who purchase defective automobiles. For example, if you buy a new or used car and then find out the car has a serious problem that is not fixable, the manufacturer is requested by lemon law to buy back or replace the defective vehicle if the defect can not be repaired within a certain number of attempts or within a certain time frame.

Generally speaking, cars and trucks are covered by lemon laws in most states, while some states' lemon laws cover motorcycles and motor homes as well. Also, the exact criteria for what falls under a lemon law differ from state to state. Most lemon laws define a lemon as a new vehicle with condition or defect that substantially impairs the value or use of the vehicle and which has not been repaired after a reasonable number of attempts.

If you are a victim of a lemon law violation, you should first try settling the matter with the manufacturer. Talk to the manufacturer about your situation and see if the manufacturer is willing to offer a reasonable settlement. If you can't reach a satisfying settlement with the manufacturer, you can work with an attorney and take the case to court. Make sure you have enough documents to prove your vehicle falls under the lemon law. John Lee is an Internet writer who has written articles for a number of Internet columns and websites, such as Attorney Help ( <http://www.attorneyhelp.org> ) and Notary Public Guide ( <http://www.notarypublicguide.com> ), etc.