

The Benefits of Bundling Your Insurance Coverages

Do you want to save money on your insurance policies? Did you know there's a way to do that without raising your deductible or lowering your coverage? The answer is bundling. If you have more than one policy with the same insurance company, you may bundle those policies and, in the process, benefit from a multi-policy discount.

Here's why you might consider bundling:

- **Bundling can save you money.** Depending on the amount of coverage of your policies, and your state, you can save from 5% to 25%.
- **Bundling is convenient.** It simplifies bill paying and record keeping since you interact with just one insurer.
- **Bundling can help ensure you are fully covered.** Having all policies with one company allows your insurance advisor to identify any gaps in coverage.

There are many different ways to bundle your insurance.

Homeowners Insurance Bundles

Your home is one of your greatest investments; you need to make sure that it's fully protected. There are plenty of decisions to make when obtaining a homeowners policy—from coverage limits to [extra protection for your belongings](#). When you bundle special riders or endorsements with your homeowners insurance, you can save money.

Different bundling options include:

[Sump Pump Endorsement](#): A sump pump is a device that collects excess water and drains it outside your home. Just a couple inches of water backup can cause thousands of dollars in damage – ruining carpets, destroying appliances, and crumbling drywall. A sump pump endorsement helps cover the costs of repairs and replacements due to damages caused by a sump pump failure.

[Flood Insurance](#): Regular home insurance does not cover flood damage. That's why many people in flood zones purchase this extra policy. There is a 30-day waiting period to buy flood insurance, so take that into consideration.

[Auto Insurance](#): If you have a vehicle, you likely have liability, collision, and/or comprehensive insurance. Liability coverage is used to pay for damages caused by you. Collision coverage helps pay for repairs to your vehicle or pays for your vehicle's equivalent cash value if it's been totaled. Comprehensive coverage is for vehicle damage caused by other than collisions, such as natural disasters, fires, vandalism, [theft](#), and animals.

College Students and Renters Insurance: If your college student* lives away at school, his or her belongings are covered by your Homeowners policy at 10% of the limit of liability or \$1,000, whichever is greater. You may want more coverage than 10%. Talk to your insurance advisor about expanding limits, such as an [umbrella policy](#) to cover expensive items your student is bringing to college. Alternatively, consider purchasing Renters Insurance for your college student for an off-campus apartment. Renters insurance not only protects your student's possessions but offers them emergency housing if they are unable to reside in the rental unit. Renters insurance is surprisingly affordable, so when you bundle it with your Homeowners policy, it could practically be free!

**Note that college students must meet certain requirements in order to qualify as an insured on your Homeowners policy. This includes age limitations, family relationship, and full-time enrollment in school. In the event of theft, they must have lived in the location 60 days immediately before the loss.*

Earthquake Insurance: If you live in an area that is prone to [earthquakes](#), you may want to consider this additional coverage. Homeowner, condo, and rental insurance policies typically do not cover earthquakes.

Umbrella Policies: This type of policy provides additional personal liability insurance that starts paying after the underlying limits of liability on your home insurance policy have been exhausted after a covered loss. While there's no way to know for sure how much liability coverage you may need, understanding what you stand to lose is a good place to start. If you're being sued, it's possible that equity in your home, your personal savings, and your income may be at risk. If the value of two years of your annual income, the equity in your home, and your savings exceed the liability limits on your auto or home insurance policies, then you should consider an umbrella policy to protect your net worth.

Renters Insurance Bundles

Renters Insurance is like Homeowners insurance but for tenants. Starting at about \$10 a month, it protects your personal belongings (that's right, your landlord's insurance policy will not cover your belongings), but that's not all. It's an important safeguard if you're found at fault for property damage or injuries at your place (and even away from home). It also can help if you're unable to access your apartment or home due to a covered loss.

You can choose to bundle your renters insurance with:

Auto Insurance: As described above, auto insurance helps protect you in the event of an accident or other damage to your car. When you bundle your renters policy with an auto policy you already have, the savings can be substantial.

Pet Insurance: Our [pets are like family](#) and we want to keep them as healthy as possible. Pet insurance can help offset veterinary expenses. Depending on your policy, pet insurance may cover exams, prescriptions, lab tests and x-rays, surgeries, emergency visits, and serious illnesses like cancer. You make the initial payment and then are reimbursed depending upon

the deductible and limits that you have selected. (Pet insurance also may be bundled with your homeowners insurance.)

Auto Insurance Bundles

Auto and Homeowners insurance, and auto and renters policies, are among the most popular types of insurance bundles. If you own a boat, you also may wish to bundle a boat policy with your car insurance.

Boats and personal watercraft: If you have a boat, you will need a [boat insurance policy](#). You also need a separate policy for personal watercraft such as jet skis. These policies protect you from vandalism, accidents, and liability for injuries to others.

**Note that [motorcycle insurance](#) is not eligible for a bundling discount. However, if you live in a cold climate state and only ride your bike in warmer months, you can ask about seasonal coverage.*

Each year, California Casualty policyholders save an average of \$423* a year. Those savings could be even higher if you decide to bundle your coverages. See how much you can save and get started with a free quote today at calcas.com/neamb.

California Casualty has been serving the needs of educators since 1951 and is the only auto and home insurance company to earn the trust and endorsement of the National Education Association (NEA). Learn how to save on your insurance by getting a quote at www.neamb.com/autohome, or by calling 1.800.800.9410.