Driver's Minute · Tesla Answers

Top 5 Hidden Costs for Tesla Owners

Free guide to video #11 · the five costs that surprise Tesla owners most, what each one really runs, and how to keep it down.

WHAT THIS GUIDE COVERS

The value drop · insurance · tires · home charging · software subscriptions · a yearly budget checklist.

1 The value drop

- A Model Y loses about **a third of its value in 3 years**.
- That is around **$16,000 on a $45,000 car**.
- Keep the car longer to soften the drop.

2 Insurance

- Often **$800 a year more than the average car**.
- Why: Tesla repairs cost more.
- **Shop your rates** and check your own policy every year.

3 Tires

- Teslas are heavy, so tires wear out **20 to 30% faster**.
- Figure **$800 to $2,000 a set**, every **25,000 to 40,000 miles**.

4 Home charging

- The Wall Connector plus an electrician: most owners pay **$900 to $1,800, all in**.
- Need a bigger panel? That can push it past **$4,000**.
- The cheap way: a **Mobile Connector on a regular outlet**.

5 Software subscriptions

- **Full Self-Driving (Supervised): $99 a month**.
- **Premium Connectivity: about $10 a month** more.
- Regular software updates **stay free**.

6 Yearly budget checklist

- [ ] Plan for the value drop before you trade in.
- [ ] Get three insurance quotes every year.
- [ ] Set money aside for a set of tires.
- [ ] Get an electrician's quote before you buy a Wall Connector. Try the Mobile Connector first.
- [ ] Only pay for FSD or Premium Connectivity in the months you will use them.

Checked: Sunday, November 8, 2026, against iSeeCars (March 2026), CarResaleValue, Insure.com, Compare.com, Mitchell EV Collision Insights (Q2 2026), Consumer Reports EV tire testing, 2026 home-charger cost guides (EnergySage pricing) and Tesla's current prices. Prices change; check before you buy.

Sources: iSeeCars · CarResaleValue · Insure.com · Compare.com · Mitchell · Consumer Reports · EnergySage · Tesla.com.

Our hosts are AI-generated. Independent channel by Condor Direct. Not affiliated with Tesla, Inc. General information only.

Watch: youtube.com/@driversminute

More free guides: driversminute.com/free