

# Dream Car Project

## Assignment:

This project will merge work done with an Excel spreadsheet into a Powerpoint presentation. You will select a car that you would like to purchase, calculate 3 different financing options for that vehicle, and present your findings to the class with the aid of Powerpoint.

Monthly payments for auto loans are figured using three important things:

## **Principal, Interest Rate, and Term.**

- The **Principal** is the amount of money borrowed (this is the amount of the sale minus any down payment you decide to pay in advance).
- The **Interest Rate** is the percentage that a bank charges you to lend their money.
- The **Term** is the length of time that the loan will be paid back over. (This is traditionally listed by either months and/or years).


You will use Excel to calculate three different loan options to choose from. Most of the variables on these options will be kept the same, but you will select one that will be different for each so that you can test it. After finding the monthly payment and interest paid, make a decision about which one is best for you.

The variables are: **Down Payment, Interest Rate, Loan Term.**

## From the Internet:

1. Use the internet to select the car of your dreams. You will be financing this loan through a bank, but you have unlimited funds – so have fun!
2. Download a picture (or pictures) of your car for use in your presentation. **(Do not spend much time with this at the beginning. You can even skip this until later. Get the Excel stuff done so you don't get behind!).**
3. Find the sale price of the car online, **documenting the web address (URL).**
4. Find a standard bank interest rate for auto loans & **document the URL.**
5. Determine the amount of down payment you are going to make. (This number gets subtracted off of the sale price prior to the loan & it is totally up to you, just like in real life).

## Using Excel:

1. Open Microsoft Excel. Label the cells in the A column as follows:
  1. [Your Title of Spreadsheet]
  2. Sale Price
  3. Down Payment
  4. Principal
  5. Interest Rate
  6. Loan Term (Years)
  7. Number of Monthly Payments
  8. Total Interest Paid
  9. Total Amount Paid
  10. Monthly Payment
2. Use the "Merge & Center" feature () to center the **Title** over columns A – D.
3. Select rows 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, & 10 and change to currency formatting by selecting the \$ or 'Accounting Number Format' icon. Make sure it is on 2 decimal places
4. Select row 5 and change it to percentage formatting by selecting the % or the 'Percent Style' icon. Also 2 decimal places.
5. Enter the **Sale Price** in row 2, columns B, C, & D. Enter the **Down Payment** (if any) in row 3, columns B, C, & D.
6. Using a formula, enter the **Principal** (loan amount) in cell B4 and then copy over to C4 & D4.
7. Enter the **Interest Rate** into cells B5, C5, & D5.
8. Enter the **Loan Term** (in years) into cells B6, C6, & D6.
9. Use a simple multiplication formula in cell B7 to calculate the total **Number of Monthly Payments**. Copy this across to the other two columns.
10. Using Excel formulas, calculate the Total Interest Paid (Principal \* Rate \* Term), Total Amount Paid (total interest + principal), and the Monthly Payment (total paid / number of monthly payments). Do this in the B column, then copy across.
11. Look at the calculated numbers and determine which financing option you would choose. Be able to explain which one you chose and why.
12. Format your worksheet (it should go from cell A1 – D10) so that it will look great on the classroom screen. **Make the fonts clear, bold, and large.** Create color contrasts between backgrounds and text. Do not use pictures for backgrounds as they will generally be too busy. Use your observations of other students' work in the last project to implement the best elements of design.

**Dark Background/Light Font or Light Background/Dark Font**

## **Using Powerpoint:**

1. Create the following slides: (You may organize them in the order that seems best to you).
  1. Title page stating the car you chose. (Should include a picture)
  2. Your Financing Excel Table (cut and paste – then maximize size on slide).
  3. Announcement of which option you chose and reasoning it.
  4. Additional pictures / info about your car.

Once created, you will deliver your presentation to the class. Part of your grade will be based on your presentation skills and the level of professionalism you show.

For additional help, see the  
“Dream Car Calculations” and “Basic Excel Formulas” PDFs on the class website.