

# Services





**Easy English fact sheet** 

2016



### You might need help to read this fact sheet.

A friend, family member or support person

can help you.

# What is a service?



You pay someone to do something for you.

For example, you pay

- a hairdresser to cut your hair
- a gardener to mow your lawn
- a company for your mobile phone services.

### Contracts

You might have a contract for a service. For example,

- a mobile phone contract for 12 months
- an internet service for 12 months.

Read the contract carefully.

It should be clear and easy to read.



Do **not** sign the contract if you

- do **not** understand it
- think it is unfair.



There are laws in Victoria about contracts.

For more information call

Consumer Affairs Victoria.



Sometimes things can go wrong. When it is **not** your fault you can ask the shop or business for

• a **refund** 

or

• compensation.

A refund means the shop or business gives you all or some of your money back.

Compensation means the shop or business pays you some money. For example, a hairdresser spills hair dye on your shirt. You can ask the hairdresser to pay for the cost of your shirt.



#### You can get a refund or stop a contract when

- the person did not do the job properly.
- the job took much longer than normal.
- something big is wrong. You would not have bought it if you knew.
- you did not get what you asked for

#### and

the problem can **not** be fixed easily.

• the service is **not** safe for you or others.

This means it can

- hurt you or someone else
- cause a fire.

# What can you do?



Call the shop or business you got the service from.

- Tell them what is wrong.
- Ask the shop or business to fix it.

You can keep going with the contract

#### and

the shop or business will give you back some money.

This is called the difference between what you

paid and what you got.

You can ask for all your money back if the problem is really big. This is a full refund.



### You may not be able to get a refund if

- you have changed your mind and there was nothing wrong with the service
- something small is wrong and they can fix it for you quickly.



## Remember

When you buy a service or sign a contract you must ask for

• a quote

or

• a copy of the contract.

Keep the contract in a safe place.



#### List of fact sheets in Easy English

- Buying Furniture
- Contracts
- Lay-by
- Phone and door to door sales
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- Renting during a tenancy
- Renting ending a tenancy
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- Scams
- Services
- Shopping tips

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This information is written in **Easy English**. You might need more information about the law.

You can ask **Consumer Affairs Victoria**.

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Look at Clear Written Communications.

### The Easy English Style Guide for information

about the format and writing style of this

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