

Chapter 1 Housing and interior

Chapter Overview

The focus of this chapter is on three options for obtaining housing, the financing related to buying a house, and factors to consider when shopping for household appliances.

Unit 1 **Housing acquisition options**

Unit overview

This unit looks at three different ways of acquiring housing – renting, building and buying – the advantages and disadvantages of each, and the financial and contractual responsibilities involved.

Unit 2 **Financing related to buying a house**

Unit overview

This unit covers financing the purchase of a home and all the costs involved, and looks at how government and employers can provide subsidising for housing.

Unit 3 **Buying household appliances**

Unit overview

The focus of this unit is on buying household appliances which are easy and safe to use, energy-efficient, adaptable for different requirements.

Chapter 2 The consumer

Chapter Overview

Unit 1 on financial and contractual issues examines contracts, unfair business practices, scams and community savings schemes, amongst others. Direct and indirect taxes, interest rates and inflation are dealt with in Unit 2.

Unit 1 Financial and contractual issues

Unit overview

In this unit you will discuss with the learners:

- what a contract is
- types of contracts relevant to consumers
- cooling-off period and exemption clauses
- unfair business practices in relation to contracts
- difference between a warranty and guarantee
- identifying grey goods or parallel imports
- scams and the types of scams consumers should be aware of
- stokvels - a type of community saving scheme that can be legal or illegal
- pyramid schemes, which are generally illegal.

Unit 2 Taxes, interest rates and inflation

Unit overview

In this unit the learners will study:

- tax, types of tax paid in South Africa
- interest rates applicable to different types of credit
- how to calculate simple and compound interest
- inflation, the causes, and how it affects consumers
- the CPI and how it is calculated.