

Lease or buy?

Use this chart to compare different options for acquiring equipment. BY MARISA PALMIERI

COST COMPARISONS	LEASE	LOAN
Down payment or first lease payment		
Interest rate		
Length of lease or loan		
Monthly payment		
Purchase option		
Total of monthly payments		
Total paid if buyer purchases at end		
Trade value at 36 months		
Cost of extended warranty, if purchasing		
Total cost of lease or loan, including maintenance/warranties over lifetime		
CASH AVAILABILITY CONSIDERATIONS (YES/NO)	LEASE	LOAN
Is there sufficient cash flow to handle monthly payments?		
Are maintenance costs included?		
Are insurance costs included?		
For a seasonal business, does the lease or loan allow for flexibility to fit periods of sufficient cash flow better?		