



"Only they can fix it..." Asking For The Right To Repair - Local News

Source:
<https://bit.ly/38NzqHL>

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Watch the video twice and answer the questions below.

1. How much money could an average family save per year by repairing instead of replacing their items?
2. What types of products are becoming difficult or impossible to fix?
3. The right to repair bill would target any product with what inside?
4. Why are companies making things hard to fix?
5. Why is this also an environmental problem?
6. According to the car mechanic, why is repairing newer vehicles so difficult?
7. Why did lawmakers not debate the right to repair policy?

VOCABULARY

appliance = a device designed to perform a specific task
vehicle = a thing used for transporting people or goods
firmware = permanent software programmed into a read-only memory.
corner the market = to control the supply of something
waste = unwanted or unusable material

SPEAKING ACTIVITY

How do you react to the statements below?

Which ones do you agree with? Which ones bother you?

a. I'm very handy!

c. It's easier and cheaper to replace broken items.

b. Who on earth gets things repaired these days?

d. I get a new phone or computer every 2-3 years.

e. If you don't like how a company operates, don't buy from them!

i. I would support a "right to repair" bill.

f. It is too dangerous to let regular consumers repair electronics because they may be injured.

g. If companies designed things to be easily repaired, the products would be bulkier and less efficient.

j. It's good business practice to make things disposable.

h. I feel good when I can repair something myself.

k. Planned obsolescence generates innovation and new products.



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1. How much money could an average family save per year by repairing instead of replacing their items?

Consumer experts believe a family could save about \$330 a year by repairing instead of replacing electronics and appliances.

2. What types of products are becoming difficult or impossible to fix?

Tech items, appliances, vehicles and farming equipment, especially newer items, are becoming difficult or impossible to fix.

3. The right to repair bill would target any product with what inside?

Any product with a microchip.

4. Why are companies making things hard to fix?

Many of the companies are making them in such a way that only they can fix them. This corners the market and is bad for consumers, businesses and the planet.

5. Why is this also an environmental problem?

This is the fastest growing waste stream on the planet. In Colorado, 196,000 tons of electronic waste is generated per year.

6. According to the car mechanic, why is repairing newer vehicles so difficult?

Much of the information is simply not released or published for repairs, especially for certain brands and for the first few years of ownership.

7. Why did lawmakers not debate the right to repair policy?

They planned to discuss right to repair policy, but then the pandemic hit.

Want to go further? Find out what's happening in Europe in the right to repair fight: <https://youtu.be/SSoyRsbq6E8>