

YOU CAN PROTECT THE NEW CAR WARRANTY OF THE VEHICLE YOU ARE ABOUT TO SERVICE BY USING RYCO FILTERS.

Though there are some conditions, and it will depend on the type of warranty.

Consumer guarantees: These are statutory guarantees that automatically apply to vehicle purchases and vehicle servicing. These apply regardless of any other warranty offered by a seller or manufacturer. There is no requirement for a vehicle to be serviced by an authorised dealer for consumer guarantees to apply. An independent repairer can service a vehicle, and use his choice of appropriate quality products, without affecting these guarantees.

Manufacturers warranties: These are promises to the purchaser that:

- the vehicle will be free from defects for a certain period of time
- defects will entitle the consumer to a repair, replacement, refund or other compensation.

The manufacturer's warranty may set out requirements that purchasers must comply with. For example, it may require them to ensure any servicing is carried out:

- by qualified staff
- according to the manufacturer's specification
- using appropriate quality parts where required

The ACCC* has confirmed that, provided you service the vehicle in accordance with any such requirements, the warranty will remain valid.

In fact a manufacturer who warrants a vehicle on the condition it is serviced by an authorised dealer may be contravening exclusive dealing provisions of the Competition and Consumer Act.

Extended warranties: These extend the coverage provided in the original manufacturer's warranty. Dealers sometimes offer their own extended warranties on new vehicles on the condition the vehicle must be serviced by the dealer offering the warranty. Imposing this requirement on the owner is permissible, if the warranty genuinely extends rights not otherwise available to a purchaser. If this is a requirement of a dealer's warranty, an independent repairer is likely to void the extended warranty if they service the vehicle.

Quality parts: If the manufacturer's warranty requires that appropriate quality parts be used, then non-genuine parts (which are interchangeable with genuine parts) can be used if they are appropriate for the intended purpose and of an acceptable standard. So you can confidently use Ryco.

* Adapted from "To service or not to service: vehicles under warranty" by Dr M, Schaper, M. (Deputy Chair ACCC) in Australian Automotive Aftermarket Magazine, p.6. (2016, February). For more information, contact the ACCC small business helpline on 1300 302 021 or visit www.accc.gov.au.