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Wear and tear

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Wear and tear is a term for damage that naturally and inevitably occurs as a result of normal use or aging. It is used in a legal context for such areas as warranty contracts from manufacturers, which usually stipulate that damage due to *wear and tear* will not be covered.

It is a form of depreciation which is assumed to occur even when an item is used competently and with care and proper maintenance. For example, friction may erode a hammer's head. In the normal use of a hammer for its designed task erosion is impossible to prevent, and any attempt to eliminate this erosion would make the hammer useless. At the same time, it is expected that the normal use of a hammer will not break it beyond repair until it has gone through a certain amount of use.

A company which supports a warranty on a product with the possibility of *wear and tear* will usually limit the warranty to a period of time where its *wear and tear* will probably not be enough to impede the use of the product significantly. Other factors such as the willingness of a customer to replace a product through warranty will affect how long the company offers it.

External links

- Dictionary.Com Definition (<http://dictionary.reference.com/search?q=wear%20and%20tear>)

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Categories: Business economics



This neglected boot was ruined by a combination of wear and tear and extraordinary exposure to the elements.

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