

Bulgaria



София / Sofia



LEGAL GUARANTEE

законова гаранция in Bulgarian

Every consumer purchase is covered by a mandatory legal guarantee. No seller can claim otherwise.

What is the duration of this legal guarantee for new and second-hand goods?

The duration is **2 years** for new and second-hand goods.

If the product is defective, who is responsible for putting things right?

The seller, even for purchases made on an Internet platform. However, the platform may have agreed to act as an intermediary so read the terms and conditions.

By when must the consumer notify the seller of any defects?

Within **2 months** of noticing the defect.

Who has to prove the presence/absence of a defect and how long do they have to do this?

During the first 6 months the seller must prove that the item was not defective ("reversal of burden of proof"). **After that, the consumer** must prove that it was.

Is there a third party testing body to assist with providing proof?

The consumer can ask any repair shop for an expert opinion, but this might not be accepted by the seller. In the event of a court procedure, an expert is appointed by the judge from a list.

What remedies is the consumer entitled to free of charge? Is there a deadline for implementing the solution?

There is a so-called hierarchy of remedies. **Firstly, repair or replacement** according to the consumer's wishes and free of charge. **Secondly, reduction** of the purchase price or **refund** if the **one-month** legal deadline for applying the guarantee is not met by the seller.

Is the repaired/replaced product covered by a new guarantee?

No. The legal guarantee period is only extended by the time necessary for repair or replacement.

Can the consumer take action against the importer or any intermediary in the supply chain up to and including the producer?

The law does not provide for the consumer to make a claim against the importer or any other intermediary.

If no amicable solution can be found, what is the deadline for taking the case to court?

The prescription period is **2 years** from delivery of the good, unless there is a suspension of the statutory limitation period.

Are any other legal guarantees laid down in national law coexisting with the legal conformity guarantee?

Yes. There is a guarantee for construction work of from 5 to 10 years.

COMMERCIAL WARRANTY

A trader is free to decide to offer a commercial warranty and to fix the conditions. This does not influence the legal guarantee.

Who is responsible for application of the warranty?

The party offering the warranty, be it the seller, the producer or a third party guarantor. Always refer to the documentation provided.

What is the average duration of a commercial warranty?

1 to 5 years, and in most cases 2 years, as with the legal guarantee. More expensive goods usually have a longer warranty which often applies to specific parts of the product.

Is it free of charge?

Not necessarily. The trader can fix the conditions, so it can be free of charge or offered against payment.

Does it have to be confirmed in writing?

The seller has to provide the commercial warranty in a written document or in a durable and accessible format.

What information is required?

Content of the warranty, all essential elements such as duration and geographical coverage, details of the company offering it and **a reminder of the legal guarantee.**