

Auto Emergency Preparedness Checklist



You can avoid many dangerous weather problems by planning ahead. Plan long trips carefully, listening to the radio or television for the latest weather forecasts and road conditions. If bad weather is forecasted, drive only if absolutely necessary.



Auto Emergency Kit – Recommended Supplies:

- Jumper cables
- Flashlights w/ batteries
- First aid kit
- Medications
- Baby formula
- Diapers
- Canned food/energy bars
- Manual can opener
- Drinking water
- Basic toolkit
- Radio
- Cat litter or sand for tire traction
- Shovel
- Ice scraper
- Warm clothes, gloves, boots, jacket, change of clothes
- Blankets/sleeping bags
- "Help" sign
- Emergency supplies for pets

For all weather hazards, check or have a mechanic check the following:

- Keep gas tank full
- Do not drive through a flooded area
- Be aware of areas where flooding have receded
- If a power line falls on your var, you are at risk of electrical shock; stay inside until a trained person removes the wire.
- Ensure adequate antifreeze levels
- Battery and ignition system should be in top condition and battery terminals should be clean.
- Brakes: check wear and fluid levels
- Exhaust system: check for leaks and crimped pipes and repair or replace as necessary. Carbon monoxide is deadly and usually gives no warning.
- Fuel and air filters: replace and keep water out of the system by using additives and maintaining a full tank of gas.
- Heater and defroster: ensure they work properly.
- Lights and flashing hazard lights should be checked to ensure serviceability.
- Check oil levels and weight. Heavier oils congeal more at low temperature and do not lubricate as well.
- Thermostat: ensure it works properly.
- Windshield wiper equipment: repair any problems and maintain proper washer fluid level.
- Install good winter tires. Make sure they have adequate tread. All-weather radials are usually good for most winter conditions.