

Car Accident Checklist

By Taylor Peterson

- ☐ Items that Should be Accessible in Your Car
 - ☐ Carry the drivers's license with you on your person, whenever you operate a vehicle.
 - ☐ Have vehicle registration in the car at all times.
 - ☐ Insurance documentation, including your carrier, policy number, and the phone number to call in case of an emergency.
 - ☐ A flashlight.
 - ☐ A disposable camera or camera phone so that you can take photos of damages and the accident scene.
 - ☐ A mobile phone.
 - ☐ First Aid Kit.
 - ☐ Auto accident information form to record notes and information about the accident.
 - ☐ Paper and pencil to exchange contact information with the other driver.
- ☐ At the Accident Scene
 - ☐ Remain calm.
 - ☐ Stop your car.
 - ☐ If you are blocking traffic in a dangerous place, pull off to the side of the road or into a well-lit parking lot.
 - ☐ Turn off your vehicle's engine and either wait for assistance or, if it is safe, step out of your car.
 - ☐ Check to see if you or any passengers with you were injured.
 - ☐ Seek medical assistance if there is anyone injured.
 - ☐ Call the police.
 - ☐ Be courteous and tactful to all parties.
 - ☐ Exchange information with all drivers.
 - ☐ Make sure your thoughts are clear before you make any statements to the police.
 - ☐ Avoid making statements about responsibility to the other driver, witnesses, police or anyone else.
 - ☐ Don't accept fault.
 - ☐ Do not contact your insurance company until you have your thoughts clear and have gathered all the pertinent accident information.

- ☐ Take pictures of everything involved in the car accident.
- ☐ Assist the police with their official report.
- ☐ Get a copy of the police report.
- ☐ After the Accident
 - ☐ Report the accident promptly to your insurance agent.
 - ☐ Do not drive your car if it is unsafe.
 - ☐ Schedule an appointment with your doctor.