

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.