

# THE ULTIMATE CAR EMERGENCY KIT



## OVERVIEW:

*One of the most important steps in preparing for a road trip or a vacation is making sure your vehicle is in good running order. But roadside emergencies can still happen. Be prepared by creating an emergency car kit complete with everything you need to do before, during, and after a roadside emergency. Use these handy printables to get started!*

***Print out this guide to keep in your car, and use our labels to keep your kit organized.***

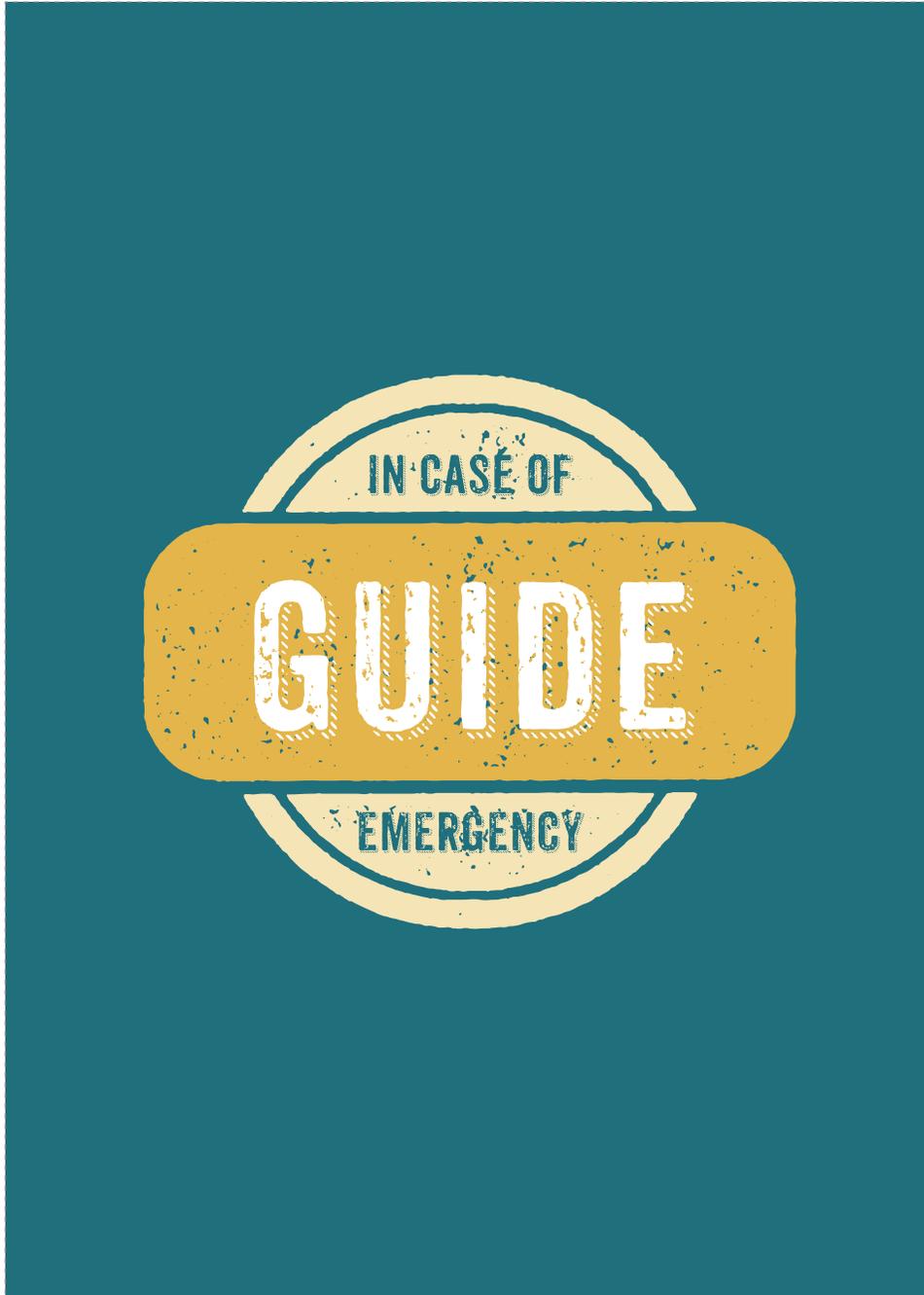
## WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- **Car Emergency Kit Labels**  
*Adhere to your kit's container*
- **Car Emergency Guide**  
*Print and assemble into a booklet, and keep in your car for reference when needed*



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# CHANGING A FLAT TIRE

## YOU'LL NEED:

- Gloves
- Lug Wrench
- Car Jack
- Spare Tire

## DIRECTIONS:

1. Find a safe place to pull over, put on your emergency brake, and turn on your hazard lights.
2. Put on the gloves, and use the wrench to loosen the lug nuts. You may need to remove the hubcap.
3. Place the jack in the recommended lifting spot (see owner's manual if unsure). Raise the jack so the wheel clears the ground.
4. Remove the lug nuts, and pull the tire off the car.
5. Place the spare tire on the car. Place the lug nuts back on, but do not tighten all the way.
6. Lower the car back onto the ground, and tighten the lug nuts all the way.



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# OVERHEATING ENGINE

## YOU'LL NEED:

- Engine Oil
- Coolant

## DIRECTIONS:

1. Find a safe place to pull over, put on your emergency brake, and turn on your hazard lights.
2. Turn off the engine immediately, and open the hood very carefully.
3. Turn off the engine. If steam is coming out from under the hood, turn key to on position to allow fans to cool engine.
4. Let engine cool completely before you do anything else.
5. Open the hood, and check the coolant levels in the reservoir by the radiator. Top off with coolant, if needed.
6. If the coolant or oil is low, you could have a leak. Check for any noticeable dripping.
7. If you see a leak, take your car to a mechanic for repairs.



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# STUCK VEHICLE

## YOU'LL NEED:

- Patience

## DIRECTIONS:

1. Put the car in first gear, and gently press the accelerator.
2. Without going over 15 mph, let the spinning wheels rock the car forward.
3. Take your foot off the accelerator, and let the car roll backwards.
4. Immediately repeat this motion until you build enough momentum to rock the car out of the rut.
5. If this doesn't work, call for a tow truck.



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# CAR CHECKLIST



## CHECK EVERY MONTH

- **Oil Level:** Check for leaks, and add oil if low.
- **Hoses:** Look for areas that are bulging, rotten, or brittle, and replace if needed.
- **Belts:** Replace if worn, frayed, or glazed.
- **Air Filter:** Clean or replace.
- **Tire Pressure:** Add air if too low.
- **Inspect Tires:** Look for uneven wear, bulges, or damage, and replace if needed.

## CHECK EVERY 3 MONTHS

- **Oil/Oil Filter:** Change oil and filter every 3,000 miles or as recommended by the manufacturer.
- **Windshield Washer Fluid:** Add fluid if low.
- **Power Steering Fluid:** Add fluid if low.
- **Transmission Fluid:** Add fluid if low.
- **Battery Terminals and Cables:** Look for corrosion, and clean if needed.
- **Lights:** Ensure all lights and turn signals are in working order.

## CHECK EVERY 6 MONTHS

- **Wiper Blades:** Replace if worn, brittle, or smeary.
- **Horn:** Test to ensure it's working properly.
- **Brakes:** Inspect for unusual wear and tear.
- **Spare Tire:** Make sure it's fully inflated.
- **Exhaust System:** Look for rust, damage, or loose parts, and repair if needed.
- **Shocks:** Watch for oil seepage or wear.

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# TRIP CHECKLIST

## CHECK BEFORE LONG CAR TRIPS

- **Oil Levels:** Add oil if low.
- **Tires:** Inspect for any damage, wear, or bulges, and replace if needed.
- **Tire Pressure:** Verify recommended levels in door jam or manual, and add air if needed.
- **Coolant/Antifreeze:** Check levels, and add if needed.
- **Windshield Washer Fluid:** Check levels and add if needed.
- **Lights:** Make sure all lights and turn signals are working properly.
- **Wiper Blades:** Inspect for wear and performance.
- **Brakes:** Listen and inspect for unusual wear and tear.
- **Spare Tire:** Make sure it's with the car and fully inflated.



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# CAR ACCIDENT

## YOU'LL NEED:

- First Aid Kit
- Phone
- Notepad and Pen

## DIRECTIONS:

1. Check yourself and passengers for injuries. If anyone is hurt, call 911 immediately.
2. Don't move anyone who is injured unless he or she is at risk or you're told to do so by emergency operators.
3. Note your location and any street signs or landmarks nearby.
4. Ask anyone who witnessed the accident to remain until police arrive; also get their name, address, and vehicle registration.
5. Record as many details as possible, including the weather, the time, and the mental and physical state of drivers. Take pictures, if possible.
6. Call your insurance company to report the accident and—if necessary—exchange information with the other driver.
7. If your car is drivable, take it to your mechanic. If not, call a tow truck.



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# EMERGENCY KIT



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