

Be prepared: what to keep in your car for winter.



Winter is beautiful, but it can be unpredictable. Wondering what to keep in your car for winter to prevent a minor inconvenience from becoming a serious emergency? Read on to learn more.

1. **Snow and ice tools:** Keep the right tools handy to clear your car and get out of the snow safely. These simple items can make the difference between being stranded and being back on the road in minutes.

Ice scraper and snow brush: These tools can help you clear frost, ice, and snow from your windshield, mirrors, and windows, allowing you to drive with complete visibility.

Small shovel: A compact, sturdy shovel can help you dig out your tires if they become buried in snow or packed in by a plow.

Traction aids: Sand, cat litter, and traction mats provide extra grip under your tires, helping you safely get moving again when roads or parking lots are slick.

2. **Safety essentials:** In an emergency, knowing what to keep in your car for winter can help you stay protected, visible, and warm while waiting for assistance. These essentials are key to maintaining comfort and security.

First-aid kit: A [well-stocked first-aid kit](#) allows you to treat minor injuries and manage basic medical needs until professional help arrives.

Flashlight with extra batteries: A reliable flashlight ensures you can see clearly in the dark

and signal for help when needed.

Blankets: Extra blankets provide warmth and comfort if you're stranded or you need to wait in your vehicle during cold weather.

3. **Vehicle support:** Cold weather can put extra strain on your car, so having these items on hand can help you handle minor issues and stay connected in an emergency.

Jumper cables: Carrying jumper cables ensures you can [restart a dead battery](#) and get back on the road quickly.

Cell phone charger: A portable charger or car adapter keeps your phone powered, so you can call for help or navigate safely.

Basic tool kit: A small toolkit allows you to perform simple fixes, tighten loose parts, or make temporary repairs until you can reach a mechanic.

4. **Warm clothing:** Winter weather can change unexpectedly. Having extra clothing in your car can help prevent frostbite and hypothermia.

Gloves, hats, and extra socks: These essentials help retain body heat and protect you from cold exposure.

Extra layers: A spare coat, sweater, or thermal layer can provide additional warmth if you get stuck or have to spend time outside your vehicle.

5. **Food and water:** Being stranded during a winter storm can take longer than expected, so it's important to stay energized and hydrated. Consider these items when thinking about what to keep in your car for winter.

Non-perishable food: Snacks like granola bars, nuts, and dried fruit provide quick energy without spoiling.

Bottled water: Keeping a few bottles on hand ensures you stay hydrated. Just leave space in the bottles to allow for freezing.

Remember: [Safe driving habits](#), [regular car maintenance](#), and the right insurance coverage are also key to staying protected this winter. To see how we can help with that, [talk to a local, independent agent today](#).

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