

Be prepared

Is your vehicle ready for the winter?



Be prepared - Is your vehicle ready for winter?

What can you do to reduce the chances of breaking down? Check your vehicle is in good running order before you set out and consider regular servicing to help minimise the risk.

Use this POWDERY checklist as a good reminder:

- PETROL (or diesel). Have you got enough? Do you know where to fill up?
- OIL check levels once a month
- WATER check radiator and screen wash once a month
- DAMAGE check wipers, lights etc. for signs of wear and tear or damage
- ELECTRICS check lights, indicators and controls are working properly
- RUBBER TYRES are they well inflated, legal, with good tread and free from damage?
- YOURSELF are you fit to drive? Have you slept well? Are you taking any medication(s) that could make it unsafe for you to drive?

Carry an emergency kit

Gather together the following items and pack in your vehicle at the start of the winter season, you never know when you might need them!

- Ice scraper and de-icer
- Torch and spare batteries or a wind-up torch
- Warm clothes and blankets for you and all passengers
- Boots
- First aid kit
- Jump leads
- A shovel
- Road atlas
- Sunglasses (the glare off snow can be dazzling)

Be aware when you travel

Road and weather conditions may change, drive with care

You can use the Highways Agency's <u>information services</u> to check for delays on the major roads. We work closely with the Met Office, to provide you with the latest information on weather conditions too.

When you're on the road, pay attention to the changing road, traffic and weather conditions. Be ready to slow down and take more care if you need to, particularly on bends and exposed roads. Don't be lulled into a false sense of security - even if you drive every day on the same stretch of road.

Additional information and advice on driving in adverse weather conditions is available in the Highway Code or by visiting the <u>DirectGov website</u>.

Be informed - have you planned your journey?

In severe and wintry weather it's even more important to plan your journey.

For more information visit: http://www.highways.gov.uk/traffic-information/seasonal-advice/make-time-for-winter/ and http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/learning/get-ready-for-winter/travel/road/prepare