Vehicle Emergency Kits

Vehicles and drivers need to be prepared to deal with emergencies. A vehicle emergency kit with the supplies, tools, clothing and other contents that match the weather and driving conditions that vehicle will encounter is a great way to be prepared.

One approach that works is to equip vehicles with a basic emergency kit and add items to handle winter driving or travel in remote locations. Store the contents in a sturdy, waterproof container or a zippered gear bag for protection. Inspect kits every six months to confirm all the contents are there and check expiry dates on any perishable items to ensure they are still good to use.

Basic Vehicle Emergency Kit

- high-visibility garment: vest, shirt or jacket with hi-vis trim
- reflective safety triangles
- flashlight with extra batteries, or hand-crank flashlight/radio
- Basic First Aid Kit with manual
- fire extinguisher - ABC type
- booster cables

- survival blanket
- whistle
- HELP / OK sign
- warm clothing - hat and gloves
- bottled water
- non-perishable high energy foods (e.g., trail mix, granola bars)

Additional Contents for Winter or Remote Conditions

- windshield scraper and snow brush
- gas line antifreeze, windshield de-icer
- candles, waterproof matches and tin for candle
- sand, kitty litter or traction mats
- tire chains
- duct tape, light rope
- compass, maps / GPS system

- shovel
- tow strap
- sleeping bag / warm blankets
- winter clothing - gloves, toque, jacket, socks
- wheel chocks, extra spare tire
- tools: tire wrench, screw drivers, adjustable wrench, pliers, multi-function knife

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