



# Winter Vehicle Survival Checklist

## Vehicle Preparedness Kit

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Container of kitty litter or sand for traction | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-perishable dry food<br>(ex: nuts, dried fruit, granola bars)                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insulated boots                                | <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter hat and gloves                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Jumper cables  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small shovel                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency flares   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy winter coat or coveralls                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket knife   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blankets                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Brightly-colored signs or flags  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra pair of socks                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Windshield ice scraper, brush and an extra<br>gallon of windshield washer fluid in the trunk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Candle and matches                             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight and extra batteries                 |   |

UnitedHeartland.com  
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 UnitedHeartland

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## Pre-Winter Vehicle Inspection

- ☐ Tire pressure: Check and fill tires at every other fuel fill up — refer to the proper pressure reading on the sidewall of the tire or consult your vehicle's owner's manual
- ☐ Tire tread: Use the "penny test" — with Lincoln's head upside-down, place a penny in the groove of the tread. If you can see Lincoln's head, the tire needs to be replaced
- ☐ Antifreeze: Check and fill as needed — use an antifreeze/coolant tester, which you can purchase for as little as \$4 at many auto parts and hardware stores
- ☐ Oil level: Check and fill as needed at every other fuel fill up
- ☐ Brake fluid: Check and fill as needed
- ☐ Brake system: Look for signs to replace, such as if the pedal is soft or if you're stopping unevenly or pulling to one side
- ☐ Headlights and high beams working
- ☐ Tail lights working
- ☐ Brake lights working
- ☐ Parking lights working
- ☐ Turn signals working
- ☐ Emergency flashers working
- ☐ Replace windshield wiper blades every six to 12 months
- ☐ Windshield wiper fluid rated for cold temps: Check and fill as needed; a good idea is to keep a spare gallon of fluid in your trunk at all times
- ☐ Heater and defroster working
- ☐ Inspect battery: Most battery retailers will check a battery for free
- ☐ Inspect exhaust and muffler for leaks — repair if needed
- ☐ Program phone number of State Highway Patrol into your cell phone

## Daily Winter Vehicle Inspection

- ☐ Fuel level above a half tank
- ☐ Tires: Check and fill at every other fuel fill up
- ☐ Oil level: Check and fill as needed at every other fuel fill up
- ☐ Cell phone charged, with water and medicine on hand in vehicle for long trips or when driving in less-populated rural areas
- ☐ Note that United Heartland doesn't endorse cell phone use when driving; however, one is critical to have on hand in case of emergency.
- ☐ Let your car warm up
- ☐ Clean the entire car before you begin to drive, rather than while on the road
- ☐ Make sure all lights work and are clear of ice and/or snow
- ☐ Clean ice and snow off your wiper blades
- ☐ Check horn, adjust mirrors and test brakes before taking off

