



What to Do When You Are Involved in a Car Crash

One in every eleven drivers will be involved in a motor vehicle crash this year, according to the National Safety Council. That may mean you! Are you prepared? Would you know what to do and what questions to ask? Since most people are reasonably upset after a crash, the National Safety Council offers this list of 11 easy steps to remember.

1. Stop your vehicle if it is clear, safe and legal.
2. Move the vehicle out of the traveled roadway, if it is clear, safe and legal. (In some states it is against the law to move the vehicle from the place where the crash occurred. Know the ordinance in your area.)
3. Turn off the ignitions of the cars involved.
4. Make a first aid check of all persons involved in the crash.
5. Call the police and, if necessary, emergency medical services.
6. Mark the scene of the crash with retroreflective triangles.
7. Gather the names of all persons in the motor vehicles and people who witnessed the crash.
8. Make a quick diagram of where the vehicle occupants were seated and indicate the vehicles' direction of travel and lane. Also note the date, time and weather conditions.
9. Ask to see the other driver's license and write down the number.
10. Exchange insurance company information. Do not discuss "fault" or make statements about the crash to anyone but the police.
11. Get a copy of the police report of the crash from the local precinct.