

In The Event Of An Accident

Although this isn't definitive, we've put together a short document outlining what you should do following a road traffic accident. It isn't just applicable to your Porsche, but all vehicles from a 50cc moped to a 44 ton HGV. After an accident, most people freeze and panic. There's no need to. By simply printing out this document and keeping a copy of it in your glove box, you'll have something to refer to should an accident occur.

Eleven simple rules to help you

1. Don't panic. Stay calm.
2. Switch off the engine and ask the other drivers involved to do the same.
3. Do not move a seriously injured person. Loosen any tight clothing and cover the person with something to keep them warm e.g. coat, rug or blanket.
4. Move passengers who are not seriously injured to a place of safety, away from the vehicles involved.
5. If anyone is injured, call for an ambulance and request that the Police also attend.
6. Do not smoke as there may be a fuel leak (and if possible and safe to do so, remove all other sources of ignition by disconnecting the negative terminal of the battery).
7. Unless there is a danger to other traffic, do not move any vehicles until the Police arrive. If the Police are not attending, do not move any vehicles until an independent person or witness has made a note of their positions.
8. If safe to do so, take steps to warn other traffic of an obstruction. Use hazards lights and/or warning triangles. During the hours of darkness or foggy conditions, ensure that nobody stands near the car. It's dangerous and the person could obstruct the hazard lights/warning triangle.
9. Record the important information on the accident record form (see below) and pass on your personal information cards to the other drivers involved (both of these are below)
10. Do not apologise or admit any fault. Who is to blame will be decided later.
11. Call your vehicle insurance provider as soon as possible and advise them what has happened.

The Law

The following paragraphs are applicable in the UK. Please contact the regional Governmental Department of Transport for guidance if motoring outside of the UK.

1. The law requires that you STOP if there is injury or damage to any person, vehicle or certain animals, including dogs and horses. You must give your name, address and insurance details to anyone with reasonable grounds for asking – whether there is an injury or not.
2. If the vehicle does not belong to you, you must give the registration number and the name and address of the owner.
3. If the accident involves injury to people or certain animals, or causes damage to property, you must report it to the Police as soon as possible, and certainly within 24 hours. You must also present your Certificate of Motor Insurance to the Police, either immediately or by arrangement at a specified Police station within seven days.

Personal Safety

Many common injuries could be reduced and even prevented if a few simple checks are made each time you as the driver, get into your car.

The most common motoring injury is whiplash. A few simple adjustments could help prevent this.

1. Adjust the back of your seat so that it is as straight as possible.
2. Make sure that the head restraint and you passenger's are high enough, so they're directly behind and as close as possible to the back of your head.

Loose and incorrectly packed luggage can be lethal, especially if you have to brake/stop in an emergency.

1. Wherever possible, store luggage in the boot, with the heavier items at the bottom.
2. Never store luggage above the height of the rear seat or on the parcel shelf.

Thousands of lives could be saved every year if more drivers and passengers used their seatbelts.

1. Always wear a seatbelt.
2. Ensure that all your passengers, front and back, also wear their seatbelts for the entire journey.
3. Make sure children are safely strapped into a suitable child restraint, ideally in the rear of car.

Be Prepared

Every motorist should try and have a few basics in the car in case of emergencies

We recommend:-

1. A first aid kit
2. Latex/vinyl gloves – handy for keeping your hands clean when changing a wheel but vital if administering any kind of first aid.
3. A torch and spare batteries
4. Coins, phone card or mobile phone (fully charged or with an in-car charger)
5. This leaflet and a pen
6. Disposable camera, digital camera or camera phone
7. Warning triangle
8. Emergency card with name (but not address), date of birth, blood group, allergies and emergency contact number

Accident Record

Complete as much of this record as you can at the time of the accident. You'll be able to refer to it then at a later date when making your claim or assisting in any official enquiries or investigations.

Did anyone see the accident?

Ask around and take people's details, particularly from anyone who was not involved in the accident.

Name..... Name.....

Address..... Address.....

Tel. Tel.

Were any other vehicles involved?

Record registration numbers first as this will allow vehicle owners to be traced if they leave without giving their information.

Reg No. Reg No.

Make & Model..... Make & Model.....

Drivers Name..... Drivers Name

Address..... Address.....

Tel. Tel.

Damage..... Damage.....

Insurer..... Insurer.....

Was anyone injured?

Try to obtain details if possible. Tick boxes where relevant.

Name..... Name.....

Address..... Address.....

Tel. Tel.

Pedestrian Cyclist Pedestrian Cyclist

Driver Passenger Driver Passenger

In which vehicle?..... In which vehicle?.....

Was seat belt worn? Yes No Was seat belt worn? Yes No

Approx age..... Approx age.....

Apparent injuries..... Apparent injuries.....

Was there any property damage?

Include any street lights, signs, bollards, trees etc.

Type of property..... Type of property.....

Address or location..... Address or location.....

Nature of damage..... Nature of damage.....

What happened?

Make brief notes about the accident.

What did the accident scene look like?

Draw a rough sketch of the accident scene and try to show where vehicles came from and where they finished up. Show any lane markings.

If you have a digital camera, disposable camera or camera phone, take as many pictures as possible of the scene, the damage to the vehicles involved, the damage to the property and also the parties involved.



When and where was the accident?

Try to give details including street names. Please tick boxes where relevant.

Date of accident..... Road condition Wet Dry Icy

Time am pm.....

Daylight Twilight Dark Road width.....

Visibility..... Speed limits.....

Place..... Street lights On Off

Nearest town..... Lighting/Illumination Good Poor

Weather conditions..... Did the Police attend Yes No

..... Was the accident reported Yes No

Please complete your details and use this to pass on other motorists involved in the accident.

Name
Policy No.
Address

Tel.
Vehicle make
Model
Vehicle registration

.....Cut or tear and pass to other motorist.....

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