

# Vehicle breakdown

## ACTION CHECKLIST

**Move out of traffic if you safely can, switch on hazard lights and call roadside assistance or emergency services for immediate danger. Give your road, direction and nearest marker. On a high-speed road, follow local road-authority advice about whether to stay belted inside or exit to a protected area.**

### [ ] Protect from traffic

Do not stand in travel lanes or between vehicles. Avoid repairs beside moving traffic.

### [ ] Give a precise location

Share the road name, direction, marker and number of people.

### [ ] Assess immediate danger

If fire, smoke or a collision threat makes the vehicle unsafe, move to a safe location away from traffic when possible.

### [ ] Wait safely

Keep children and pets protected and conserve phone power. In remote areas do not wander without a known safe destination.

## WATCH FOR

Exit choices depend on the road and surroundings; do not apply one universal rule to every breakdown.

## IF HELP IS UNAVAILABLE

Record your exact location, stay visible without standing in traffic and conserve your phone. Do not begin walking along a dangerous road or into remote terrain without a known reachable refuge. In heat or cold, watch occupants closely and reassess whether the vehicle remains safe.

Updated 2026-10-02 | Civilian educational guidance. Seek qualified help when reachable and safe; do not delay immediate protective action.

Full guide: <https://ospreyzero.com/emergencies/vehicle-breakdown/>

Vehicle breakdown · official guidance