

Road Trip Checklist

Task/Items to Pack

Vehicle Preparation:

- Check oil level. Add more if necessary.
- Change oil if it has been more than six months or if you've driven more than 5,000 miles since your last change.
- Check fluid levels and adjust as necessary (transmission, brake, engine coolant, power steering, antifreeze, windshield wiper, etc.).
- Check tire pressure and adjust as needed
- Check tire treads on all four tires and spare. Replace any tires with worn-down treads.
- Take care of any maintenance needs (get a tune-up, rotate tires, adjust/replace brake pads etc.)

Notes:

Roadside Emergency Supplies:

- Jumper cables
- Auto battery charger
- Tire inflator (such as a portable air compressor or Fix-A-Flat)
- Flares or hazard markers
- Extra set of keys
- Tire chains
- Clay-based cat litter (in winter for traction if stuck in snow)
- Ice scraper
- Tools for changing a tire

Notes:

Route Planning:

- Use an online map program or trip planner to plan basic routes
- Plan stops along the way (roadside attractions, entertainment, dining)
- Reserve hotel rooms for overnight stops

Notes:

First Aid:

- First Aid Kit
- Bandages
- Prescription and OTC medications

Notes:

Task/Items to Pack

Important Paperwork:

- Automobile proof of insurance
- Health insurance cards
- Roadside assistance/travel club membership documentation
- Reservation confirmations
- Personal identification (driver's license, passports, etc.)
- Tickets for entertainment
- Coupons
- Maps of areas through which you will travel

Notes:

Food and Beverage:

- Bottled water, juice and soda
- Ice
- Cooler
- Snacks

Notes:

Hygiene:

- Trash bags
- Napkins/paper towels
- Tissues
- Extra roll of toilet paper
- Wet naps or wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Liquid hand soap

Notes:

Comfort:

- Pillows and blankets
- Sweaters, sweatshirts and jackets
- Sunglasses

Notes:

Task/Items to Pack

Luggage:

Pack bags for each person

Pack a toiletry bag (toothpaste, shampoo, toothbrushes)

Pack items specific to where you are going (sunscreen, fanny packs, camping equipment)

Notes:

Money:

Cash

Change for vending machines, tolls, laundry machines, parking

Credit or debit cards

Notes:

Electronics:

Cell phones

Cell phone chargers (both auto and electric outlet)

GPS

Smartphone travel apps (maps, insurance, traffic cameras, etc.)

Program important contact information into cell phone
(phone numbers for insurance and hotels, hotel addresses)

Notes:

Entertainment:

Music playlist

Books, magazines, or tablets

Travel games for kids

Area guidebooks

Camera

Notes:
