

AUTO INSIGHTS



Auto and driver risk management tips provided by: RiskSOURCE Clark-Theders

Did You Know?

Cold temperatures make it difficult for engines to work properly, snow limits tire traction and salt causes rust and gravel pits on the exterior paint. This is why it is a good idea to protect your car during cold months by winterizing your vehicle before the beginning of the season.

PREPARE FOR WINTER WEATHER

Consider these car winterizing suggestions before the temperature drops:

- *Place snow tires on your vehicle* - Snow tires will increase traction and reduce your chances of slipping on slick surfaces.
- *Check your tire pressure* - Cold temperatures cause tire air pressure to drop.
- *Check your car battery* - Extreme temperatures can cause your vehicle's battery to operate at less than 50 percent. If your battery is over three years old, have it tested.
- *Check the antifreeze mixture* - The ideal mixture of antifreeze and water in your radiator is 50:50.
- *Check your four-wheel drive system for malfunctions* - Check that your system engages and disengages properly and does not make any unusual noises when you start it.
- *Change the oil in your engine and check the viscosity grade* - To reduce the risk of problems with your engine oil, place thinner oil in your engine before the cold weather season.
- *Have belts and hoses inspected*
- *Inspect wipers and refill wiper fluid*
- *Place a roadside emergency supply kit in your car*

Safety First

The winter may be hard on you: Dry skin, brittle hair and an increased risk of colds and the flu. It is also hard on your vehicle. Take the necessary steps to protect your car against the cold to ensure that it will last the entire season long!