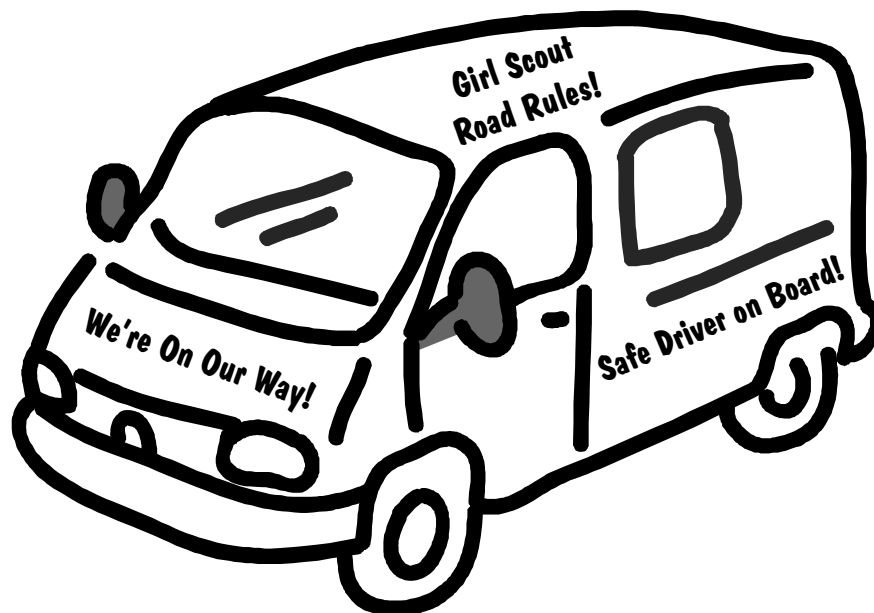


# Car Trip Safety!



After reviewing Chapter 5 of Safety Wise, "Planning Trips for Girls", use the following sheets to help you meet Safety Wise Guidelines for Troop Travel by car.

- **Trip Checklist**  
Use each time your troop takes a trip by car.
- **Safe Passenger Pledge & Great Tips for Great Trips**
  1. Copy these two sheets on the front and back of the same sheet of paper.
  2. Have each girl who is going on the trip read and sign.
- **Safe Driver Pledge & Great Tips for Great Trips**
  1. Copy these two sheets on the front and back of the same sheet of paper.
  2. Have each adult who will be driving on the trip read and sign.

**Have a wonderful AND SAFE trip!**

# Trip Planning Checklist

Trip: \_\_\_\_\_

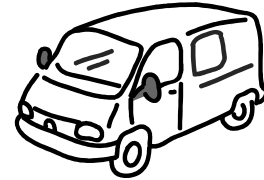
Use the following checklist when planning a trip:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Step 1: We want to go somewhere!

- Review trip planning tips throughout Safety-Wise.
- Review your council's policies and procedures for trips.



## Step 2: We know what we want to do!

- File trip plans according to your council's procedures.
- Check with your councils for insurance limits needed by drivers.
- If renting vehicles, check with your council for procedures.
- Recruit an adequate number of adults to supervise girls and to relieve drivers on long trips.

## Step 3: Mapping out the trip

- Plan the route to the destination, obtain maps, and have toll money readily available, if needed.
- Establish realistic schedules for the trips and safe places to stop for breaks along the way.
- Plan rest stops at least every two hours.
- Prearrange meeting places for vehicles on the trip. *There should be no driving in caravans or convoy formation.*
- Plan to drive in daylight hours.
- File trip plans according to your council's procedures.

## Step 4: Preparing our drivers

- Obtain insurance information from drivers.
- Talk with all drivers about safe driving tips. In addition, discuss your expectations and the girls' expectations for the trip.
- Review council emergency procedures.
- Establish that girls must not ride in the back of pickups or other trucks.
- Have parents sign the Safe Driver Pledge.

## Step 5: Preparing the girls

- Discuss the trip thoroughly with the girls and agree on the ground rules.
- Have girls sign the Safe Passenger Pledge

## Step 6: Preparing the cars

- Check cars for the number of factory-installed seat belts. There must be a seat belt for every rider.
- Ask drivers to check all lights, signals, tires, windshield wipers, horns, and fluid levels before the trip.
- Place a first-aid kit in each vehicle

## Step 7: We're on our way!

- Give important passenger information to each driver.
- When using a cellular phone in an emergency, pull completely off the road and stop, set the emergency parking brake, and turn on flashers before dialing.
- Plan to drive with the headlights on.
- Do not start a trip if bad weather will impair visibility and reduce safety.

## SAFE PASSENGER PLEDGE

*As a passenger on a Girl Scout trip, I understand it is my responsibility to help ensure our safety.*



- Follow the rules for this trip.
- Keep my seat belt fastened around me.
- Practice good behavior—especially, to not yell, argue, or throw things.
- Ask whether there are any landmarks to find that would help the driver.
- Play games or music quietly with other passengers.
- Stay with my group when we stop.
- Alert the driver to any problems including a door being open, a missing buddy, a person or thing the driver can't see behind the vehicle as she or he is backing it up.
- Follow instructions given by the driver before and during the trip.

**Passenger**

**Date**

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- Follow instructions given by the driver before and during the trip.

**Passenger**

**Date**

## **GREAT TIPS FOR GREAT TRIPS**

- ☑ Be sure to have all important passenger information with you.
- ☑ Check that the vehicle is ready to go: wipers, tires, lights, signals, fluid levels, and horn.
- ☑ Put a first-aid kit, flashlight, and cellular phone on board.
- ☑ Know where you are going. Get directions and review a map if necessary.
- ☑ Ready to go? SEAT BELTS ON?
- ☑ Drive with your headlights on.
- ☑ Keep radio volume low enough to be able to hear other vehicles' horns.
- ☑ Always use your turn signals.
- ☑ Maintain proper distance from the cars ahead.
- ☑ Drive only at a safe, legal speed.
- ☑ Know what is around your vehicle. Check mirrors frequently. Look before backing up.
- ☑ Always yield the right of way!
- ☑ Stop and stretch every two hours.
- ☑ Slow down or pull off the road when weather makes road conditions worse.
- ☑ Always pull off the road and stop before using a cellular phone. Put car in park, turn on flashing lights, and then dial.

### ***Have a great trip!***

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## SAFE DRIVER PLEDGE

*As a driver for a Girl Scout activity, I understand it is my responsibility to transport girls safely to the scheduled activity and back to their parents or guardians. To ensure the safety of the girls, I pledge to:*



- Make sure that the vehicle is in safe operating condition before the trip.
- Ensure that everyone is wearing a seat belt any time the vehicle is moving.
- Drive within posted speed limits.
- Use turn signals for all turns and traffic lane changes.
- Yield to all oncoming traffic and be extra careful when making left turns.
- Keep at least a three-second interval between my vehicle and the vehicle in front of me when highway driving.
- Drive with extra caution during hours of darkness and any other time visibility is reduced or road conditions worsen.
- Plan extended trips to avoid driving in the dark.
- Never drive when sleepy.
- Take a rest break every two hours.
- Alternate drivers when I need a break.
- Drive no more than six hours a day.
- Never use a cellular phone while driving. I will pull over and stop, put the car in park, and put on flashing lights before dialing.

**Passenger**

**Date**

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***Have a great trip, and deliver your precious cargo home safely!***

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