

10 Steps to Take After a Car Accident

1. Check for potential injuries

If anyone needs **immediate medical attention**, call 911 and ask for an ambulance.



2. Call the police

An investigating officer will gather details at the crash scene and then create an **official police accident report**, which can serve as an important piece of evidence when pursuing an injury claim.



3. Exchange info

Exchange info

Get the name, contact information, and insurance details of **every other driver involved in the crash**. You can provide these basic details to others as well.



4. Watch what you say

Don't say anything at the crash scene that could be **misunderstood as admitting fault**, such as "I'm sorry." Never speculate or guess how the crash occurred, and **don't make statements about your injury status** at the crash scene, such as "I'm fine" or "I'm OK."



5. Document the crash scene

Take detailed pictures and/or video of the crash scene to show: an overview of the location from different angles and distances; your vehicle and its damage; damage sustained by other vehicles involved in the crash; non-vehicle property damage (e.g., fence, light pole, guardrail); skid marks; relevant street signs, road markings, and traffic signals; weather conditions; visible injuries to anyone involved in the crash.



6. Talk to witnesses

If another driver or a pedestrian saw how your crash occurred, ask them for their name and contact information. **Eyewitness testimony can be a valuable piece of evidence** when pursuing a claim for damages.



7. Get checked out by a doctor

Even if you feel fine, **get examined by a licensed medical professional** right away. Due to adrenaline, you may be injured and not realize it. If you wait too long to go to a doctor after a car accident, it opens the door for an insurance company to **question the severity of your injuries**.



8. Contact your insurance company

Give notice to your insurance company that you were in a car accident. **Provide just the basic details of what happened**, as anything you say could end up compromising your claim.



9. Keep quiet online

Whatever you post on the internet about your crash can be used against you, so do not write anything online about your car accident. This includes posts on social media sites, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok and Snapchat.



10. Call a lawyer

A car accident attorney can review the details of your case and explain your legal options during a free consultation. If you choose to hire a lawyer, you typically do so on a contingency fee basis. That means **you pay no upfront money for representation** and only pay legal fees if the attorney secures financial compensation on your behalf.

