

How to Survive a Multi Car Pileup

A multi-car pileup is a road traffic collision involving many vehicles. They rarely occur, but when they do, they can be very serious. Read on for safety advice about avoiding these situations and steps you can take if you are involved in...

Part 1 of 3:

Limiting Your Chances of Being in a Multi-Car Pileup

1. Picture 1 of How to Survive a Multi Car Pileup

Pick travel conditions wisely. Bad weather, traffic, and road conditions impact the likelihood of a pileup.

1. Avoid driving on slippery wet, icy or snowy roads.
2. Try to avoid travel on highways or motorways at peak seasonal travel times.
3. Don't drive in white-out blizzard conditions, when it is foggy, when it's raining very heavily, or when there are very high winds.
4. Avoid driving in areas that regularly experience bush fires, mudslides or any other natural disasters.

2. Picture 2 of How to Survive a Multi Car Pileup

Drive safely. Leave room in front of you for cars and allow faster drivers to overtake you. Stick to the speed limit but drive to the conditions; it's not always safe to drive at the speed limit. Use your headlights, keep your car in good condition, and obey road signs.

3. Picture 3 of How to Survive a Multi Car Pileup

Wear your seat belt whenever you are driving. You are legally required to do this in many countries, but you should do this even if not legally required to do so.

1. Ensure that everyone else in the vehicle is wearing their seat belt. Even if you are wearing your seat belt, someone else who is not wearing their seat belt could be thrown into you in a collision and cause death or serious injury.

4.



Do not lean against the dashboard. In a collision, the airbags will inflate. When airbags inflate, they shoot out so fast that anyone leaning against the dashboard could be thrown backwards and seriously injured or killed.

Additional Information

How Your SRS Indicator Light Works

SRS The purpose of the SRS indicator light is to alert you to a potential problem with your Supplemental Restraint System.

When you turn the ignition ON (II), this indicator will light up briefly then go out. This tells you that the system is working properly.

However, if the light comes on at any other time, you should have your system checked by your dealer. For example:

- If the SRS indicator light does not come on after you turn the ignition ON (II).
- If the light stays on after the engine starts.

- If the light comes on or flashes on and off while you drive.

If you see any of these indications, your airbags may not deploy when you need them. See your Honda dealer as soon as possible.

Ignoring the SRS indicator light can result in serious injury or death if the airbags do not inflate when needed.

Have your vehicle checked by a dealer as soon as possible if the SRS light alerts you to a potential problem.

SRS Service
Your Supplemental Restraint System is virtually always on. There are a few exceptions. See your Honda dealer for more information.

- **Your airbags** may be replaced or repaired. This must be done by a Honda dealer or authorized shop.
- **The SRS indicator light** may be replaced. This must be done by a Honda dealer or authorized shop.

5.

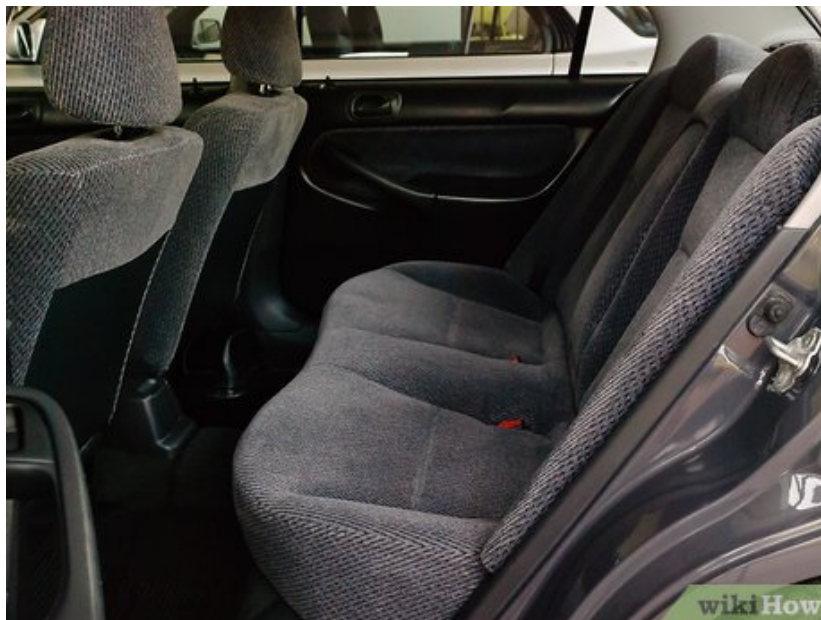
Ensure that the airbags are turned on, however, unless there is a rear-facing child seat fitted in the front passenger seat you should keep them on. (The front seat position for child seats is illegal in many places.) Regardless of legality, rear-facing child seats should always be fitted in the rear of the car if possible.

6.



Do not lean against the sides of the car if there are side/curtain airbags. This is dangerous for the same reasons it is dangerous to lean against the dashboard.

7.



Avoid placing heavy objects on the rear seats or parcel shelf. These are extremely dangerous if sent flying in a collision. If you have heavy objects, place them in the trunk or tie them down securely so that they cannot move if impacted.

Part 2 of 3:

Avoiding a Pileup Accident

1. Picture 8 of How to Survive a Multi Car Pileup

- Move to the side of the road or off the road to avoid a collision.** Avoid drop-offs or oncoming traffic.
2. **Be aware of your surroundings.** Always be aware of everything happening around you. It is easy to not be aware of an accident. Always keep your head facing forward, and angle your mirrors to the back of the vehicle, that way you can easily be aware of everything happening.

Part 3 of 3:

Being Safe During a Pileup Accident



Keep your seat belt on at first. There may be further collisions. Always make sure to keep your belt on when in the car. Also, make sure that all passengers have their belts on.

2. Picture 10 of How to Survive a Multi Car Pileup

Turn on your emergency lights. This will increase your visibility and give the cars behind you a chance to slow down or avoid you.

3. Picture 11 of How to Survive a Multi Car Pileup

Watch for cars approaching you from behind. If possible move your vehicle forward or to a safer location.

1. If your vehicle is sideways, consider unbuckling and moving towards the safest side of the vehicle if you have the opportunity. Attempt to lay down flares or other lighting devices to signal an emergency once outside.
4. **Evaluate your situation and make a plan.** Look for fires or any tanker trucks close to you. See if you are injured.
 1. Keep the car running as the airbags will not deploy if the car is turned off.

5.



Do not smoke, and also do not allow anyone else to smoke. The pileup may have involved a vehicle which is carrying dangerous goods. You may not be able to tell this just by looking at vehicles, so assume that it is unsafe to light up.

6.



Exit the vehicle with caution once you are certain it is unlikely that there will be further collisions. Switch off your engine first.

7.



If possible, warn other road users. If it is safe to do this, find ways to warn others; for example, using a warning triangle. This will reduce the likelihood of further collisions. Use other lighting devices to alert them.

8. Picture 15 of How to Survive a Multi Car Pileup

Call emergency services right away.

1. Administer first aid if necessary until emergency services arrive.

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