

Accident Checklist

- Try to remain calm! Take a few deep breaths.
- Stop your car whether the accident involves a pedestrian, a moving car, a parked car or someone's property. If you drive away, you could be charged with hit and run, and the penalties for a hit and run are severe.
- If you are blocking traffic in a dangerous place, pull off to the side of the road or into a well-lighted parking lot.
- Turn off your vehicle's engine and either wait for assistance or, if it is safe, step out of your car.
- Are you or your passengers injured? Check and seek medical assistance immediately if necessary. Use your cell phone to call 911 (Emergency) and ask for an ambulance if you believe you need medical attention.
- Be courteous and tactful to all parties.
- If you suspect the other driver may be drunk, do not confront him or her. Tell the police and let them handle the situation.
- Make sure your thoughts are clear before you make any statements to the police.
- Avoid making statements about responsibility to the other driver, witnesses, police or anyone else. Don't accept fault, even if you believe the accident may have been your fault.
- Do not contact your insurance company until you have your thoughts clear and have gathered all the pertinent accident information. Once you and your vehicle are at 911 Collision Centers we will be glad to help you submit your insurance claim.
- If you are able, take pictures of the damage to your car and the area of the accident. Use a camera/cell phone or the disposable camera in your car.
- Assist the police with their official report. Confirm that you and your passengers were wearing seat belts.