

# Weldon's Truck & Trailer

24/7 Emergency Service | (334) 759-7020 | 3720 N Prescott St, Kingman, AZ

## Truck Roadside Emergency Checklist & Triage

*Exactly what to do the moment your truck breaks down — a printable step-by-step emergency checklist plus a quick triage to decide whether it is safe to keep driving.*

Updated June 2026 · Prepared by Weldon's Truck & Trailer

A breakdown is stressful, and stress leads to mistakes. The drivers who stay safe are the ones who already know the steps before anything goes wrong.

Keep this checklist in your cab. The first minutes after a breakdown are about safety — yours and everyone else's — long before they are about the repair. Work the list in order.

### The First 90 Seconds

1. Get off the roadway. If the truck is still moving, ease onto the shoulder or an exit — as far from traffic as possible.
2. Turn on your hazard flashers immediately.
3. Note your exact location: highway, direction of travel, and the nearest mile marker or exit.
4. Stay calm and assess — is there smoke, fuel smell, or fire risk? If so, get clear of the vehicle.

### Secure the Scene

- [ ] Set out three reflective warning triangles (10 ft, 100 ft, and 200 ft behind the rig)
- [ ] On a divided highway, place triangles 10, 100, and 200 ft to the rear
- [ ] Wear a high-visibility vest before stepping out near traffic
- [ ] Keep wheels chocked if on any grade
- [ ] Stay out of the traffic-side blind zone at all times

### Call for Help — Have This Ready

When you call for roadside repair, having this information ready gets a technician to you faster:

- Exact location (highway, direction, mile marker, nearest exit or landmark)
- What happened and any warning lights, sounds, or smells
- Truck and trailer make, model, and year
- Whether the truck is loaded and the type of cargo
- A callback number that will stay reachable

**Broken down in the Weldon's service area? Call (334) 759-7020. A live dispatcher answers 24/7 and we will roll a mobile unit to your location.**

## What to Keep in Your Emergency Kit

- [ ] Three reflective warning triangles (DOT required)
- [ ] High-visibility safety vest
- [ ] Flashlight or headlamp with spare batteries
- [ ] Basic tool kit and tire pressure gauge
- [ ] Work gloves and a rain poncho
- [ ] Drinking water (extra in desert heat) and non-perishable snacks
- [ ] Fully charged backup phone battery
- [ ] Fire extinguisher (charged and rated for the vehicle)
- [ ] First-aid kit
- [ ] Wheel chocks

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How far back should I place warning triangles?

On a standard two-lane road, place triangles 10, 100, and 200 feet behind the vehicle toward approaching traffic. On a one-way or divided highway, place all three to the rear at 10, 100, and 200 feet.

### Should I stay with my truck after a breakdown?

Yes, unless there is a fire, fuel leak, or other immediate danger. Staying with the vehicle keeps you safer, makes you easier to find, and protects your cargo while help is on the way.

### What should I do if I break down on a remote desert highway?

Pull off safely, set your flashers and triangles, stay with the vehicle, conserve water in the heat, and call for help with your exact location. Do not try to walk for help on a remote stretch in extreme temperatures.

### Is it safe to keep driving with a warning light on?

It depends on the light and the symptom. Use the triage on this page as a starting point, but when in doubt, stop in a safe place and call a technician rather than risk a bigger failure or a crash.



