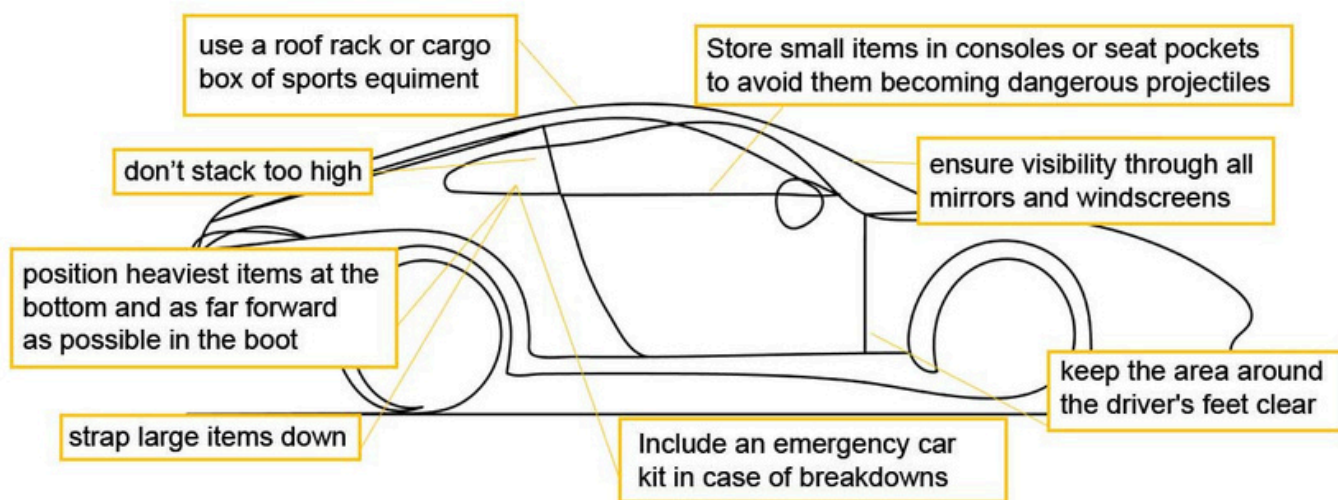


PACKING YOUR CAR SAFELY FOR A ROAD TRIP

Helpful tips to load your car efficiently and increase safety



Up Top

- Large or awkwardly shaped items, such as sporting equipment are best stored on roof racks, as long as they're not too heavy. Heavy items are best stored inside.
- Measure the height before you head off so you're ready for overpasses and tunnels. A sticky note on the dashboard is a good reminder.
- Make sure any load carried on the roof of the vehicle is safely secured and recheck each time you stop

In the Boot

- Large, heavy items should be packed at the bottom of the boot and as far forward as possible.
- Pack tight, strap large items and put small items in suitcases/boxes – objects in your vehicle can become dangerous projectiles in a crash.
- Avoid packing above the line of the back seats. Ensure you have clear vision through your front and rear windscreens and mirrors.
- Make sure you pack an emergency breakdown kit.

In the Cabin

- If you must store luggage in the cabin, use spaces beneath passenger seats.
- Store small items such as books, phones and electronics in seat pockets or consoles to reduce projectiles in a crash.
- Keep the area around the driver's feet clear.
- Keep essential items (such as tissues, drinking water, healthy energy-boosting foods, etc) within reach
- Pack a first aid kit and have a flashlight handy in the glovebox.
- Pack rubbish bags to keep the environment clean.

Remember

- Never travel with unsecured pets in the car.
- Increase your following distance if fully loaded
- Increase vigilance / alertness. Passengers and baggage can lead to an increase in distractions.
- Your fully loaded car could also affect other driver's visibility. Double check those blind spots and mirrors.
- If you're carrying a heavy cargo, consider getting your headlights adjusted slightly downward.
- A heavily loaded vehicle will use more petrol – plan your refuelling stops so you don't get caught out.