

Carbon Monoxide Car Safety

Carbon monoxide (CO) accounts for about **20,000 ER visits each year**, making it a leading cause of poisonings in the United States. Even if CO levels are not high enough to be fatal, they can result in serious, long-term illness.

CO is an **odorless, colorless, and tasteless gas** that produced any time you burn fuel in cars or trucks, small engines, stoves, lanterns, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges, or furnaces.

Many CO poisonings occur in **cars, garages, and even outside**. Use this checklist to eliminate the risk of CO poisoning to you and your loved ones.

In Your Car

CO leaks in your car can be extremely dangerous since your car is a small, enclosed space. Remember to...

- Get regular maintenance to check your car's exhaust and emission systems
- Have a mechanic check your car's exhaust system after a fender bender
- Clear any snow near your exhaust in the snowy winter
- Get any holes in your car's body repaired
- Close your trunk before driving



In Your Garage

Home garages can be dangerous since a car's exhaust fumes are released in an indoor space. When in your garage...

- Open your garage door before starting your car
- Don't leave your running car in the garage, even for a few minutes
- Install a carbon monoxide detector in your garage
- Remove your car from your garage to warm it up



Outside

Unfortunately, you're never safe from CO, even outside. When you're outside, remember to...

- Turn your car off at a tailgate
- Stay upwind of all running cars
- Keep a distance of more than 6 feet away from any running vehicle



Once you have all of these checkboxes selected, you are **CO safe!** Share this list with your family and friends to make sure they're CO safe too.