

Off-Road Recovery Gear Checklist

Four tiers, spec-sourced to WARN, ARB, MAXTRAX, Bubba Rope, and CA4WDC (California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs). No prices shown, no signup required. Full citations and the complete guide: riggingops.com/printable-recovery-gear-checklist/

Tiers are additive: Tier 2 carries everything in Tier 1 plus its own items below, Tier 3 carries Tiers 1 and 2 plus its own items, and Tier 4 carries all of Tiers 1 through 3 plus its own items. Where a manufacturer's manual differs from anything here, the manual wins.

T1 Tier 1: Every Off-Pavement Vehicle BEGINNER

- ☐ **SAFETY** Heavy leather gloves for handling rope, straps, and shackles (*WARN*)
- ☐ **RECOVERY** Rated recovery point, front and/or rear; not a factory tow hook (*ARB*)
- ☐ **TOOLS** A shovel (*Overland Expo*)
- ☐ **TIRE** Tire pressure gauge and an air-up method (*Overland Expo*)
- ☐ **SAFETY** Basic first-aid kit and a way to call for help

T2 Tier 2: Self-Recovery, No Winch INTERMEDIATE, ADDS TO TIER 1

- ☐ **RECOVERY** A pair of traction boards (*MAXTRAX*)
- ☐ **RECOVERY** Kinetic recovery rope or snatch strap sized to your GVW (*ARB, Bubba Rope*)
- ☐ **RECOVERY** Rated shackles, minimum 3.25 tons (*ARB*)
- ☐ **RECOVERY** A recovery damper, fit mid-line (*ARB*)

T3 Tier 3: Winch-Based, Remote Travel ADVANCED, ADDS TO TIERS 1-2

- ☐ **RECOVERY** Winch sized to 1.5x gross weight pulled; never exceed winch or rope rating (*WARN*)
- ☐ **RECOVERY** A snatch block for mechanical advantage (*WARN*)
- ☐ **RECOVERY** Shackles and hardware matched to the winch line (*ARB*)
- ☐ **SAFETY** Stand-clear discipline briefed before every pull (*WARN*)
- ☐ **TOOLS** Minimum drum wraps verified: 5 steel or 10 synthetic (*WARN*)

T4 Tier 4: Club Run Ready ORGANIZED TRAIL RUNS, ADDS TO TIERS 1-3

- ☐ **TOOLS** Jack capable of lifting the vehicle, plus a tool that removes your lug nuts (*CA4WDC*)
- ☐ **TIRE** Spare tire equal to or within 3 inches of your existing tire size (*CA4WDC*)
- ☐ **SAFETY** Fire extinguisher with a gauge showing good/full, properly stored (*CA4WDC*)
- ☐ **SAFETY** Battery hold downs, no bungee cords (*CA4WDC*)
- ☐ **RECOVERY** Adequate front and rear attachment points: tow hooks, receiver, etc (*CA4WDC*)

WHAT YOU CAN SKIP

- A second winch, for most builds (*WARN*)
- Chains or improvised straps as recovery gear (*ARB*)
- A tow ball as a recovery point

READ BEFORE YOU RIG

Recovery gear stores serious kinetic energy. Keep everyone clear of the load path, never exceed a component's rated capacity, and follow your gear manufacturer's manual; where it differs from this card, the manual wins. This card is spec-and-evidence analysis, not field instruction from a certified instructor.