



U.A.E. Offroaders
Explore the United Arab Emirates
...Off the Beaten track



Offroading Equipment - What you need to have and where to get it.

There are a few essentials everyone must have to be a good, responsible and capable offroader.

New members keep asking about this so here is a list of what you need and where to get them.

1. Flag Pole with flag and suction cups.

For safety reasons a flagpole with a flag is an essential item to have for offroading. You can use a collapsible fishing rod that can be purchased from any CarreFour, Lulu or fishing accessory store. This then needs to be attached to the car using suction cups also known as "Glass Lifting Vacuum Cups" that can be bought from the hardware stores on Najda Street or Musaffah.

2. Air Compressor

An air compressor is a must. You can inflate your tires at the nearest gas station on the way out but what about when you have a Pop Out !

You can get a good quality compressor from either ARB in Musaffah or Ace Hardware. There is a Chinese make that is very good too and is available in Musaffah. Look for one with a high flow rate as that will provide the best help for a popout. Stay away from those available at CarreFour or LuLu !

3. Jack and Jacking Board.

You need to have a good quality jack and a wooden or metal plate to stand it on in the sands. A 12" x 12" x 3/4" wood or metal piece is what you need to have. You can also get a Hi Lift Jack Base Plate at ARB that makes an excellent platform for most jacks.

Your car jack might be good for street use but may not be sufficient in the desert so a Hydraulic Bottle Jack or a medium sized trolley jack is a good investment. Other Jack options are a high lift jack and all these are available from ARB or Ace Hardware.

4. Deflators & Pressure Gauge

You can get good quality Staun Deflators that can be pre set to deflate to any pressure required. These are very handy and are highly recommended and can be bought from ARB. There are some other types also at ARB which are popular too.

5. Recovery Equipment.

You will need a minimum of two rated shackles and a rated snatch strap. Both these items are also available at Ace and ARB. Please ensure you get quality rated straps and shackles as cheap options are also available but are not recommended.

Contact Details

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6. **Radios.**

A set of good quality Motorola Radios or similar can be purchased from Dragon Mart. These are absolutely essential. Look at the specification closely before you purchase. Make sure the radio you get is specified as US GMRS/FRS type approved. The European version operates on different frequencies and they are not compatible. Don't give too much consideration to the range that the manufacturer boasts on the package as it's a serious exaggeration. The infamous "chinese" radios have a high output power thus the higher range but these are not type accepted even though they do operate on the correct frequencies.

7 **GPS**

A good quality GPS is also an essential. Look for one that has an offroad mode. Ideally the Garmin 276C is what you need but you can make do with a Nuvi too. They can be purchased at all major electronic stores and from Amit GPS also in Mena Zayed who are the official dealers in the UAE.

Probably the most important feature to look for is the ability to "Log Tracks" or "Track Logger". This will allow you to back track your path in case you get lost or have to turn back due to any reason. It also allows you to download your track for future usage.

8. **First Aid Kit.**

These are available at most pharmacies and are a must. Better to be prepared than to be sorry.

9. **Flash Light**

It is also highly recommended to have a flashlight in the car....you never know when you might need it.

10 **Folding Shovel**

Also a must have to help in getting you clear from being stuck. Available at Carrefour or Ace

11. **Industrial Gloves :**

It's a good idea to have a set of these to use when you need to jack up the car or for any other

The above are the bare essentials you need to have in your car when you venture offroad. There are other things that you will also need like a good cooler to carry drinks, folding chairs and the list is endless.

You also need to check your car to see if you have recovery points at both ends.

ARB is located on the right just after you take the first ramp to enter Musaffah. Their phone number is 02 5553600

Ace Hardware is in Mena Zayed and their phone number is 02-6731665

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