

The Redrock Readiness Newsletter

Episode 7: Tools A-Go-Go

“And I said: Lord, whither shall I go that I may find ore to molten, that I may make tools to construct the ship after the manner which thou hast shown unto me? “

--1 Nephi 17:9

This week we're focusing on tools that will help get you back on the road if you have car trouble. Cars have parts that are meant to wear out over time. Wearing out includes the loosening of parts from road vibration. It makes sense to have a quick means of tightening things up when you're out on the road! Here are our picks:

A multi-tool (**Leatherman** or **Gerber** are trusted brands). These are infinitely useful when you need to tighten a battery clamp, loosen a plug, or pull a fuse. Beau recommends **ones machined from billet steel** (vs. drop-forged), because drop-forging can lead to minute bubbles and cracks that result in an inferior product—not what you want when things get serious.

Danielle: I only used a multi-tool once...and that was in a videogame. I asked Beau for more info and here's what he said: Multi-tools differ from Swiss army knives in that they have **solid pliers**—a must-have in certain situations. Not every multi-tool is the same, but most can provide you with a blade, saw, and both Philips AND flathead screwdrivers.

To take it a step further, you can get a **small** Craftsman brand/type of **mechanic's tool kit** for your car to ensure all your bases are covered. It'll have socket and crescent wrenches in metric and English measurements and a plethora of other useful tools. And they're pretty inexpensive for everything you get. Beau says his was around \$40.

A small window-breaker tool. Danielle keeps one on her driver-side door in case of emergency. Hers also includes a seatbelt cutter to keep her from being trapped inside by the seatbelt, because hey—you never know what crazy things can happen in life!



You humans sure travel far! Me, I just like to wander around the apartment complex. I know all ins and outs of this place. But, friend humans, **do you know your way in and out and around the city?** I never had to pull a *Homeward Bound*, but if I did I'd want a **paper map** on me since I don't subscribe to the Internet and Beau won't buy me a smartphone :(Luckily, Beau left his laptop unsupervised. One Google

search for “**US Geological Survey Maps**” later and I’ve now got some free maps on their way to me in the mail! I also hear AAA members can get some for **free at their local AAA office**. (I wouldn’t know, because Beau won’t let me join AAA either :(((Let me know if you find a map that shows the way to the Starkist Tuna Factory!!

Stay safe! See ya next week!