

How to Survive an EMP

Two Methods: [Preparation](#) [Survival](#)

An Electromagnetic Pulse, or EMP, is a sudden burst of electromagnetic radiation. The sudden change in energy levels can, and will, literally *fry* electrical circuits of computers, cars and other electrical appliances.

Steps

- 1 Understand what an EMP can do.** Due to the fact that non-shielded computers will stop working, and that nowadays life is led by computers, you must understand that the water and food supply will stop, and that hospitals will stop working.
- 2 Motorized vehicles will stop on their tracks.** You will be left with a useless can of metal full of melted circuits. You must go on foot, or maybe on bike. Maybe even a horse, but it's unlikely you have one.

Method
1

Preparation

- 1 Buy a bike and learn to ride it.** Transportation means will be one of your major concerns in case of an EMP, you won't want to be left stranded and forced to walk on foot.
- 2 Buy non-perishable food and bottled water.** Preferably dehydrated food, since it's lighter, but canned or jarred food will do. Don't buy a 5-liter bottle, instead, buy several half-liter small bottles, they are easier to arrange, and you can have some with drinkable water and others with water to purify later. Just make sure you can tell them apart.
- 3 Make a BOB (Bug Out Bag).** This "72 Hour Survival Kit" will serve greatly when you need to Bug Out (flee), and can provide you with the essentials for a longer stay in the wilderness. *Make sure you can run with it .*
- 4 Assemble a survival group.** Just make sure there is a good mix of essential skills. Remember, hacking a computer will serve no purpose after an EMP.
- 5 Consider self defence weapons and training.** Weapons such as firearms are great but if they are illegal in your area. Go for pepper spray, knives, mace spray or even rocks and sticks! But make sure you know how to use our weapons and also get training if your weapons are not available.

Method
2

Survival


- 1 Monitor the news channels newspapers.** If there is a threat of [nuclear war](#) near your home, leave the area immediately.
- 2 Don't use major roads.** They will be overcrowded, possibly causing a major gridlock. Instead, use smaller, unknown routes only used by farmers or cattle.
- 3 Stay hidden.** Make as little movement as possible, close the curtains after sunset, and avoid making noise.
- 4 Place guards.** You will want to know if a mob is rushing towards your BOL (Bug Out Location).

5 Get ready to eliminate any possible threats. *Anyone* can be your enemy. Don't let anyone you don't know well and don't know if they won't do anything bad into your BOL. Never, ever.

6 Keep the spirits up. Music, games and activities can help to keep the morale up.


Community Q&A

Can a vehicle be protected from an EMP attack?

 The short answer is no. Anything on your car that has a coil of wire - starter, alternator, ignition coils, etc. - will be instantly fried.


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If there's no power, how can I get ice for a cooler?

 Instead of using a cooler use salt, a big bunch of salt enough to cover the whole piece of food can keep it preserved, especially meats.


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How can I have games that have music if I want to avoid making noise?

 Common sense is a pretty good metric for whether or not you should be playing music. If things seem calm, feel free to have fun, but remain alert. If you think you're in danger, or if it's getting late, keep quiet. Also, remember that, in the event of an EMP, you will not have access to electronics, so your games are going to be cards, board games, etc., which don't make any noise.


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How can I have ice?

 You normally won't have access to ice in this type of situation if it lasts for awhile. If you are worried about food spoiling, then consider either salting meat, or building a spring house, which is a small earthen pantry that keeps cool naturally. Its not perfect, but it does help some.


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What other means can I use to contact family in the event of an EMP and/or martial law?

 In an EMP, this won't work, but a HAM radio can be used to contact other HAM users across the globe, quite literally. Buy yourself a small set-up, get your licenses and learn how to use them properly.


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Will batteries still work?

 Yes, is recommendable to buy rechargeable batteries and a solar charger for them.


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If the battery is out on a car, will the wires still be fried?

 Definitely. Just because the battery is out, the wires inside are still just as vulnerable to an EMP.


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How can I keep a HAM radio working?

 Well, there are certain types of blankets and special boxes you can do to reduce or eliminate EMP threat, but the chance to keep it working is very slim.


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Will stores be open if an EMP goes off?

 That's up to the management. In any case, it would be cash only sales. Or possibly a barter situation, if the store hasn't already been looted when currency is no longer available.

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How do you keep food and leftovers from spoiling?

 Use a cooler with ice to cool food to keep it from spoiling.

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Tips

- If you have firearms, keep them with you, as many desperate people will potentially get violent.
- Do whatever you must in order to survive.
- Always have an escape route ready.
- If you have bicycles, make sure you have spare parts. (i.e. brakes, tire tubes, derailleur chains, brake discs, etc.) because obviously, your vehicle is permanently disabled.
- Get a Bug Out Bag (BOB). you can buy these fully equipped or you can fill them yourself.
- In times of need you either stick to your morals and die, or survive, so be ready to do anything to protect yourself and family.
- Do your research. It is possible to find cars that are EMP proof. If they are made before a certain year. (Believed to be 1975.)
- Remember that an EMP doesn't always come from a detonating warhead, coronal mass ejections can cause this too.
- Prepare to stay at home (Bug In)

Warnings

- Avoid large cities as many places will be looted and/or set ablaze, where law enforcement is severely disabled.
- Don't wait for the government to save you, they will be worried with other things.
- Don't try to ride a horse without proper training, it can result in serious injury or even death.

Things You'll Need

- A BOB
- water
- food
- para-cord
- medicine(s)
- water purifier
- salt to preserve food
- weapons
- seeds

Sources and Citations

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