



Safe Driving Tips

Winter Driving

Prioritize safety and avoid risks.

Winter introduces some of the most demanding road conditions. This becomes particularly evident when weather conditions are less than optimal.

First ask yourself if your trip is necessary.

Sometimes delaying your trip for just a couple of hours will give snowplows a chance to clear the roads and might allow time for the temperature to rise enough to make a difference in road conditions.

If you decide that conditions are satisfactory for driving, reduce your speed and increase your following distance to allow for longer stopping distance. Even if you're driving a four-wheel drive vehicle with new tires, keep in mind that snow can still gather in the tire grooves, potentially diminishing your traction on the road surface.

After a heavy snowfall, plowed snow can obstruct your view, especially at intersections and driveways. When faced with reduced visibility, come to a complete stop, and then cautiously move forward inch by inch until you can clearly observe around the obstruction to assess oncoming traffic. Only proceed when you are certain it's safe to do so.

At intersections, make sure to scan ahead for vehicles coming from cross streets. Due to slippery conditions, they might have difficulty stopping and could slide through the intersection.

Vehicles making turns might encounter difficulties and slide into your path. During lighter traffic, aim to time your approach to the intersection in a way that avoids arriving simultaneously with another vehicle to prevent potential collisions.

Ensure you are ready for any situation by having the right equipment in your car. Consider including the following items in your vehicle, especially during winter conditions:

- Small bag of abrasive material such as sand, salt, or kitty litter
- Small snow shovel, snow brush and ice scraper
- Flashlight
- Blankets
- Jumper cables and flares or triangles



To prevent these items from becoming projectiles or obstruction the accelerator or brake pedal, store them securely in your trunk.

Drive Safely!