

16 SAFETY TIPS FOR WINTER DRIVING

POWERED BY SYSTEMS 24-7

2

DRIVE CAREFULLY

Match your speed to the road and weather conditions. Avoid passing another vehicle when weather and road conditions are bad.



3

GIVE MORE SPACE

On a wet or slick road, allow yourself at least three times the normal following distance to stop.



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SEE AND BE SEEN

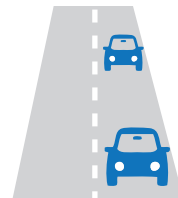
Remove all snow from your vehicle's hood, roof, windows and lights. Clear all windows of frost and fog. If visibility becomes poor, find a place to safely pull off the road as soon as you can.



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START SLOWLY

Start slowly and accelerate gradually to maintain traction.



6

BLACK ICE

Black ice will make a road look shiny like new asphalt. Pavement should look grey-white in winter.



5

BE AWARE

Slow down when you see a sign warning that you are approaching a stop sign, stop light or a bridge. Steel and concrete bridges are likely to be icy even when there is no ice on the asphalt surface.



7

DO NOT USE CRUISE CONTROL

Do not use cruise control in the winter. Driving in the winter requires you to be in full control at all times.



8

ALWAYS SIGNAL

Make sure you signal well in advance if turning to give other motorists time to anticipate and react to your actions. Check your rear-view and side mirrors, and always shoulder check before changing lanes.



9

KNOW YOUR BRAKES

Whether you have antilock brakes or not, the best way to stop is threshold braking. Keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply firm, steady pressure on the brake pedal.

12

AVOID SUDDEN MOVES

Anticipate turns or lane changes. Abrupt changes in direction or slamming on the brakes could cause you to spin out of control.



10

SLOW DOWN

A good way to avoid skidding is to drive appropriately for road and weather conditions: Allow extra travel time and be very careful when you brake, change lanes, make turns and take curves.



11

ONCE IN A SKID

Take your foot off the brake if your vehicle begins to skid and steer in the direction you want to go. When the wheels regain their grip, brake firmly and smoothly. Don't over steer.



13

LIGHTS

Drive with low-beam headlights on. Not only are they brighter than daytime running lights, but turning them on also activates the tail lights, which makes your vehicle more visible.



14

SNOW PLOW AND SALT TRUCKS

When approaching road maintenance vehicles such as snow plows and salt or sand trucks, maintain a safe following distance. These vehicles throw up snow and spray, making it difficult to see.



15

CHANGING LANES

The ridge of snow that builds up between lanes will grab your wheels; minimize your steering angle to avoid getting stuck.



16

IF YOU GET STUCK

Straighten your wheels and clear a path in the snow. Accelerate in slow spurts; make sure you don't spin your wheels. Have someone gently push or rock your car if it's safe to do so. If this fails, call a tow truck.

