

# Winter Driving Tips

## Step 1: Make sure that your vehicle is prepared for winter driving.

- Winter tires are the best option, as they will provide greater traction under snowy or icy conditions.
- Your battery should be capable to start your vehicle under extreme conditions.
- All fluids, especially oil and anti-freeze should be checked or changed to meet winter conditions.
- Make sure that mirrors, all windows, and the top of your vehicle, are free of snow or frost before getting onto the road.
- Keep a snow brush/scrapper in your car, along with possible \*emergency items such as a lightweight shovel, battery jumper cables, and a flashlight.
- Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.

## Step 2: Drive smoothly and slowly and scan ahead

- Don't make any abrupt turns or stops when driving. Doing so will often cause your vehicle to lose control and skid.
- Driving too quickly is the main cause of winter collisions. Be sure to recognise and drive to the conditions especially on snow and ice covered roads.
- In a snowstorm-induced whiteout situation, continue to reduce speed to limits imposed by visibility, but do not stop in travel lane or on shoulder near road. Turn headlights to low beam. Turn on emergency flashers. Maintain lane position

## Step 3: Pay attention and be aware.

- Manoeuvres are more difficult to make in the adverse conditions. Be sure to anticipate what your next move is going to be to give yourself lots of room for turns and stopping. An awareness of those around you is very important, so check your mirrors and blind spot regularly.

## Step 4: Don't tailgate and keep space.

- Tailgating becomes much worse in winter weather. Stopping takes much longer on snowy and icy roads than on dry pavement, so be sure to leave enough room between your vehicle and the one in front of you when both travelling and when stopped.



### Step 5: Prevent skids-brake before making turns.

- Brake slowly to reduce speed before entering turns. Once you have rounded the corner you can gradually accelerate again.

### Step 6: Learn how to control skids.

- When skidding, you actually need to go against your natural instincts and don't brake. Look where you want to go and steer in that direction, then gently accelerate once you have control.

### Step 7: No Cruise Control.

- Never use cruise control if conditions are snowy, icy, or wet, because if your car hydroplanes, your car will try to accelerate and you may lose control of your vehicle.

### Step 8: Don't "pump" the brakes.

- If your vehicle is equipped with an anti-lock breaking system (ABS), do not "pump" the brakes. Apply constant pressure (stay on the brakes) and let the system do its work.

### Step 9: Threshold Brake with Conventional Brakes.

- With regular brakes you use the 'squeeze' technique and is similar to the process used with a bicycle hand brake, to slow the vehicle.

### Step 10: Neutral Gear.

- When braking in adverse conditions (Regular brakes or A.B.S.brakes) the quickest way to stop is to slip the gear from DRIVE to NEUTRAL, it could make your stopping distance shorter, although if your vehicle's transmission is [CVT](#) then you will not notice an appreciable difference.

