



Winter Driving Tips



Every year, the first winter storm brings an increase in the number of road accidents as people re-adjust to winter driving. It is equally important to get your vehicle ready for the snow and ice and adjust a few driving habits to ensure your safety. Winter driving can be the most difficult driving season. Whatever level you are at in your driving skills, caution and respect for the road conditions are key to avoiding an accident.

These 7-tips may help prevent snowy and icy roads from ruining your day.



1. Make sure you can see

Clear all ice and snow off your windows. Clean the inside and outside of your windows thoroughly. Make sure your windshield washer system works and is full of an anti-icing fluid.



2. Lights on for safety

Use your headlights so that others will see you. It is important to ensure that your headlights and taillights are clear of snow.



3. Braking safely

Utilizing your brakes properly on snow and ice can be the difference between sliding out of control and maintaining a safe position on the road. It is sudden stops and applying the brakes unnecessarily that can lead to loss of control of your vehicle.



4. Watch for "black ice"

If the road looks slick, it probably is. This is especially true with one of winter's worst hazards: "black ice." Also called "glare ice," this is nearly transparent ice that often looks like a harmless puddle or is overlooked entirely.



5. Control your steering

Once your tires lose traction on the road and you are working to regain control of your vehicle, steering becomes an integral part of keeping your vehicle safely on the road.



6. Slower speeds save lives

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7. Large vehicles offer no miracles

Many drivers think that large trucks and SUVs offer a higher level of protection than smaller vehicles. The fact of the matter is, large trucks and SUVs are equally as vulnerable as other vehicles on snow and ice and could end up in the same ditch as any other car. Drive with care.

