

Focus on Winter Driving Readiness

Safety is always a priority, but each season presents different road challenges. There are many ways to prepare for winter weather so you can keep yourself and your loved ones safe on the road.

IMPORTANT USEFUL TIPS:

- WINTER DRIVING TIPS
- ADAPT YOUR DRIVING
- SAFE BRAKING / SKIDDING
- FOG/HEAVY RAIN/
HYDROPLANING



BC Forest Safety

Safety is **good** business

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WINTER DRIVING TIPS

- Be alert and well rested when getting behind the wheel and always wear your seat belt.
- Poor visibility in winter can make driving challenging so it's important to be vigilant and alert when driving.
- Before you start driving, make sure to remove all the snow from your vehicle including on the hood, roof, windows, and lights. Clear all windows of frost and fog.
- If driving becomes too risky, look for a safe place to stop until it's safe to drive again. It's best to stop at a rest area or exit the roadway and take shelter in a building.

ADAPT YOUR DRIVING

- Match your speed to the road and weather conditions.
- To reduce any risk of accidents, avoid passing other vehicles when weather and road conditions are poor. When you drive on a snow-covered road, there may be more snow or slush between lanes, which can make changing lanes harder.

SAFE BRAKING / SKIDDING

Proper braking is important to safe winter driving. It takes longer to stop on a slippery roads, you should:

- Leave more distance than normal between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you.
- Slow down. Allow extra travel time and be very careful when you brake, change lanes, make turns, and take curves.
- Put more distance between you and the vehicle in front of you.
- Avoid forceful braking or sudden, jerking movement of the wheel.

FOG/HEAVY RAIN/HYDROPLANING

- Driving in **fog** requires extra special care and attention. Some vehicles come equipped with fog lights, but not every car has them. Whenever it's foggy, day or night, turn on your vehicle's front headlights and your taillights.
- Don't use high beams in fog — they bounce back at you, which makes it even harder to see.
- In **heavy rain** make sure your windshield wipers are in good working condition.
- **Hydroplaning** is the temporary loss of steering or braking control when a layer of water comes between your tires and the road.
- Slow down! Tires lose traction at higher speeds, so slower speed means more traction.
- Take it off cruise. Cruise control cannot tell the difference in road surface types, it will keep accelerating, and make it hard for you to regain control of your vehicle.

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