

# Winter driving tips for both cars and trucks



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Sliding around? Here are some tips and tricks to keep you safe:

- Slow down! Seriously. This cannot be stressed enough. **CREATE SPACE** between yourself and others.
- When braking, use steady pressure for anti-lock brakes and pumping for standard brakes. Whatever happens, Do ***Not*** Slam on Your Brakes. Also, keep in mind that when driving a Tractor-Trailer, the brakes on an empty trailer can lock up faster than your tractor tires, causing your trailer to slide.
- Black ice is real. Just because you can't see it, doesn't mean it isn't there. Use caution.
- Heed warning signs, such as "Watch for ICE on Bridge."
- Use your low beams. Your brights reflect off the snow, making it harder to see. Safe driving requires sight – in any weather!
- Slow down. Yes, I'm telling you again. That's truly how important that tip is. Space between your vehicle and other y, brake lights, and hazard lights are clear of snow whenever you stop.
- Make sure you maintain as much visibility as possible by keeping your windows and mirrors clean and free of ice.

- In icy conditions, it's often unsafe to use your cruise control. Turn off your cruise control and adjust your speed frequently according to the conditions.
- Sign up for Weather Alerts – Checking the weather forecasts before you plan your route could help you to avoid harsh weather. But sometimes conditions will change suddenly. Signing up for emails or alerts on your smartphone can help you avoid traffic delays or road closures. With this said, make sure you are not using your smartphone unless you are pulled over in a safe area.

**Watch Out for Trouble Spots**

When it's raining, snowing, or the temps are below freezing, the roads will be even more dangerous. In bad weather, take extra caution when you encounter:

- **Exit ramps**– A turn that's too sharp or taken at too high of a speed could cause you to lose control.
- **Bridges**– These surfaces are the first to freeze.
- **Black ice**– Look for these spots when temperatures are near freezing.
- **Intersections**– Brake early when you see stop signs or red lights.

**Below is a list of useful Items have during in your vehicle during the winter**

Ice Scraper	Gloves	Coat
Winter Hat	Blanket	Water
Sand/Kitty Litter/Salt	Jumper Cables	Chains
High Visibility Vest	Traction Enhancers for Shoes	Warning Triangles
Shovel	Blankets	Flashlights and Extra Batteries
First Aid Kit	Cell Phone	Non Perishable Food
Sleeping Bag	Windshield Washer Fluid	Full tank of fuel

**Please answer the following questions:**

When braking in slick conditions, use steady pressure for anti-lock brakes and pumping for standard brakes. And regardless of weather or circumstances, Do Not Slam on Your Brakes!

True or False?

What three things could you take with you this winter to be ready in case of an emergency?

When driving in snowy conditions:

- Use High Beams (Brights)
- Use Low beams in order to avoid the lights reflecting off the snow
- Turn lights off

Print Name

Signature



Date