

SafeDriver Monthly Newsletter

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Six Tips for Driving on a Rainy Day

As a new driver, it might seem overwhelming to have a whole new world of things to pay attention to. With these few simple tips, we can help to ensure that your rainy-day driving experience is *chefs kiss*

1. Before leaving your house, check your brakes and tires to ensure they are ready to hit the road.
2. Make sure you can be seen.
3. Avoid sudden stops and hard braking.
4. Pay attention to posted speed limit signs and traffic signals.
5. Avoid large puddles of water in the roadways.
6. Lastly, and most importantly, wait to snap your friends and family back until you arrive safely at your destination.

Check those tires and brakes! Traction on your tires allows the tire to grip the road and move when engaged by the steering wheel. If the traction on your tires is gone, then your tire won't be able to grip the road, increasing your risk of hydroplaning. Before getting into your vehicle take a quick peek at your tires and see if you notice any smooth spots on the wheel. When you're leaving the neighborhood, give those brakes a quick check to ensure your vehicle stops properly.

Turn on those headlights. On rainy days, we want to ensure other drivers can see us. Check to make sure your headlights are properly working.

Avoid hard braking while driving in the rain. Give yourself enough space between you and the driver ahead of you.

Safely drive around large puddles in the road. Driving through water can cause your vehicle to hydroplane, which is when water builds between tires and roadways.

And as always, wait to Snapchat your friends when you arrive at your destination. Arriving safely is always the main goal.

Keys to Defensive Driving

As a defensive driver, you can avoid crashes and help lower your risk while driving your vehicle. If you have driven on the roadways at all, it's apparent that some people are just bad drivers. Some speed aggressively. Others wander into your lane. Some people follow too closely behind you. While others make sudden stops or turn too quickly right in front of you. You can't control the actions of other drivers, but you can educate yourself on how to defensively drive your vehicle. When you drive defensively, you are ready and aware of whatever might come your way.



Be observant and look for other drivers before pulling into the roadways. Creating the habit of looking out for other drivers helps to ensure you stay safe on the roads.

Communication is key. Communicate with other drivers by using your turn signals properly. Do not assume that other drivers can see you. Using turn signals avoids any confusion to other drivers about your actions on the road.

Avoid distractions, such as playing on your phone or messing with the radio. Send your Snaps before you take off.

Develop space between you and the drivers around you. Creating space helps to avoid crashes when other drivers suddenly stop.

Pay attention to everything around you. How others drive, the speed limit, construction signs, and emergency vehicles.

Defensive driving skills are important when driving on the roadways. The tips mentioned are simple rules you can count on to drastically reduce your risk of a traffic accident.

Tips to Stay Safe on Long Car Rides

Are you getting ready to hit the road for a multi-day adventure? Here are a few ways to make sure you have fun AND arrive safely for your next adventure.

First and foremost, buckle up! This may seem like a simple one, but buckling up can save your life. Do not put your car in gear until everyone in your vehicle buckles their seatbelt.

Give your car a quick once over. Check your tires, and headlights, and ensure everything is working properly.

Stay hydrated! Mild dehydration can cause headaches, weakness, and dizziness, and reduce your ability to be alert. This could affect your mental and physical performance while driving.

It is no surprise that we might get hungry while on a long road trip. Keep your snacks close by to avoid having to take your eyes off the road to find something to munch on.

If you are able to, travel with a buddy!

Lastly, take breaks if you need to. Driving while sleepy is a serious traffic safety concern. If you find yourself yawning excessively, or blinking rapidly to keep your eyes awake, then it might be time to take a small break and rest your eyes. If you find yourself needing to pull over, pull into a safe place, like a rest stop, and give yourself a 15-20-minute nap.



