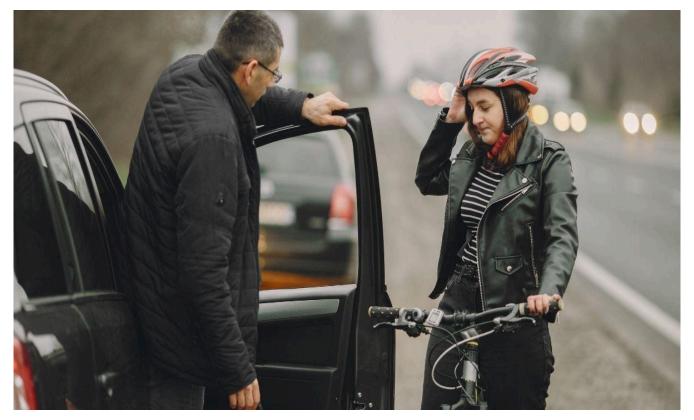


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Driving in Winter



Driving in Winter: Tips for Drivers

The winter season can be a difficult time to drive in the UK. The roads are often icy and slippery, and bad weather can make driving conditions very dangerous. This blog post will share some tips for drivers who want to stay safe on the road during the winter months. We will cover topics such as preparing your car for winter, driving in bad weather, and dealing with hazardous road conditions. Stay safe this winter!

Be prepared

One of the most important things you can do to stay safe on the road during winter is to prepare your car for the weather. This includes checking your tyres, brakes, and engine oil levels, as well as making sure that all your lights are working correctly. You should also pack a winter emergency kit for your car, including items like a snow shovel, ice scraper, and warm clothes.

Driving in heavy rain

In wet weather, it's essential to know that stopping distances will be at least double those required for a stop on a dry road. The increased amount of water can make steering difficult and even unresponsive as well, so you should keep back

from your vehicle in front; keep in mind that they might have trouble seeing where their next turn is going due to the rain or spray coming off other cars' wheels.

If steering becomes unresponsive, it probably means the water is preventing the tyres from gripping the road. So, ease off the accelerator and slow down gradually.

Snow and Ice

Icy roads can be hazardous as they increase your stopping distance by ten times, making it much more difficult for you to slow down or stop. So always make sure that you drive slowly and allow extra space between your car and the vehicle in front of you.

Keep warm - If you get stuck in the snow, stay with the vehicle, and call for help (unless it's in a dangerous location). Make sure you have a warm coat or blanket to keep you comfortable while waiting for help.

When manoeuvring on icy roads, be gentle with the accelerator and brake pedal and avoid harsh braking and acceleration. This will help you stay in control of your car and reduce the risk of skidding.

If you start to skid, ease off the accelerator but do not brake suddenly. This will help you regain control of your car.

Driving when it's foggy

The fog can be a hazard in any region of the country. It can move quickly and be patchy. Therefore, you should drive very slowly while using your dipped headlights when driving in these conditions. If visibility is seriously reduced, you can use your fog lights; but remember to switch them off when the visibility improves.

Make sure you know where your fog light switch is, so you can turn them on without distraction when needed. Don't hang on to the tail-lights of the vehicle in front; this gives you a false sense of security and may mean you are driving too close. Don't speed up suddenly, even if it seems to be clearing – you can suddenly find yourself back in thick fog.

Tackling flooded roads

It seems like every year, flooding becomes more and more of a problem. To combat the dangers of flooded roads, it's important to know how to drive through them properly. Here are four tips for doing just that:

- 1) Don't attempt to cross if the water appears too deep you could easily get stuck or lose control of your vehicle.
- 2) Drive slowly in first gear but keep the engine speed high by slipping the clutch this will stop you from stalling.
- 3) Avoid driving through the deepest water, which is usually near kerbs.
- 4) Remember to test your brakes when you're through the flood before you drive at speed.

When you do have to travel by road, please bear in mind the following ten good practice driving tips:

When driving in snow, slow down! When it is snowing heavily, and the roads are covered in a sheet of ice or snow, reduce your speed by at least a quarter. Make sure you leave enough room between you and the car ahead.

Always check the weather forecast before setting off on your journey. If there is a risk of snow or ice, make sure you are prepared before you leave.

Pack an emergency kit in your car. This should include a shovel, de-icer, a torch, and warm clothes.

If visibility is poor, use your fog lights.

When approaching a bend or junction, reduce speed and be prepared to stop if necessary.

When driving on snow, take corners at a slower speed. To do this, you will need to reduce your speed before the bend to travel slower when approaching it.

Anticipate hazards and plan ahead for them. For example, when approaching roundabouts or junctions, slow down immediately rather than gradually reducing speed as you get closer to the junction.

When it's been snowing, make sure your windscreen is completely clear of ice or snow before setting off. This includes the roof and wing mirrors!

Avoid travelling if possible during heavy snowfall. If you must travel, make sure someone knows your route and where you are going.

If you get stuck in snow, do not spin your wheels. This will only dig the car deeper into the snow. Instead, straighten the wheels and clear away any snow around them.

And lastly, always remember to drive slowly and safely in winter weather conditions. The roads can be treacherous, so take it easy and allow plenty of time to get where you're going. Follow these tips and be careful.

Company Description

Auto Connection is the source of independent information for everyone that drives as part of their working lives. Whether you commute to work using your own car, have a car provided by your employer, or drive a van as part of your job, Auto Connection provides up-to-date, expert guidance on the topics that matter to you. The Auto Connection team has decades of experience working with fleet management companies, vehicle finance and employee car scheme providers, as well as automotive charities and government transport agencies. We take the time to research the key issues faced by everyone driving for work, so you know where to find the latest information along with intelligent, informed opinion.

Contact Details

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Google Site: https://sites.google.com/view/autoconnection

Google Folder: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1llm0kum29DJxYvI0UCI-bGFglCfeJKTg?usp=drive_open

Recommended Resources

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