



# BRRR!

## HERE COMES WINTER



### Winter Driving Campaign

Make sure you're ready with our  
safer driving and winter preparation guide





# PLAN YOUR JOURNEY.

- Whatever the reason for travelling, plan your journey **thoroughly**.
- Plan your route and leave **extra time** to account for slower conditions.
- Keep an eye on **weather forecasts**, reports and warnings before and during travel.
- Let people know your **route of travel** and estimated arrival time.
- Use **main roads** where you can.
- If conditions are **severe**, avoid driving where possible.
- If visibility is **hazardous**, postpone your journey.
- Leave the car at home if you're **tired** or plan on having a drink.
- **Charge** your mobile phone in case you need to pull over and make a call.





# TYRE SAFETY.

- Make sure your tyres are in **appropriate condition** for your journey
- Is the **tread depth** at least 2mm?
- Make sure they don't have any **major cuts** or damage
- Keep them **well inflated**
- **Check** them weekly or at each fuel top-up



# WINTER CHECKS.



Don't get caught out by the cold weather – give your vehicle a thorough check before Winter kicks in.

- Give your **electrics** a once-over: battery, ignition, lights.
- Check your **brakes**.
- Make sure your **wipers** work effectively and the blades are undamaged.
- Check all **fluid levels** in the vehicle and keep them topped up.
- Keep your **fuel tank** topped up, particularly on longer journeys.





# BE PREPARED

A list of essential items to help you cope with winter driving.

- Ice scraper
- De-icer
- Sturdy walking shoes
- Blanket
- Bottles of water
- Salt
- Hi-vis jacket
- Shovel

50%

**DID YOU KNOW?**

of all reported road traffic collisions happen at night in



**WET CONDITIONS.**



Accidents between

**3PM & 6PM**

increase by a third  
throughout winter.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

In winter  
**2011-2012**  
we recorded  
**18**  
driving-related  
accidents.



In winter  
**2012-2013**  
we recorded  
**23**  
driving-related  
accidents.



# SAFETY MEASURES

## For driving in severe weather

- Before setting off, **clean** all your **windows** and **windscreen** and ensure all lights are working.
- To **improve visibility** in snow or rain, drive with dipped headlights.
- Only use **fog lights** where visibility is less than 100 metres.
- **Brake** before you go around corners.
- Drive in a **higher gear** than usual.







# BACK OFF!

## Tips for keeping your distance.

- Where possible, **brake** in a straight line.
- Brake gently but earlier than usual so your **brake lights** warn drivers behind you.
- Don't underestimate stopping time in **slippery** conditions.
- Always leave **two car lengths** minimum between you and the driver in front.
- **Double** this gap in wet conditions, and **quadruple** it in snow and ice.



# HELP!

If the worst happens...

- Try and keep track of your **whereabouts**.
- If you must leave your vehicle, find a **safe place** to stand away from the traffic flow.
- On **motorways** it's always better to leave your vehicle with the wheels turned towards the verge and stand a short distance behind and to the side of it.

Ring the Road Fleet helpline on 0845 600 6767





# DRIVING ADVICE

For more detailed winter driving advice, visit:  
[www.brake.org.uk](http://www.brake.org.uk)

For general road safety tips, visit:  
<http://think.direct.gov.uk>



# LEAVING THE VEHICLE

Slips, trips and falls are much more likely to happen in the winter months.

We reported



in Winter  
2011-2012

AND



in Winter  
2012-2013

Don't rush your journeys

Be extra careful when entering or exiting your vehicle

Wear appropriate footwear for the weather conditions



# ACCIDENTS WAITING TO HAPPEN



Our accident rates are higher in winter, so anything we can do to prevent accidents before they happen is vital to improving safety.

If you see a **Close Call**, report it on **01908 723500** or alert your line manager. You could be saving yourself or a colleague from serious injury. The more information we provide, the safer our industry will be.





# DRUGS & ALCOHOL POLICY

We want everyone to have a **fun** and **relaxing** festive period, but please do so with safety in mind and follow our **zero tolerance** approach to Drugs and Alcohol.

For more information please visit:  
[www.safety.networkrail.co.uk/DA](http://www.safety.networkrail.co.uk/DA)

