

Winter Driving

Wet weather

Highway Code rule 227

In wet weather, stopping distances will be at least double those required for stopping on dry roads. This is because your tyres have less grip on the road. In wet weather:

- You should keep well back from the vehicle in front. This will increase your ability to see and plan ahead
- If the steering becomes unresponsive, it probably means that water is preventing the tyres from gripping the road. Ease off the accelerator and slow down gradually
- The rain and spray from vehicles may make it difficult to see and be seen
- Be aware of the dangers of spilt diesel that will make the surface very slippery
- Take extra care around pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists and horse riders.

Icy and Snowy Weather

Highway Code Rule 228

In winter check the local weather forecast for warnings of icy or snowy weather. DO NOT drive in these conditions unless your journey is essential. If it is, take great care and allow more time for your journey. Take an emergency kit of de-icer and ice scraper, torch, warm clothing and boots, first aid kit, jump leads and a shovel, together with a warm drink and emergency food in case you get stuck or your vehicle breaks down.



Icy and Snowy Weather

Highway Code Rule 230

When driving in icy or snowy weather drive with care, even if the roads have been treated. Keep well back from the road user in front as stopping distances can be ten times greater than on dry roads. Take care when overtaking vehicles spreading salt or other de-icer, particularly if you are riding a motorcycle or cycle. Watch out for snow ploughs which may throw out snow on either side. Do not overtake them unless the lane you intend to use has been cleared. Be prepared for the road conditions to change over relatively short distances. Listen to travel bulletins and take note of variable message signs that may provide information about weather, road and traffic conditions ahead.



50 years of campaigning against drink-driving

its not worth the risk!!

In the last 50 years road casualties caused by drink-driving has fallen but in 2012 there were still 230 deaths due to drink driving, accounting for 13% of all road fatalities. By drinking and driving you risk your life, those of your passengers and others on the road.

Any amount of alcohol effects your ability to drive. You risk a fine up to £5000, a minimum of 12 months driving ban, and a criminal record.

Driving for Work

Driving is without doubt the most dangerous work related activity performed in Britain.

It is estimated that one third of road deaths and serious injuries each year involves people driving to work. Indeed RoSPA calculates that, after deep sea fishing and coal mining, driving 25,000 miles a year on business is the most life threatening activity we undertake – more dangerous than working in construction!

With as many deaths and serious injuries involving people who were at work at the time, the moral argument demanding that companies take measure to safeguard the lives of their staff and other road users, is compelling.

Fact 1 nearly 40 people a week are killed on UK roads.

Fact 2 driving is the most dangerous task the majority of employers undertake while at work. In fact four times as many people are killed while driving for work than any other industrial accident. (www.theaa.com/aadrivetech/why-act.html)

Fatigue the Facts:

Research suggests that almost 20% of accidents on major roads are sleep-related. Sleep related accidents are more likely than others to result in fatalities or serious injury.

Peak time for accidents are in the early hours and after lunch.

About 40% of sleep-related accidents involve commercial vehicles.

Men under 30 have the highest risk of falling to sleep at the wheel. (<http://think.direct.gov.uk/fatigue.html>)