Winter Driving

The best advice for winter driving is to avoid it if possible. If you must drive in snowy conditions make sure your car is prepared and you know how to handle the snowy conditions.

WINTER PROOFING YOUR CAR

Inspect and clean off your car
If your car needs regular service, get it done now. Check the cooling system, keep your gas tank close to full, and clean off your car entirely.

Check the tread on your tires
Get good tires and check tire pressures. In the winter it’s best to have your tire tread depth as close to 3mm as possible.

Make sure your windshield is in good condition
Visibility can be reduced due to glare from frost, so keeping your windshield clean and free of scratches and smears can greatly increase visibility. Also, make sure your windshield wipers are in good shape. Make sure your windshield washer reservoir is full and that your rear-window defroster works.

STOCK YOUR VEHICLE

- A substantial snowbrush and an ice scraper
- Windshield washer fluid
- Properly inflated spare tire
- Wheel wrench and appropriate jack
- Shovel
- Jumper cables
- Tow and tire chains
- Bag of salt, cat litter, or sand
- Tool Kit

DRIVING TIPS

- Decrease your speed and leave yourself plenty of room to stop. You should allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.
- Use low gears to keep traction, especially on hills.
- Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently traveled roads, which will freeze first.
- Don’t use cruise control or overdrive on icy roads.
- When driving in the snow, do everything slowly.

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