



Tips For Driving in Rain and Fog

DRIVING IN RAIN

- **Do a complete pre-trip inspection of your vehicle before you leave.** Check the condition of your windshield wipers and blades, mirrors, lights, reflectors, defroster, tires and brakes prior to beginning your trip. Make repairs/adjustments as necessary. Worn tires increase the chance of hydroplaning.
- **Clean windows, lights and mirrors.** Dirty surfaces greatly reduce and distort your visibility.
- **Allow extra time for weather-related delays.**
- **Exercise caution after a dry spell.** Roads are extremely slippery at least during the first 20 minutes of rain because of grease and oil built up on road surfaces.
- **Turn off your cruise control** during any kind of adverse weather so you are in control of your vehicle.
- **Signal well in advance and make sure others see you.**
- **Increase your following distance** to give yourself and those around you the extra space to react safely.
- **Brake earlier and with less force** than you would normally to prevent sliding.
- **Watch for stopped or parked vehicles** on the side of the road, on the roadway or parked under overpasses during heavy storms.
- **Never drive through deep or moving water if you can't see the ground beneath it.** Your vehicle could be swept off the road, regardless of how big or heavy it is.
- **Watch for places where floodwater collects**, particularly on low-lying roads adjacent to streams and in dips under rail or highway bridges.
- **Never drive beyond the limits of visibility.** The glare of oncoming lights amplified by the rain on the windshield can cause temporary loss of visibility while substantially increasing driver fatigue.
- **Avoid hydroplaning by inspecting tire tread depth regularly**, ensuring tires are properly inflated, and decreasing speed for road conditions.

DRIVING IN FOG

- Dense fog may occur on highways. It is often unexpected, and visibility can deteriorate rapidly. To reduce the risk of a multi-vehicle collision, or reduce the risk when driving through one that has already occurred, please follow these safety tips when driving through fog.
- **Keep windows and mirrors clean for improved visibility.**
- **Reduce your speed to meet conditions.** Remember, fog can instantly become thicker.
- **Turn on your low-beam headlights.** Do not drive with just your parking or fog lights.
- **Keep all lights**, especially marker lights, and reflection tape clean so others can see you sooner.
- **Turn on four-way flashers in heavy fog** so others approaching from behind can notice you sooner.
- **Avoid passing other vehicles.**
- **Listen for traffic you cannot see. Turn down your radio.**
- **Use wipers and defroster as necessary to maximize visibility.**
- **Don't stop on the roadway or shoulder. Stop only at appropriate parking facilities.** If you must stop on the shoulder, turn on your hazard flashers immediately.
- **Be watchful for others** that may have stopped on the shoulder or are stopped partially in the travel lane.
- **Turn off your cruise control.**

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