



SHIFT
INTO WINTER

Prepare Yourself for Winter Driving

Every day BC workers face the risk of being injured or killed while driving on the job. Driving in winter conditions can put you at even greater risk. Here are some tips to help you get ready for the winter roads.

Before starting your trip, check the current road conditions and weather forecast for the areas you will be travelling – listen to the radio or visit www.drivebc.ca.

Plan your route ahead of time to avoid any roads that may become dangerous during bad weather. Respect road closure signs and barriers and do not attempt to drive on these routes until they are re-opened. It's for your safety.



Leave lots of time so you're not rushing to get to where you need to be. Try to travel during daylight only and consider delaying your trip if the weather is bad. Let someone know your route and planned arrival time.

Drive according to road and weather conditions. Keep at least four seconds distance between you and the vehicle in front of you to allow plenty of room in situations where you may have to brake suddenly on a slippery surface.

Learn and practice winter driving skills before you need them. If you are unfamiliar with driving in snow and icy conditions, practice after a storm in a large, empty space. Learn how to brake safely, how to get out of a skid, and how your car handles in winter weather.

Wear comfortable clothing that doesn't restrict your movement while at the wheel. Bring warm clothing (winter boots, coat, gloves and a hat) with you in case you have to get out of your vehicle.

If you absolutely need to go out in a storm, take someone else with you. Two people can usually get a car unstuck, when one person can't.

If you get stuck or stranded, don't panic. Stay with your vehicle for safety and warmth. If you have a cell phone and it is an emergency call 911, otherwise call for roadside assistance.

Learn more about how to drive safely in winter conditions at www.worksafebc.com.

THE OCCUPATIONAL ROAD SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

