

# DEFENSIVE DRIVING



## Ensure there is a clear line of sight

Use mirrors and windows to check for a clear path when changing lanes and turning. Get out of someone else's blind spot before passing. Signal until the move is complete



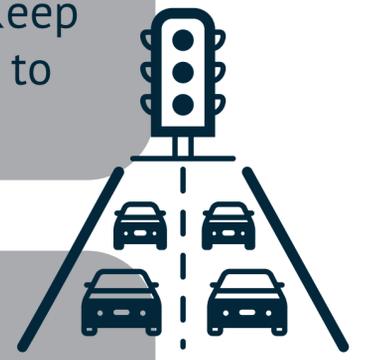
## Stay alert to surrounding changes

Look ahead of the immediate area to be aware of any upcoming variations in traffic. Continually scan the area and watch for taillights. Keep internal car noises low to stay alert to horns or emergency vehicle sirens.



## Reduce speed when necessary

This includes when entering a construction zone, driving in bad weather, entering a school zone or a congested area. Keep alert for pedestrians and people on bikes. This also applies to poorly maintained streets or one with many curves.



## Don't trust others to keep you safe

Never assume tied down items or any type of load being carried is safe. Also watch for distracted drivers or strange driving behavior. Change lanes or slow down in both situations to keep a safe distance.

## Defensive Driving training guide

Below are questions and talking guides for defensive driving.

### Meaning

Does defensive driving mean simply obeying the traffic laws?

No, it goes much further than that. It means being aware of what is going on around the vehicle and on the road.

It also means knowing how to react and drive safely during potentially unsafe conditions.

### Blind Spots

Should we only be alert to our own blind spots?

No, be aware of other surrounding vehicle blind spots as well, especially when passing. Do so cautiously.

### Scan Ahead

When it's impossible to scan ahead due to blocked line of site what should we do?

Give more room between the vehicle in front to give ample stopping time if needed.

### Distracted Drivers

What are some examples of behaviors to look for in another distracted driver?

Driving very slow or fast. Swerving in and out of lanes etc.