

Safety is the top priority when driving in snowy conditions. If the weather is severe, it's advisable to stay off the roads unless necessary.

In Your Vehicle



Slow Down: Reduce your speed and increase your following distance to allow for longer stopping distances.

Maintain a Safe Distance: Keep a safe distance from the vehicle in front of you. This provides additional time to react to sudden stops or obstacles. Slow down and watch for black ice, especially on bridges, overpasses, and shaded areas.

Clear Visibility: Clear all snow and ice from your windows, mirrors, and lights before driving. Use your defroster and windshield wipers for better visibility.

Turn On Headlights: Increase visibility by turning on your headlights, even during the day. This helps other drivers see you, especially in low-visibility conditions.

Brake Smoothly: Apply the brakes gently to avoid skidding. If your vehicle has an anti-lock braking system (ABS), apply steady pressure and let the ABS do its job.

Avoid Sudden Movements: Make gradual turns and avoid sudden movements, as abrupt actions can lead to loss of traction and control.

Avoid Cruise Control: Do not use cruise control on slippery roads. You want to maintain control over acceleration and deceleration.

Take a look at our snow plow tracker (lincoln.ne.gov/snow), live traffic camera feeds (lincoln.ne.gov/TrafficCameras), street closure map (lincoln.ne.gov/closure) or the Waze mobile app before you go!

Tire Tips

Winter Tires: Consider using winter tires, which provide better traction on snow and ice compared to all-season tires.



Use Chains or Snow Socks: In extreme conditions, consider using tire chains or snow socks for added traction. Check local regulations regarding their usage.

Plan Ahead

✓ **Stay Informed:** Check weather and road conditions before your journey. If conditions are severe, consider delaying your trip or using alternative routes.

✓ **Plan for Delays:** Allow extra time for your journey, taking into account potential delays due to weather conditions. Rushing increases the risk of accidents.

✓ **Be Prepared:** Carry a winter emergency kit in your vehicle, including items like a snow shovel, ice scraper, blankets, flashlight, and non-perishable snacks.

✓ **Be Cautious on Hills:** Approach hills with caution and maintain a steady speed. Avoid stopping on inclines if possible, as it can be challenging to regain momentum.

✓ **Keep Gas Tank and Windshield Wiper Fluids Full:** Maintain a full gas tank to prevent fuel lines from freezing and to ensure you have enough fuel in case of unexpected delays. Ensure that your vehicle has windshield washer fluid and antifreeze to prevent freezing in cold temperatures.

✓ **Practice Skid Recovery:** If you start to skid, steer in the direction you want to go and avoid slamming on the brakes. This can help you regain control.