

Safety Gram DECEMBER

2021

## Safe Driving in the Snow

- Stay home. Only go out if necessary. Even if you can drive well in bad weather, it's better to avoid taking unnecessary risks by venturing out.
- **Drive slowly.** Always adjust your speed down to account for lower traction when driving on snow or ice.
- Accelerate and decelerate slowly. Apply the gas slowly to regain traction and avoid skids. Don't try to get moving in a hurry and take time to slow down for a stoplight. Remember: It takes longer to slow down on icy roads.
- Increase your following distance to five to six seconds.
- Know your brakes. Whether you have antilock brakes or not, keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply firm, steady pressure on the brake pedal.
- **Don't stop if you can avoid it.** If you can slow down enough to keep rolling until a traffic light changes, do it.
- **Don't power up hills.** Applying extra gas on snow-covered roads will just make your wheels spin. Try to get a little inertia going before you reach the hill and let that inertia carry you to the top. As you reach the crest of the hill, reduce your speed and proceed downhill slowly.
- **Don't stop going up a hill.** There's nothing worse than trying to get moving up a hill on an icy road. Get some inertia going on a flat roadway before you take on the hill.

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## WINTER EMERGENCY CAR KIT



Some of these items are available at Chem Stores! Stop by if you need a first aid kit, flashlight, or even cat litter!

Interested in the safety features your car has? Go to mycardoeswhat.org or scan this QR code!



## Don't Become a Datum!

Over 70% of US roads are in snowy regions.

17% of all vehicle crashes happen in winter conditions.

Over 116,800 people get injured in car accidents on snowy or icy roads every year.

Every year, about 76,000 people are injured in traffic accidents during snowfall.