



# SAFETY BRIEF

## 10 KEYS TO DEFENSIVE DRIVING

Traffic accidents can happen in a split second and lead to serious injuries or even death. The following tips can help you improve your defensive driving skills and keep you safe on the road.

### DEFENSIVE DRIVING TIPS

1. **Avoid distractions.** When on the road, focus on driving. Avoid distractions such as cell phones, eating, drinking or adjusting the radio.
2. **Always buckle up.** Seat belts reduce your risk of injury in a crash by 50%. Be sure you and your passengers are wearing your seat belts at all times.
3. **Maintain a safe following distance.** This will give you more reaction time if you need to stop suddenly. Scan far down the road to anticipate any problems. Look for erratic drivers, slow traffic, intersections and highway debris.
4. **Stay calm.** It can be hard to avoid road rage but doing so can keep you safe. Change lanes if someone is tailgating you and do not hit the brakes suddenly. Give other drivers plenty of room and use your horn sparingly.
5. **Mind blind spots.** Get familiar with your vehicle's blind spots and stay out of other vehicle's blind spots.
6. **Be careful at intersections.** Scan both sides of the road when approaching an intersection. Look for vehicles that are going too fast to stop. Proceed with caution through an intersection, even if the light is green.
7. **Yield.** If you are unsure who has the right of way, allow other vehicles to go ahead of you.
8. **Use your turn signal.** Directional signals let other drivers know your intentions. Make your lane changes and turns predictable and smooth by always signaling.
9. **Know yourself.** Avoid driving if you are feeling drowsy or distracted.
10. **Obey all speed limits and signs.** One of the best ways to stay safe on the road is to follow all traffic laws.



**66% OF TRAFFIC  
FATALITIES ARE CAUSED  
BY AGGRESSIVE DRIVING**



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