



Fleet Bulletin

Winter Driving Advice



Make sure you are prepared for winter weather by taking some simple steps to stay safe on the roads.

Before setting off on your journey:

- Check news reports for the condition of the travel route, particularly for lengthy journeys
- Keep your vehicle properly maintained and check that the brakes, lights, battery, windscreen and wipers are in good condition
- Check the condition of your tyres for tears or bulges regularly as this can weaken the tyres
- Make sure tyres have at least 2mm of tread and are correctly inflated to maximise grip on the road, consider winter or all-season tyres
- Check and replace the anti-freeze in the radiator
- Always ensure that your windscreen is properly demisted and clear of ice and snow before you drive – adding winter screen wash to the washer bottles will stop it from freezing
- Clear the roof of snow as this may slide forward and cover the windscreen

Keep an emergency winter kit in your vehicle:

- Ice scraper and de-icer
- Torch and spare batteries
- Warm clothes, a pair of boots and a blanket
- Food and warm drink in a flask
- Shovel for snow
- Battery jump leads
- First aid kit
- Sunglasses in the glove box for driving in low sun
- Make sure your phone is fully charged

IS YOUR VEHICLE WINTER READY?



If the weather conditions are really bad and there is a chance that you might have to use your kit, consider whether the journey is worth the risk or if alternative arrangements can be made.

During your journey:

- Allow extra time for your journey
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to arrive
- Drive on gritted roads whenever possible and be aware of changing road and weather conditions
- Reduce your speed and increase stopping distances – braking distances in snow and ice are 10 times longer
- When on icy roads drive in as high a gear as possible, accelerate and brake very gently
- To minimise the risk of losing control drivers should slow down on straights prior to bends and steer smoothly round the bend
- Use dipped headlights where visibility is poor