

Quick tips

- ☑ Drive the speed limit.
- ☑ Stop at all stop signs.
- ☑ Share the road with people walking and riding bicycles.
- ☑ Never smoke when driving with children in the vehicle – **it's the law!**
- ☑ Never leave children alone in a vehicle.
- ☑ Trucks need extra space – stay well back.
- ☑ Leave plenty of space between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you.
- ☑ Check municipal by-laws for parking information in your area.

If you are in a collision

Ontario law requires you to report any collision when there are injuries, property damage or total damage to vehicles that is \$2,000 or more.

Call 911 for emergencies only. For non-emergencies, call the local police for instructions.

Stay calm when involved in a collision. If safe to do so, remove vehicles from the roadway.

Do not leave the scene until you have exchanged information with the other driver(s) or provided your information to the police.

Pedestrian safety

- Cross the street at crossovers and intersections — not mid-block or in between parked cars.
- Cross at the start of a green light or “Walk” sign. Never cross on a yellow or a red light.
- Make sure drivers see you even if you have the right of way. Check for turning cars.
- Use sidewalks when possible. If there is no sidewalk, walk along the left shoulder of the road facing oncoming traffic.
- Wear reflective, bright or light-coloured clothing. Clip on a light at night or during bad weather.
- Children under age 9 should have an adult or older friend to walk with them.
- Avoid using your phone or listening to music - pay attention.



Railway crossings

- Follow signals.
- Cross tracks at marked pedestrian or railway crossings.
- It is against the law to drive or go around railway barriers when they are down or being lowered.
- Always expect a train. Trains do not follow set schedules.



What to do

If stopped by police:

- When you see the flashing lights and/or hear sirens, remain calm and safely pull over to the side of the road.
- Do not exit your vehicle unless asked to do so by the police officer.
- Ontario law requires you to show a driver's licence and a copy of the vehicle registration and insurance documents to the police officer if asked.
- If you receive a ticket, accept it calmly. Avoid getting into an argument.
- Accepting the ticket does not mean you are guilty. You may have a chance to appeal.

If your vehicle breaks down:

- Pull off the road if possible.
- Turn on the emergency flashers.
- Phone for a tow truck or the police for help.

For your safety:

- Stay in your vehicle while you wait for help.
- If you must leave your vehicle, exit from the side away from traffic and find a safe place to wait.
- Never stand in front or behind the vehicle.

Aggressive Driving:

Aggressive and high-risk driving have no place on the road. This includes: speeding, tailgating or following too closely, refusing to yield the right of way, honking repeatedly, or for no reason, running red lights, excessive lane changes or weaving through traffic, passing too close to cyclists and more.

Welcome to
Ontario



Important road safety
information to keep you and
your family safe.



www.safetydrivesus.org

Licence and registration

- All drivers must have with them at all times:
- o A valid and proper class driver's licence.
For info visit: ontario.ca/transportation.
 - o Vehicle registration.
 - o Vehicle insurance.

Seatbelts and child car seats

Using seatbelts and child car seats is the law. You must buckle up in both the front and the back seat of a vehicle.

Everyone must be buckled up and it is the driver's responsibility to make sure that all children under 16 years of age wear a seatbelt or are in the correct child car seat or booster seat

It is dangerous and against the law to share a seatbelt. One person – one seatbelt.

Child car seats:

- o Use the correct car seat or booster seat for your child's weight and height.
- o Install the car seat in the back seat of the vehicle.
- o Visit www.safetydrivesus.org for car seat information and videos in other languages.



Impaired driving

- If you are impaired by alcohol, drugs or medication, **do not** drive.
- o It reduces your judgement and ability to concentrate and react.
 - o It is a criminal offence in Canada and if convicted, you can lose your driver's licence, pay a fine or spend time in jail.



Distracted driving

- o Anything that takes a driver's attention away from the road can result in inattentive driving including: eating, passengers, adjusting vehicle controls, construction and road sign advertising.
- o It is illegal in Ontario to drive while using hand-held communication and electronic entertainment devices (e.g. cell phones, tablets, GPS, ipods, etc.).
- o It is also against the law to have certain display screens visible to the driver (e.g. DVD players, laptops, etc.).



Winter driving

- o Consider using winter-rated tires for safer driving in cold weather.
- o Check weather reports and call 511 or visit www.ontario.ca/511 for road conditions.
- o Before you drive, clear your entire vehicle of snow and ice. Make sure the roof and all windows, mirrors and lights are clear.
- o Leave extra space between you and the vehicle in front of you during conditions such as snow, ice, rain, fog and bright sunshine.
- o Have an emergency travel kit in your vehicle which includes a flashlight, extra clothing, shovel, blanket, winter boots, snacks, candles and matches.

Emergency vehicles

- o If you see or hear an ambulance, police car or fire truck approaching from any direction, it is the law to move your vehicle out of the way.
- o Signal and quickly move as close as you can to the right side of the roadway and stop when it is safe to do so.
- o If approaching an emergency vehicle (or tow truck) stopped with its lights flashing, slow down and pass with caution. Move over into another lane if it can be done safely.



School buses

- o Drivers must stop when approaching a stopped school bus with its upper red lights flashing or its STOP arm activated.
- o You can start to drive again once the red lights have stopped flashing, the STOP arm closes and the bus begins to move.



Transit buses

- o If you approach a city transit bus that begins to flash its left turn signal, you must allow the bus to re-enter traffic.

