



Bill Plant Driving School

PR update

January 2021

10YETIS

BILL PLANT
DRIVING SCHOOL

January 2021

What we sent:

- Feature: How to drive safely in the snow
- Feature: How to drive safely in the winter
- Feature: How to drive safely during Storm Christoph
- Reactive comment: Learner drivers petition to automatically pass their driving test

Results:

278 pieces of coverage

Total combined reach of 155,101,999 worldwide

ALL of these articles were syndicated!



Standard

Motoring: Top tips for driving safely in winter



For many, it's barely just getting light when leaving the house in the morning and it's dark by the late afternoon - that, along with the days getting a bit colder and suddenly road users are presented with a number of seasonal challenges when getting behind the wheel.

The team at www.billplant.co.uk have compiled the following tips to help you remain safe on the roads this winter...

Do your checks

It is important to make sure your car is in full working order every time you take to the roads, especially when the roads might be wet or icy.

Make sure your lights and indicators are working, as well as your fog lights.

Such is the time of year, you can never be sure when you will come across fog, so it is important to make sure you have the facilities to drive safely through patches where visibility is heavily reduced.

Also make sure that your tyres aren't bald to maximise the grip you have on the road.

Allow extra time and space

When driving in the dark it is always best to take your time and leave more than enough space between your car and the one in front.

The roads will be more slippery, with potential ice and water on the road too, so it is important to keep the distance and leave yourself enough time to react to adverse conditions.

Keep your car clean

Keeping your car clean is crucial in ensuring you are safe on the road.

Some of the most simple to keep on top of are keeping your windscreen and headlights clean so that you have maximum visibility and people can see your vehicle's out on the road.

It's also important to remember to use your full beams when driving on dark roads, where safe to do so, and make sure you dip them when you see oncoming traffic in the distance so that you don't dazzle them.

Stock up on the essentials

In the event that you do breakdown and need to wait for road-side assistance it is important to keep a number safety items in the car, especially in the cold, dark months of the year.

You should have a high-vis and torch in your car in case you have a problem and are then able to navigate in the dark, but also be clearly seen by oncoming traffic, as well as bottles of water and snacks to keep your energy up and a warm blanket to wrap yourself in - especially as you're advised to exit your vehicle when awaiting breakdown.

You may also want to pack some spare warm clothes to layer up and de-icer to get rid of any ice that appears on the windscreen.

Adapt to the road conditions

If there is snow and ice on the road, it's important to remember that a different set of driving rules come into play.

You can't simply brake how you normally would, as you'll likely skid, veer off and put yourself and others in harm's way.

Firstly, you want to consider slowing down at least three times sooner than you normally would, and don't slam on the brake - instead you want to decelerate slowly and even consider slowing your vehicle down by lowering the gear that you are in at the time.

Be prepared for a skid

If you do end up going over some black ice, there are things you must do to ensure

KentLive NEWS - IN YOUR AREA WHAT'S ON - SPECIAL FEATURES

How to use gears and momentum to drive safely in ice and snow

Weather warnings have been issued for much of the country

By Neil Shaw Network Content Editor
17th Feb 2018

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With another numbing Blast from the East heading our way, many having experienced snow-fall over the past week and more snow heading our way, Bill Plant Driving School has compiled tips for drivers on how to drive safely in the snow...

Drive slowly and cautiously

You're not going to get anywhere in a hurry when driving in the snow. It's important that you never accelerate or decelerate dramatically, instead make sure you do so slowly and cautiously in order to prevent the car from losing grip of the road.

It's also important to note that while you shouldn't change your speed in a hurry, you will also need to drive slower than usual, just because some road users may still be sticking to the speed limit, doesn't mean you have to, it's better to be safe than get somewhere quickly.

Know when to use brakes and gears to slow down

With snow and ice on the ground, any harsh braking runs the risk of causing the car to skid. If you are going to brake, ensure that the ball of your foot is firmly on the floor of the car, and you brake slowly and gently. If you feel as though the car is losing grip, you can decelerate by going down in gears.

Increase your following and stopping distances

Due to the risk of your car losing grip of the ground, you will want to increase your following and stopping distances by 10 times the normal amount. If you assume that you should allow 1m per mph of your speed, and you're travelling at a slower than usual 10mph, that would be 10m stopping distance.

You should not only allow for your braking distance, but also allow room for those decreasing their speed using their gears and not their brakes, therefore not giving any indication to the car behind. Should you then find your car skidding, you should hopefully at this point have plenty of room to slow down and come to a stop without colliding with the vehicle in front.

Use momentum to keep your vehicle moving

It takes a lot of inertia to get a car moving on snow or ice, so if you can slow down enough to keep your car rolling forwards while heading towards traffic lights and open junctions without the need to stop, this would be preferable. But of course, remain safe, if visibility isn't on your side, allow yourself plenty of space to stop.

Likewise, try to get momentum in your drive before you head up a hill, thus allowing this momentum to take you up and over the hill. Applying too much pressure on the accelerator while advancing a hill can lead to your wheels spinning.

Stay alert

Sometimes it's not yourself you have to worry about on the road, it's other people, especially when the elements are against you all. There are going to be many people on the road who forget the basics of driving in the snow, or simply don't know them - and well, for example, brake harshly when nearing traffic lights, causing them to skid - so stay alert and don't make any assumptions about any of your fellow road users.

Only drive if absolutely necessary

Sometimes it may only look like a sprinkle of snow on the floor, but that can quickly change when you're out and about, and as you travel between different areas. As well as coming out of nowhere, a thick level of snow can hide many dangers, including pot holes and items in the road that can damage your tyres.

The Scarborough

The winter road safety column with Bill Plant Driving School: Dealing with the seasonal challenges faced by motorists

For many, it's barely just getting light when leaving the house in the morning and it's dark by the late afternoon - that, along with the days getting a lot colder and suddenly road users are presented with a number of seasonal challenges when getting behind the wheel. The team at Bill Plant Driving School have compiled the following tips to help you remain safe on the roads this winter.

By The Newsroom



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You should have a high-vis and torch in your car in case you have a problem and are then able to navigate in the dark, but also be clearly seen by oncoming traffic, as well as bottles of water and snacks to keep your energy up and a warm blanket to wrap yourself in - especially as you're advised to exit your vehicle when awaiting breakdown. You may also want to pack some spare warm clothes to layer up and de-icer to get rid of any ice that appears on the windscreen.

Adapt to the road conditions

If there is snow and ice on the road, it's important to remember that a different set of driving rules come into play.

You can't simply brake how you normally would, as you'll likely skid, veer off and put yourself and others in harm's way.

Firstly, you want to consider slowing down at least three times sooner than you normally would, and don't slam on the brake - instead you want to decelerate slowly and even consider slowing your vehicle down by lowering the gear that you are in at the time.

Be prepared for a skid


If you do end up going over some black ice, there are things you must do to ensure

Staffordshire Live NEWS - IN YOUR AREA WHAT'S ON - SPECIAL FEATURES

Driving safely in snow and ice - what you need to do

Temperatures are dropping below zero and we are set for snow

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The roads could become dangerous once snow starts to appear in places

Sign up to our email alerts from StaffordshireLive.com

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As Staffordshire is set to wake up under a blanket of snow, many people will have no choice but to use their cars.

Whether it is to get to work, to provide care to someone vulnerable or, if you're a key worker, to pick the kids up from school, some of us simply must get behind the wheel.

But it is so important to adapt your driving style to ensure you are safe driving on a carpet of snow and ice. It can be so easy to lose control of your car if you are not careful.

So Bill Plant Driving School has created a number of tips you should control your car in chilling temperatures.


If you follow these rules, you won't get far wrong when it comes to keeping yourself and other drivers safe. And you may be surprised by the recommended measures you are advised to take. In particular, the degree to which you have to increase the distance between yourself and the car in front is a real eye-opener.

Drive slowly and cautiously

You're not going to get anywhere in a hurry when driving in the snow and it's important that you never accelerate or decelerate dramatically.

Instead, make sure you do so slowly and cautiously to prevent the car from losing grip on the road. It's also important to note that, while you shouldn't change your speed in a hurry, you will also need to drive slower than usual.

Just because some road users may still be sticking to the speed limit doesn't mean you have to, it's better to be safe than get somewhere quickly.



Know when to use brakes and gears to slow down

With snow and ice on the ground, any harsh braking runs the risk of causing the car to skid. If you are going to brake, ensure that the ball of your foot is firmly on the floor of the car, and you brake slowly and gently.

If you feel as though the car is losing grip, you can decelerate by going down in gears.

Increase your following and stopping distances

Due to the risk of your car losing grip of the ground, you will want to increase your following and stopping distances by 10 times the normal amount.

If you assume that you should allow 1m per mph and you're travelling at a slower than usual 10mph, that means you should allow a 10m stopping distance.

You should not only allow for your braking distance, but also allow room for those decreasing their speed using their gears and not their brakes, which does not give any indication of slowing down to the car behind.

Should you then find your car skidding, you should hopefully at this point have plenty of room to slow down and come to a stop without colliding with the vehicle in front.

Use momentum to keep your vehicle moving

It takes a lot of inertia to get a car moving on snow or ice, so if you can slow down enough to keep your car

Stay safe if you have to drive in snow

WITH another named Best from the East heading our way, many having experienced snow fall over the past week and more snow heading our way, Bill Platt (Dorset) Editorial have compiled the below tips for drivers on how to drive safely in the snow...

Drive slowly and cautiously
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With snow and ice on the ground, any harsh braking runs the risk of causing the car to skid, so if you are going to brake, ensure that the ball of your foot is firmly on the floor of the car, and you brake slowly and gently.

If you feel as though the car is losing grip, you can decelerate by going down in gears. Increase your following and stopping distances.

Due to the risk of your car losing grip of the ground, you will want to increase your following and stopping distances by 10 times the normal amount.

If you assume that you should allow 1m per mph of your speed, and you're travelling at a slower than usual 15mph, that would be 150m stopping distance.

You should not only allow for your braking distance, but also allow room for those decreasing their speed using their gears and not their brakes, therefore not giving any indication to the car behind.

Should you then find your car skidding, you should hopefully at this point have plenty of room to slow down and come to a stop without colliding with the vehicle in front.

Use momentum to keep your vehicle moving
It takes a lot of inertia to get a car moving on snow or ice, so if you can slow down enough to keep your car rolling forwards while heading towards traffic lights and open junctions without the need to stop, this would be preferable. But of course, remain safe - visibility isn't on your side, allow yourself plenty of space to stop.

Likewise, try to get momentum in your drive

before you head up a hill, thus allowing this momentum to take you up and over the hill. Applying too much pressure on the accelerator while advancing a hill can lead to your wheels spinning.

Stay alert
Sometimes it's not yourself you have to worry about on the road, it's other people, especially when the elements are against you all.

There are going to be many people on the road who forget the basics of driving in the snow, or simply don't know them - and will, for example, brake harshly when seeing traffic lights, causing them to skid - so stay alert and don't make any assumptions about any of your fellow road users.

Only drive if absolutely necessary
Sometimes it may only look like a sprinkle of snow on the floor, but that can quickly change when you're out and about, and as you travel between different areas.

As well as coming out of nowhere, a thick level of snow can hide many dangers, including pot holes and items in the road that can damage your tyres.

If you're not confident when it comes to driving in the snow, only get behind the wheel

Tips for driving safely in winter

For many, it's barely just getting light when leaving the house in the morning and it's dark by the late afternoon - that, along with the days getting a lot colder and suddenly road users are presented with a number of seasonal challenges when getting behind the wheel.

The team at www.bilplatt.co.uk have compiled the following tips to help you remain safe on the roads this winter...

Do your checks
It is important to make sure your car is in full working order every time you take to the roads, especially when the roads might be wet or icy. Make sure your lights and indicators are working, as well as your fog lights. Such is the time of year, you can

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Also make sure that your tyres aren't bald to maximise the grip you have on the road.

Allow extra time and space
When driving in the dark it is always best to take your time and leave more than enough space between your car and the one in front.

The roads will be more slippery, with potential ice and water on the road too, so it is important to keep the distance and leave yourself enough time to react to adverse conditions.

Keep your car clean
Keeping your car clean is crucial in ensuring you are safe on the road.

Some of the most simple to keep on top of are keeping your windscreen and headlights clean so that you have maximum visibility and people can see your whilst you're out on the road.

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beams when driving on dark roads, where safe to do so, and make sure you dip them when you see oncoming traffic in the distance so that you don't dazzle them.

Stock up on the essentials
In the event that you do breakdown and need to wait for road-side assistance it is important to keep a number of safety items in the car, especially in the cold, dark months of the year.

You should have a high-vis and torch in your car in case you have a problem and are then able to navigate in the dark, but also be clearly seen by oncoming traffic, as well as bottles of water and snacks to keep your energy up and a warm blanket to wrap yourself in - especially as you're advised to exit your vehicle when awaiting breakdown.

You may also want to pack some spare warm clothes to layer up and de-icer to get rid of any ice that appears on the windscreen.

Adapt to the road conditions
If there is snow and ice on the road, it's important to remember that a different set of driving rules come into play.

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Firstly, you want to consider slowing down at least three

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If you do end up going over some black ice, there are things you must do to ensure you recover from it as quickly

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Of course, driving in the dark can be daunting, especially if you haven't got too much experience on the road.

Always be learning, take a Winter Driving Lesson
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If you're really not comfortable, stay home.

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Hot tips for driving safely amid New Year cold snap

Dark days and cold weather hazards can present road users with any number of challenges when driving.

Here are some tips to help you stay safe on the roads this winter:

Do your checks
It is important to make sure your car is in full working order every time you take to the roads, especially when wet or icy.

Make sure lights and indicators are working, including fog lights.
Also, make sure that your tyres are in good condition to maximise the grip you have on the road.

dark roads, where safe to do so, and make sure you dip them as oncoming traffic approaches.

Stock up on essentials
In the event that you do breakdown and need to wait for road-side assistance, it is important to keep safety items in the car, especially in the cold, dark months.

Carry a high-vis and torch in your car in case you need to navigate in the dark, and to ensure you can be seen by oncoming traffic.

Bottles of water and snacks will help to keep your energy up and a warm blanket may be necessary, especially as the advice can be to exit your vehicle when awaiting breakdown.

Always be learning, take a Winter Driving Lesson
If you learned to drive and passed your driving test in the daylight, you can also consider reaching out to a professional driving school to take a winter driving lesson (yes, even after you've passed your test).

This will allow you to try and adapt to driving in the dark and wintry conditions while in the company of a professional.

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Whitby Gazette

The seasonal challenges faced by motorists

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if you do end up going over some black ice, there are things you must do to ensure you recover from it as quickly and safely as possible. When you lose control,



More than 40,000 sign petition to allow instructors to issue driving test passes

By Matt Allan
Tuesday, 19th January 2021, 8:08 am
Updated 6 hours ago



More than 40,000 people have signed a petition calling on the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) to allow learner drivers to bypass the official driving test.

The [petition](#) lodged on the UK Parliament petitions site calls for driving instructors to be allowed to issue a driving test pass to students to tackle the huge backlog of tests caused by Covid-19 restrictions.

Driving tests have been [significantly disrupted](#) once again during the latest lockdown, with lessons and all theory and practical tests suspended.

Following the first nationwide lockdown in March, 2020, hundreds of thousands of learners were forced to rearrange their driving tests after their original appointments were [cancelled](#). This led to a backlog which was worsened by [IT problems](#) and a reduction in available appointments. Some learners have had to rearrange their practical driving test three times.



(Photo: Shutterstock)

Syndicated 118x times



EXPRESS News of the Day and the Weekend

Learner drivers demand a licence without taking a test as exams are cancelled in lockdown

DRIVING instructors automatically passing students who have had their test cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic is 'not the way forward' according to a leading driving school.

By LUKE CHALGROVORTH
PUBLISHED: 12:40, Mon, Jan 18, 2021 | UPDATED: 11:03, Mon, Jan 18, 2021

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DVLA explain the practical driving test

To help you through a lifetime of safe driving

Experts at Bill Plant Driving School say they "simply don't agree" with passing students simply due to inconvenience. The comments come after a new petition has called for a new law to allow instructors to simply pass their students if they feel a driver is competent behind the wheel.

This would induce the heavy backlog on the DVSA with many drivers having their tests rearranged up to five times due to several lockdowns.

The petition has been signed by over 33,000 people meaning the Government will respond to the enquiry.

Those signing the petition have already waited four days for a Government response but it's highly unlikely any action will be taken.

Campaigners who launched the petition described how it was "unfair on learners" to wait a "long time" to secure a test.

Learner drivers are calling for instructors to issue automatic passes (Image: Getty)

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Driving in snow and heavy rain safety tips as Storm Christoph brings 'blizzard' to Scotland

The heavy weather in the north has led to a number of the M63 off-ramps at other sites weather warnings in place and some roads through snow in the region.

By Rosalind Stewart
12th Jan 2021

Drivers on the road have been warned for drivers during the spring of 2021 (Image: iStockphoto)

The first few weeks of 2021 have been challenging for those who are having to make essential journeys or school runs.

Snow, ice and heavy rain have resulted in difficult conditions for motorists and public transport services, and travellers are expected to experience heading up to Scotland, across Christy's [blizzard](#) from the region.

The Met Office has issued five severe weather warnings to its areas of the north and south of the country over the coming days.

The weather warning has been issued to help drivers to be aware of the weather that may affect their journey.

It could get particularly treacherous in the north west of the country as high gusts without snow fall could result in some blizzard conditions.

A number of [roadworks](#) have already been issued across Scotland due to a combination of significant rain and snowfall.

Bill Plant Driving School has issued a series of tips for drivers to help them to cope when they take the advice to be safe from Storm Christoph.

Here's everything you need to know about:

These alerts have also been issued in Scotland as Storm Christoph from the north (Image: iStockphoto)

Be sure to use the roads for the road and the weather (Image: iStockphoto)

Growing calls for driving tests to be temporarily scrapped

4 hrs ago
By Kieran Doody | @kierandoody
UK Trending Editor



DVSA against 40,000-strong petition to bypass driving test.

4 comments

A petition calling on the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) to allow learner drivers to bypass the official driving test has reached over 40,000 signatures.

The [petition](#) lodged on the UK Parliament petitions site calls for driving instructors to be allowed to issue a driving test pass to students in an attempt to tackle the huge backlog of tests caused by Covid-19 restrictions.

Driving tests have been significantly disrupted once again during the latest lockdown, with lessons and all theory and practical tests suspended.

Following the first nationwide lockdown in March, 2020, hundreds of thousands of learners were forced to rearrange their driving tests after their original appointments were cancelled.

This led to a backlog which was worsened by IT problems and a reduction in available appointments. Some learners have had to rearrange their practical

driving test three times.



The petition's author says: "It is unfair on learners who have been unable to book a test due to the pandemic to have to wait a significantly long time to be able to access to booking one."

Syndicated 108x times

