

Defensive Driving

Driving To Stay Alive

Defensive Driving Tips

Look both directions twice when approaching an intersection

- Traffic coming from your left poses greater threat
- Double check both directions to see around mirrors, obstacles, etc.
- Look for cars making turns, running red lights and stop signs



Defensive Driving Tips

Count 1-2-3 before entering an intersection when the light changes to green

- If someone runs the light, you will see them coming!!



Defensive Driving Tips

Four to six second following distance

- No matter what the car ahead of you does, you stand a better chance of avoiding a collision
- Provides you with a cushion for **YOUR** mistakes!

Defensive Driving Tips

Check you mirrors every 5-8 seconds

- Keeps you informed of traffic around you
- You may need that time to react to an emergency



Defensive Driving Tips

Look ahead 8-12 seconds (Aim high)

- Get the "BIG" picture
- Plan ahead (What if..?)

Defensive Driving Tips

Know what is around you and maintain a "safety" cushion of space

- If you don't get close to it, you can't hit it

Defensive Driving Tips

Communicate with other traffic

- Make sure they see you
- Use your turn signals, brake lights, head lights, etc.
- When possible ~ make eye contact with the other driver

Defensive Driving Tips

Look first before moving in any direction ... and then keep looking

- Keep your head on a "swivel"
- Constantly check mirrors:
 - Rear view
 - Both side view

Defensive Driving Tips

Keep speed appropriate for conditions

- Slow down in traffic, inclement weather, darkness, roadway conditions, construction areas and areas with wildlife

