

Part 4: Traffic on the highway – Rules of the road

Driving rules exist to ensure your safety, the safety of your passengers, and all other drivers sharing our roads and highways.

Remember, it is an offence for any person to fail to comply with an order, a signal or a direction of a peace officer or to fail to observe the instructions of any official traffic sign or signal except when otherwise directed by a peace officer.

DID YOU KNOW?...
Possession and use of radar detectors is illegal in New Brunswick.

4.1 Collisions

A driver involved in a collision causing death, injury and/or property damage must stop at the scene of the collision. They must provide their name, address, plate number of their vehicle, driver's licence and liability insurance card to the other party or parties involved in the collision.

First at the scene

Remember, handling the injured must be avoided unless there is added danger of being struck by oncoming motorists.

Reporting collisions

Collisions resulting in death or injury to any person, or total property damage to an apparent extent of \$1,000.00 or more must be reported immediately to the nearest office of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or to a member of the local police.

The Registrar of Motor Vehicles has the authority to suspend the operating privileges of any person failing to report a collision.

Financial responsibility

A driver involved in a collision in which a person is injured or killed, or when the total property damage amounts to \$1,000.00 or more, must be able to prove their financial responsibility at the time of the collision. The accepted proof is a New Brunswick Liability Insurance Card, issued by an authorized insurance company, showing that public liability and property damage coverage has been issued on behalf of the driver or the owner of the vehicle.

The Registrar, on receipt of a collision report that does not show the owner or driver has financial responsibility, must suspend the motor vehicle privileges of the owner and operator and cancel all registrations and licence of both the owner and driver. Before reinstatement, proof of financial responsibility must be filed with the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and be maintained for a minimum of one year from the collision.

Emergency vehicles

Upon the approach from either direction of any authorized emergency vehicle giving an audible signal by way of bell or siren and visual by flashing red lights, the drivers of all vehicles must immediately drive to the right hand curb and must stop and remain stopped until the emergency vehicle has passed, unless otherwise directed by a peace officer.

When an emergency vehicle or service vehicle is stopped on the highway and has its flashing lights on, drivers MUST:

- Slow down to one half the posted speed limit and proceed with caution.
- Make sure it's safe to proceed, then move over to the left, away from the vehicle.
- If there are two or more lanes of traffic, the driver must move into another lane if it can be done safely.

DID YOU KNOW?...

You can be fined and lose points for not slowing down and moving over for an emergency vehicle.

An authorized emergency vehicle is a vehicle operated by a police officer or designated peace officer, a fire department or fire fighting vehicle, or an ambulance. Service vehicle means a tow truck, a private or public utility corporation vehicle and a road safety or maintenance vehicle under contract with the Province.

This will ensure that drivers won't collide with the emergency or service vehicle or endanger anyone outside of these vehicles.

Following Fire Vehicles

It is an offence to follow within 150 metres (500 feet) of any fire apparatus which is responding to an emergency. It is also an offence to drive or park within 150 metres (500 feet) of any fire apparatus which has stopped in answer to an alarm.

DID YOU KNOW?...

Driving over a fire hose is prohibited unless instructed to do so by a fire department official in charge.

4.2 Speed restrictions

Unless otherwise indicated, the speed limits on provincial streets and highways are:

- 50 km (30 miles) per hour in any urban district;
- 80 km (50 miles) per hour in other locations or as otherwise posted.

Failing to abide by posted speed limits is an offence and you could be subject to a fine and loss of points.

No person is permitted to operate a vehicle upon any highway at such a speed as to endanger the life, limb or property of any person, including their own.

4.3 Slow drivers

It is an offence under the Act for any person to drive at such a slow speed as to block the normal and reasonable movement of traffic, except when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation.

Should a driver find it necessary to drive at a slow speed on the open highway, they must always keep to the right. If traffic is being slowed down, the driver must pull off the road occasionally and give the traffic a chance to pass.

To delay traffic is illegal and greatly increases the chance of a collision.

4.4 Passing a vehicle



Except when overtaking and where passing on the right is permitted, the driver of an overtaken vehicle must move to the right in favour of the overtaking vehicle upon hearing audible signal and shall not increase the speed of his/her vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle.

It is an offence to pass another vehicle on the right except when:

- overtaking a vehicle making a left turn or signaling a left turn;
- on a one way street;
- on streets and highways marked for multi-lanes going in the same direction.

Extreme care should be taken in the above situations because other drivers may swerve over to the right without warning. You must not drive off the roadway onto the shoulder to pass another vehicle.

It is unlawful for a vehicle to be driven to the left side of the roadway under the following circumstances:

- When approaching the crest of a grade or upon a curve in the highway where the driver's view is obstructed within such distance as to create a hazard in the event another vehicle might approach from the opposite direction;
- When approaching within 30 metres (100 feet) of or crossing any intersection or railroad grade crossing; or
- When the view is obstructed upon approaching within 30 metres (100 feet) of any bridge, viaduct or tunnel).

4.5 School zones, school buses and construction zones



If you are approaching a school bus from the front or the rear that has stopped to take on or discharge passengers as indicated by flashing red lights, you must bring your vehicle to a full stop not less than 5 metres (16 feet) in front or rear of the school bus and wait while passengers are embarking or disembarking. You must not proceed until the school bus resumes motion or until signalled by the school bus driver to proceed.



When driving in a school zone, you must take extra caution and reduce speed.



The speed limit for school zones is 50 km/h in an urban district unless a different rate of speed has been posted. This speed limit for school zones is in effect between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on the days which school is in session.

Speeding is an issue of great concern within construction zones. Drivers should comply with the speed limit prescribed by signs that have been erected in the construction zone. This speed limit is 50 km/h in an urban district unless a different rate of speed has been posted. In sections of the zone where no speed limit has been posted, the limit is 80 km/h. Proper signs also mark the start and the end of the zone for approaching traffic.

DID YOU KNOW?...

Fines for speeding in a school or construction zone are **DOUBLED**.

4.6 Drive on right half of highway

Upon all highways of sufficient width, vehicles must be operated on the right half of the highway and slow moving traffic must move close to the right hand edge or curb.

Keep well over on your side of the road. Do not hug the centre line.

4.7 Laned traffic and pavement markings

Where a street or highway has been divided into lanes for traffic, a vehicle must be driven within a single lane.

A vehicle must be driven in the lane nearest the right hand edge of the highway, except when preparing to make a left turn or when passing another vehicle.

White lines

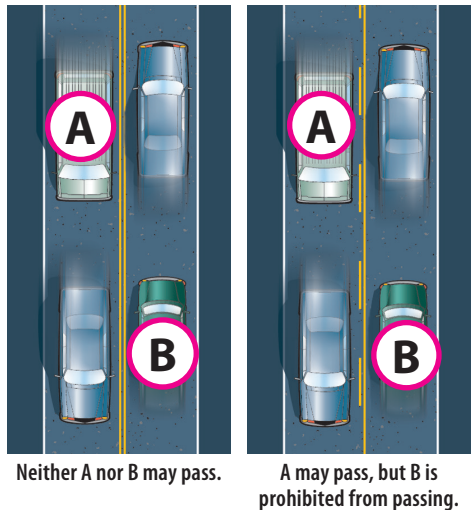
White lines are used to divide lanes of traffic moving in the same direction. White lines also may mark the right shoulder of the highway.

Yellow lines

Yellow lines on the pavement divide traffic moving in opposite directions. They are for your guidance and protection and can assist you in driving safely.

When the centre markings consist of two yellow lines and the solid line is on your side you are prohibited from passing.

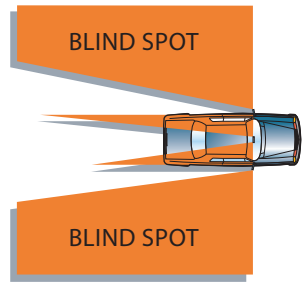
When the broken line is on your side it indicates that passing is permitted if traffic and other conditions allow.



A single broken yellow line marking the centre of a highway permits passing when traffic, sight distance and other conditions are ideal. A solid single yellow line indicates that passing is not permitted.

4.8 Blind spots

All vehicles have a “blind spot” in the right and left rear corners. Your rear view mirror will not show a car in the lane next to yours when its front bumper is about even with or ahead of your rear bumper. If you rely solely upon your inside mirror and turn into another lane without looking over your shoulder you could collide with a vehicle travelling in your blind spot. Always check over your shoulder before changing lanes.



4.9 Passing

Many serious collisions are caused by improper passing. After deciding that it is necessary to pass and pavement markings permit, to avoid collisions, follow these steps:

1. Stay back. Often the habit of moving up closely behind a vehicle leads to collisions. Your view of the road ahead is obscured and it becomes necessary to cut out sharply to pass. When you do cut out, you may not have the time to pull in should there be an oncoming car.
2. Check ahead for oncoming vehicles or obstructions.
3. Check your rear view mirror for vehicles which may be overtaking you from behind.
4. Signal left.
5. Check your “blind spot” by looking back over your left shoulder.
6. Move left gradually.
7. Accelerate. (You are not permitted to exceed the posted speed limit).
8. Signal right after you have passed. Look over right shoulder.
9. Move right when you can see in your rear view mirror the headlights of the vehicle you have passed.
10. Resume your normal speed and cancel signal.

Caution

When approaching at night use low beam headlights until you have started to pass.

If another driver wants to pass you and gives audible warning, you must give way by driving to the right and must not increase your speed until the driver has completed the passing procedure.

It is against the law to drive left of centre of the highway if you do not have sufficient distance to permit overtaking and passing another vehicle to be completed safely. You must not prevent the safe operation of any vehicle; either the one you are passing or one approaching from the opposite direction.

In any event, it is illegal to pass or drive left of the centre of the highway on a curve or when approaching the crest of a hill where your view along the highway is obstructed within a distance of 150 metres (500 feet) or where the pavement markings prohibit.

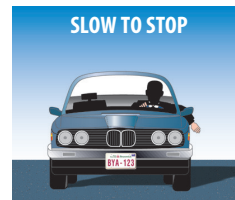
When changing lanes, never move from one lane of traffic to another until you make certain that you can do so safely. This means that you must check oncoming traffic for safe clearance to the side of, ahead of and behind your vehicle and give the proper signal before changing lanes.

4.10 Signalling

The law requires you to signal other drivers of your intention to stop or decrease the speed of your vehicle, turn to the left or the right, change from one lane of traffic to another lane of traffic, leave the roadway or set your vehicle in motion from a parked position.

Signals must be given by signalling devices, brake light or - in situations where the signaling device is not working - hand and arm. Give correct signals well in advance and in such a way as to be plainly visible to other drivers. Check your signalling devices frequently to ensure that they are working properly.

All signals shall be given at least 30 metres (100 feet) before making a turn.



4.11 Right of Way



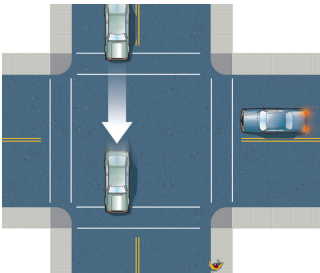
The fact that you believe you should be granted the right of way does not necessarily relieve you from responsibility for a collision.

Before entering a highway you must yield the right of way to all vehicles approaching on the highway.

Before emerging from an alley, driveway or building in a business or residential district, you must stop your vehicle immediately prior to

driving on the sidewalk or on the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway.

Before entering an alley, driveway or building or across a sidewalk, you must yield the right of way to pedestrians crossing the entrance to the alley, driveway or building or on the sidewalk at the point where your vehicle is crossing.

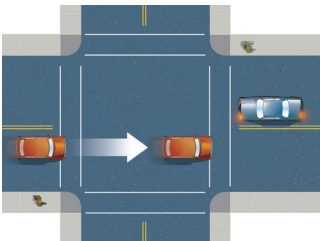


Intersection

When approaching an intersection you must yield the right of way to a vehicle which has entered the intersection.

When two vehicles enter an uncontrolled intersection (three or four way stop signs) at approximately the same time, you must yield

to the driver on your right. If the intersection is controlled, the lights control the authority to proceed.



Left turn

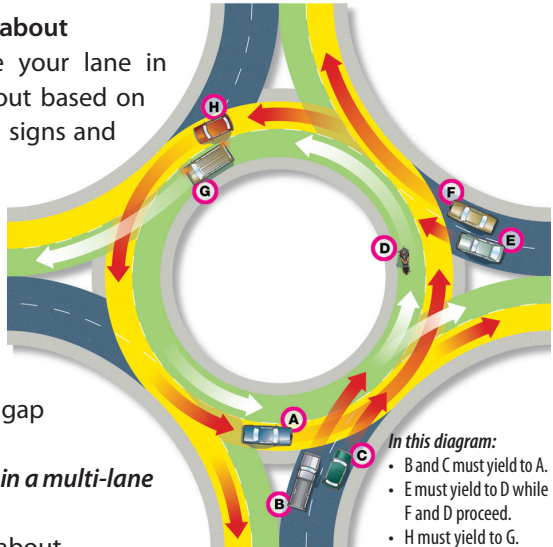
The driver of a vehicle intending to turn to the left must yield to any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction which is within an intersection or so close as to constitute an immediate hazard. Keep wheels straight until ready to turn.

Roundabouts

When driving in a roundabout (also referred to as a rotary or traffic circle) you must drive in a counter-clockwise direction. If you are approaching a roundabout, you must yield the right of way to traffic already in the roundabout and which is approaching so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard. Always respect the posted speed limit in a roundabout.

Steps for driving in a roundabout

1. Slow down and choose your lane in advance of the roundabout based on the directional arrows on signs and pavement markings.
2. Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists.
3. ***Yield to traffic already in the roundabout. Yield to both lanes if it is a multi-lane roundabout.***
4. Enter when there is a safe gap in traffic.
5. ***Do not change lanes while in a multi-lane roundabout.***
6. Do not stop in the roundabout.
7. ***As you approach your exit, turn on your right turn signal.***



Always give large trucks plenty of room in a roundabout as they need more space. Do not attempt to pass or drive side-by-side a large truck inside a roundabout.

4.12 Railway crossings

When the driver of a motor vehicle approaches a railroad crossing and notices the lights flashing or a flagman or a train dangerously close to the crossing, the driver must bring their vehicle to a stop not less than 5 metres (16 feet) from the nearest rail and shall not proceed until they can do so safely.

A driver must not drive their vehicle around any gate or barrier used to prevent vehicles from crossing the tracks.



In cases where traffic is heavy and slow, (i.e. city), a driver should never start to cross railroad tracks unless there is sufficient room across the tracks to accommodate the whole vehicle in order to prevent stopping across any part of the tracks.

All buses, vehicles carrying passengers for hire or any vehicle carrying an explosive substance or flammable liquids as cargo are required to stop, listen and look in both directions before proceeding through a railway crossing. Be prepared to stop if you are following any of these types of vehicles.

4.13 Yield sign

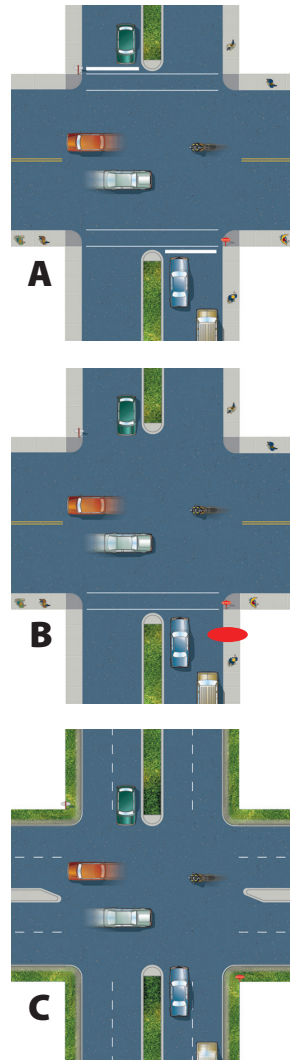
The yield sign is placed at an intersection which does not require a stop sign but does require some control. You must yield the right of way to traffic in the intersection or approaching so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard.

4.14 Stop sign

A stop sign means you must bring your vehicle to a complete stop at the clearly marked stop line or at the nearest crosswalk (marked or not marked). If there is no painted crosswalk or stop line, stop just before entering the intersection, allowing room for a pedestrian to cross.

A stop sign means you must bring your vehicle to a stop:

- A At a clearly marked stop line (image A)
- B Before entering the nearest crosswalk, whether marked or unmarked (image B)
- C At the edge of the travelled portion of the through street or highway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting highway (image C)



4.15 Traffic control signals

Traffic control signals exhibiting green, amber and red lights or green arrow lights indicate the following:

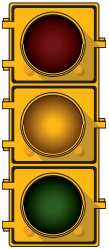
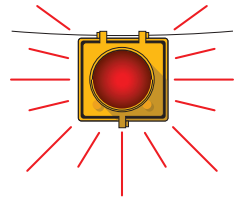


Red light

You must bring your vehicle to a stop at a clearly marked stop line or, if none, before entering the nearest crosswalk or, if none, before entering the intersection. Unless a sign indicates otherwise, a right turn may be made on a red light provided the vehicle is first brought to a full stop and the right of way of pedestrians and other traffic is considered.



Red flasher light means STOP — a complete stop. The rule respecting a red flasher light is the same as that of a stop sign. After stopping, proceed only when the way is clear.



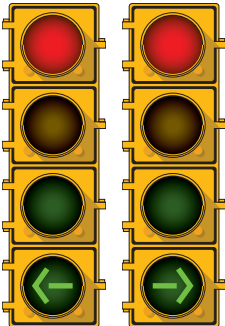
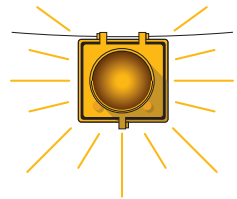
Green light

Motorists and pedestrians may proceed unless a specific pedestrian light is in operation.

Yellow or amber light

Caution: red light coming up. If too close to stop safely or you have already entered the intersection, proceed with caution.

Yellow or amber flasher light means SLOW DOWN — and be extra careful of intersecting traffic, whether you have right of way or not. Proceed with caution.

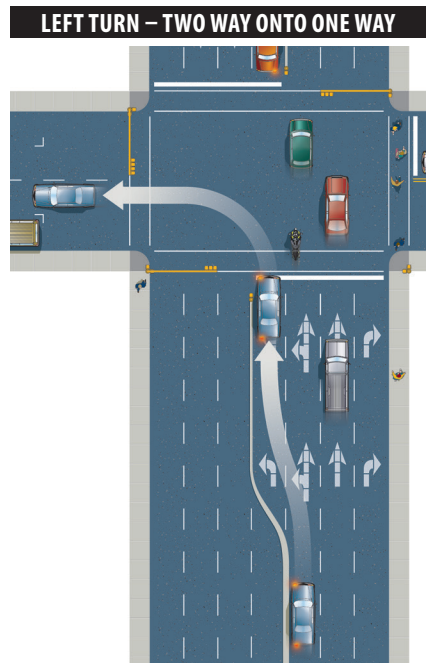
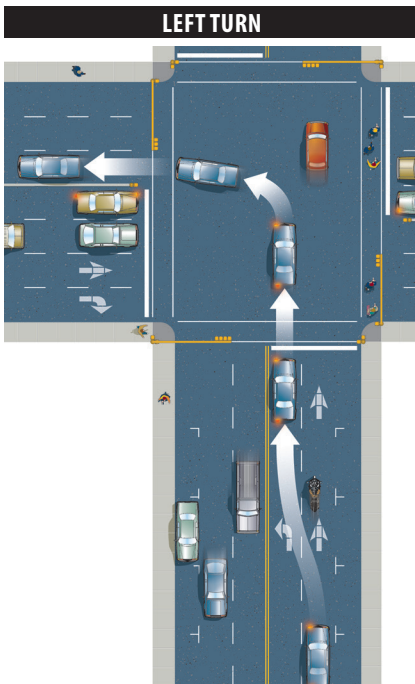


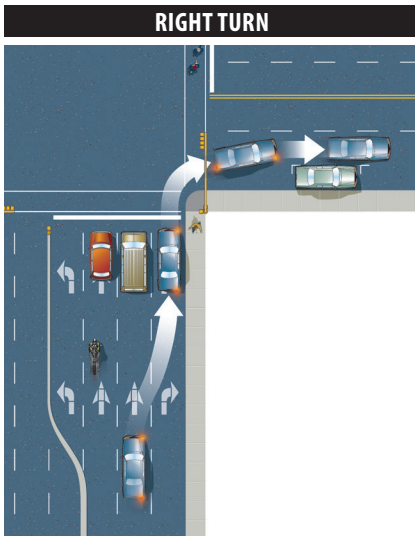
Red light – Green arrow

This signal indicates that motorists may turn cautiously in the direction the arrow is pointing, after yielding to pedestrians and other traffic.

4. Signal your intention to change lanes and to turn.
5. To make the turn safely, slow down before you reach the crosswalk and complete the turn at the same speed at which you entered the intersection. Do not have the brake or clutch pedal pushed down while actually turning. Do not shift gears after entering the intersection.
6. Make the turn. This will be easy if you are in the proper lane and are travelling slow enough at the time you start the turn.
7. Finish the turn in the proper lane which is the lane nearest you.
8. If you are stopped in position to make a left turn and waiting for opposing traffic, do not turn the steering wheel to the left until you are sure you can complete the turn. If you are struck from the rear while stopped with the wheels turned to the left, your car may be pushed into opposing traffic and cause another collision.

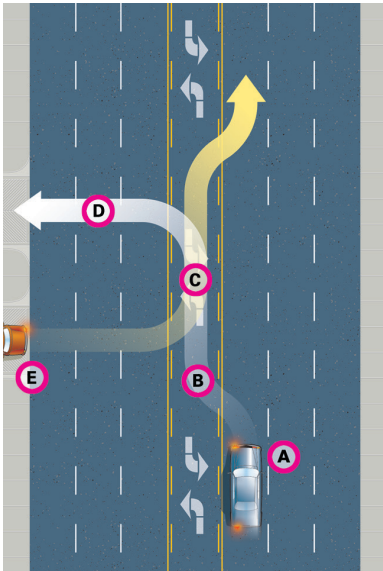
Do not turn from a direct course unless the move is permitted and can be made with safety.





Two-way left-turn lane

The two-way left turn lanes provide traffic from either direction an area to leave the main travelled portion of the street or highway to make a left turn.



To use these lanes position your vehicle **(A)** next to the two-way turn lane, signal your intention to turn left, and reduce your speed. Check traffic in all directions, including your left blind spot. When safe, move left into the two-way left turn lane. **(B)** as near as possible to the point at which the left turn will be made and **(C)** wait for a break in on-coming traffic. When safe, **(D)** complete your left turn.

These lanes also allow for left turns from a driveway (see arrow for car "E").

Remember: Extreme caution should be used. Other vehicles may also be using this lane from the opposite direction. Some

vehicles may block your view of on-coming traffic.

Caution: The two-way left-turn lane is NOT intended as a passing lane.

4.19 Passing on multi-lane streets

Always keep well to the right except when you intend to overtake and pass another vehicle or when you intend to make a left turn. Leave the right lane only when it is safe to do so.

4.20 Parking

When leaving a vehicle standing on a rural highway it must be moved off the paved or main travelled part of the roadway, unless the vehicle is so disabled that it cannot be moved.

It is an offence to park a vehicle on the pavement or main travelled portion of a highway if it can reasonably be parked elsewhere.

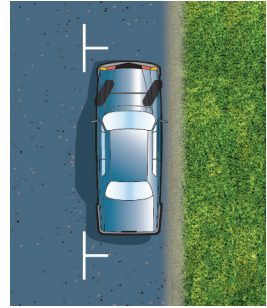
It is an offence to disregard a parking regulation sign. Under no circumstances can a vehicle be parked on a highway unless there are five metres (16 feet) of unobstructed roadway left for the free passage of other traffic and the parked vehicle can be clearly seen for a distance of 60 metres (200 feet) in each direction.

If your vehicle is stopped because it has broken down, you must take precautions to avoid collisions with other vehicles coming toward you.

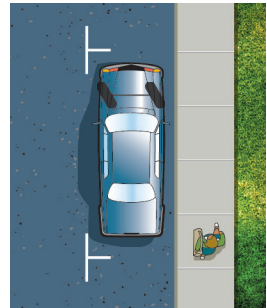
Whenever a vehicle is left unattended, the front wheels should be turned to the curb or side of the highway and the parking brake must be effectively set.

Whenever you park a vehicle on a rural highway at night or whenever lights are required, you must have at least one white or amber light showing from the front on the roadway side of your vehicle and at least one red light showing from the rear on the roadway side of your vehicle.

PARKING ON A HILL



Uphill or downhill
without curb: Steering
wheel turned right.



Uphill with curb: Steering
wheel turned left.



Downhill with curb: Steering
wheel turned right.

SET PARKING BRAKE

Parking regulations

A person is not permitted to stop, stand or park a vehicle, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with law or the directions of a peace officer or traffic-control device in any of the following places:

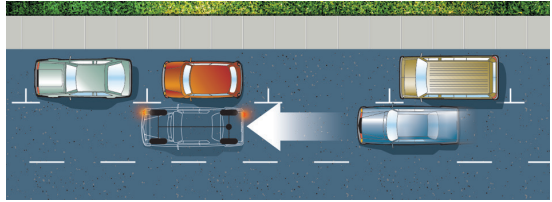
- on a sidewalk;
- in front of a public or private driveway;
- within an intersection;
- within 5 metres (16 feet) from the point on a curb opposite a fire hydrant;
- on a crosswalk;
- within 5 metres (16 feet) of a crosswalk at an intersection;
- within 10 metres (32 feet) upon the approach to any flashing beacon, stop sign or traffic control signal located at the side of a roadway;
- between a safety zone and the adjacent curb or within 10 metres (32 feet) of points on the curb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone, unless the local authority indicates a different length by signs or markings;
- within 15 metres (50 feet) of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing;
- within 10 metres (32 feet) of the driveway entrance to any fire station and on the side of a street opposite to any fire station within 25 metres (82 feet) of said entrance;
- alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic;
- on the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge of a curb of a street;
- upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a highway or within a highway tunnel;
- at any place where official signs prohibit stopping;
- more than 50 centimetres (20 inches) from a curb;
- upon a provincial highway so as to interfere with snow ploughing operations.

Parallel parking

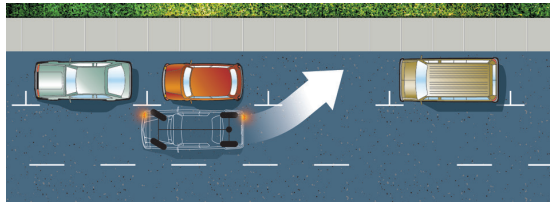
Recent technological advances in newer vehicles provide helpful tools to make parallel parking and backing into a parking space easier. But it is always important to know how to park without these tools, as older vehicles are not equipped with backup cameras or audible signals. With practice, following these rules will make you skilled at the art of parking!

1. Signal your intention.

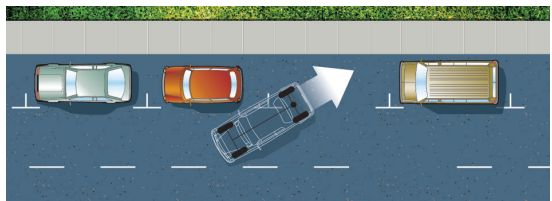
Stop even with car parked ahead of parking spot and about one-half metre (1.5 feet) away from it.



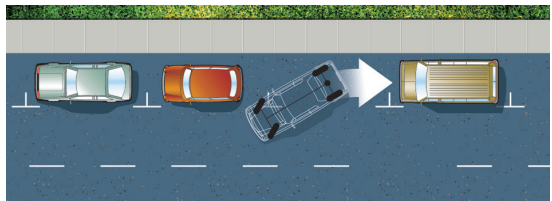
2. Back slowly, turning the wheel sharply to the right.



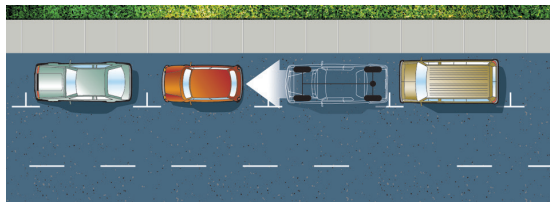
3. Continue to back slowly and straighten your wheels.



4. When the front of your car passes the rear of car ahead, turn wheel to the left — sharply, then gradually — while backing and ensuring clear passage.



5. Straighten wheels and pull up to within 60 centimetres (two feet) of car ahead and close to the curb (no further than 50 cm [20"] from the curb).



4.21 Backing

Backing procedures should be completed at a speed no faster than a person walking quickly.

Backing procedures

1. Keep your foot on the brake pedal and select reverse gear.
2. Do a complete safety scan. Check over your shoulder for other vehicles or pedestrians and check your blind spot.
3. Get in the proper seating position (see photo).
4. Aim well into your intended path of travel.
5. Move slowly, controlling your vehicle with your right or left hand at the 12 o'clock position on the steering wheel.
6. Continue to scan in all directions while backing.



4.22 Miscellaneous traffic provisions

Never carry more passengers in a vehicle than can be safely allowed. Passengers should never be seated in such a way that they obstruct the view of the driver or impede the safe operation of the vehicle.

Coasting a vehicle with the transmission in neutral is prohibited.

No person may deposit any glass, nails, wire, cans or scraps of metals or any rubbish, refuse or waste upon any highway.

No person shall stop a vehicle to load or unload goods other than at the curb or shoulder of the roadway.

Passengers in vehicles

You must not stop a vehicle on the highway or street for the purpose of taking on or letting off passengers other than at the curb or side of the roadway. You must not permit a person to enter a vehicle while it is in motion.

Riding in the back portion of a vehicle

No person shall operate a motor vehicle on a highway with a person riding on a portion of the motor vehicle that is not designed or normally used for carrying passengers unless:

- the motor vehicle is used in a parade that is approved by an appropriate governmental authority;
- the motor vehicle is transporting persons who are working while being transported on the motor vehicle; or
- the motor vehicle is transporting persons to or from a worksite.

These rules also apply to trailers and semi-trailers hauled on a highway by a motor vehicle or a farm tractor.

Intersections and crosswalks

Except when preparing for a turn, do not enter an intersection or a marked crosswalk unless there is enough space in the roadway on the other side of the intersection for your vehicle to completely clear the intersection or marked crosswalk.

4.23 Pedestrians

The driver's responsibility

As the driver of a vehicle you are required to yield the right of way to a pedestrian, which includes a person in a wheelchair, within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at the end of a block, except at intersections where the movement of pedestrian traffic is being regulated by a peace officer or traffic control signs.

Whenever a vehicle has stopped at a marked crosswalk or at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, it is an offence for the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear to overtake and pass the stopped vehicle.

The pedestrian's responsibility

Every pedestrian, which includes a person in a wheelchair, crossing a roadway at any point other than within a marked or unmarked crosswalk at the end of a block, is required to yield the right of way to vehicles upon the highway.

At an intersection where traffic is controlled by traffic signals, it is an offence for a pedestrian to disobey the instruction of any traffic signal placed in accordance with the *Motor Vehicle Act* unless otherwise directed by a peace officer.



Walk light – Pedestrian traffic facing this signal may only proceed in the crosswalk and all other traffic must yield the right of way to the pedestrian traffic.

Don't walk – Pedestrian traffic facing this signal must not proceed across the intersection.



4.24 Traffic on the highway

Sharing the road

When driving, remember that there are many different users of our streets and highways. It is everyone's responsibility to be aware and adjust to the presence and actions of others: passenger car drivers, truck drivers, motorcycle drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians, school bus drivers and emergency vehicle operators.

The safety of all road users is shared. The more we make ourselves aware of and accept this responsibility, the safer we will make our streets and highways.

Walking on the highway

Where sidewalks are provided a pedestrian shall not walk along or upon an adjacent highway.

When sidewalks are not provided any pedestrian walking along and upon a highway must, when practical, walk only on the left side of the roadway or its shoulder facing traffic which may approach from the opposite direction.



Wearing
dark clothing



Carrying a
hankerchief



Wearing
medium clothing



Wearing retro-
reflective material

Pedestrian safety

Pedestrians walking on unlighted highways after dark should carry a light or wear light coloured clothing.

In snow conditions, it is advisable to wear some dark clothing.

Retro-reflective material

Retro-reflective material can be seen at several hundred metres away. This material reflects light from a vehicle's headlights back towards the driver.

Thumbing rides

It is an offence for any person to stand in a roadway for the purpose of soliciting a ride from the driver of a private vehicle.

4.25 Horseback riding

Horseback riders and drivers of horse drawn vehicles are permitted to use streets and roadways unless restricted by signs.

The rider/driver should travel with traffic, as far to the right as possible, obey all signs and signals that apply. Riders should always observe stop signs and use the appropriate hand signals when crossing the road. It is not permitted to ride horseback on the sidewalk, to race the animal or to leave the horse unattended.

Remember, a horse is sometimes unpredictable. Be alert, slow down and give plenty of room until you have safely passed.

Part 5: Safe driving

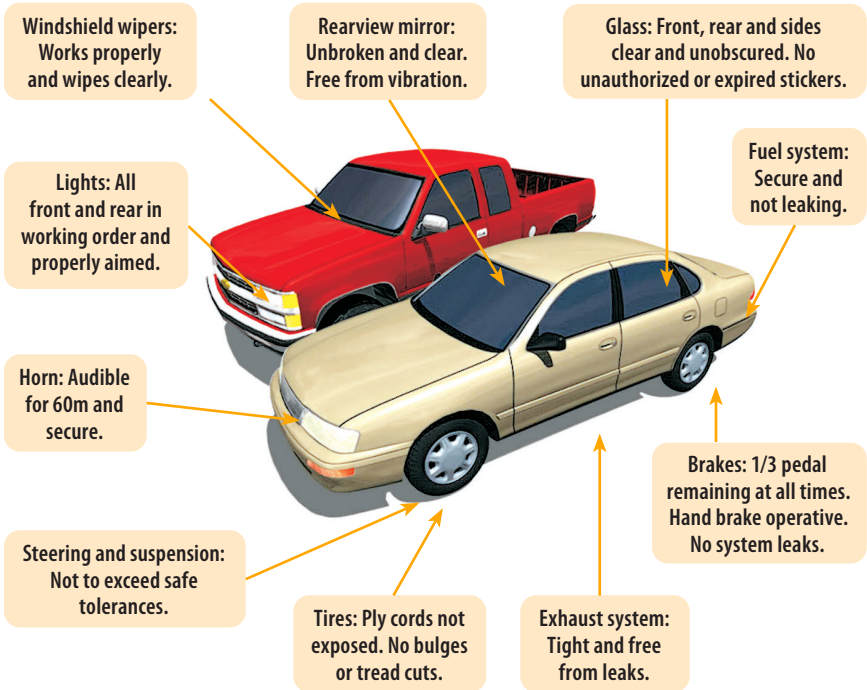
5.1 The vehicle

Your vehicle must be maintained in good mechanical condition to be operated safely. The parts indicated in the diagram particularly affect the safe operation of the vehicle and should be checked regularly by qualified mechanics.



Regular check-ups and careful maintenance will prolong the life of your car.

Remember that you cannot drive safely in an unfit car.



5.2 Check your vehicle

Yes No

- Brakes – Do they hold promptly and evenly? Will the parking brake hold the car?
- Head Lights – Do the dimming switch and both upper and lower beams work? Are lights aimed to avoid glare? Is the glass clean?
- Rear and Stop Lights – Do bulbs work? Do brakes operate stop lights? Is the glass clean and do they show a red light?
- Tires – Are they properly inflated? Do you check regularly for worn treads, cuts and breaks?
- Windshield Wipers – Do they always operate and wipe glass clean?
- Muffler and Exhaust System – Is it free of worn spots, tight and quiet?
- Steering – Is the steering wheel free of excess play? Wheel bearings tight? Wheels properly aligned and balanced?
- Glass – Is it clear and clean? Is it free from cracks, discoloration or stickers that obscure your vision?
- Horn – Does it work?
- Rear View Mirror – Does it give you a clear view of the road behind? Is it free from cracks and discoloration?

5.3 Seat belts save lives

All passengers that occupy a position within a vehicle equipped with seatbelts must wear a seatbelt. The number of passengers is limited to the number of operating seatbelts. Violations for not limiting the number of passengers to the number of operating seatbelts will result in a fine.

Drivers must ensure that passengers under 16 years of age use seat belts in vehicles equipped with seatbelts. Passengers age 16 years and older are responsible for buckling up themselves.

Children must be buckled into proper child safety seats which are fastened to the vehicle by a seat belt and any other straps specified by the manufacturer



until they reach one of the following thresholds:

- age of nine;
- weight of 36 kg (79 lbs.);
- height of 145 cm (57 inches).

Taxis, emergency vehicles and buses are exempt from these provisions.

In vehicles equipped with a passenger front air bag, caution should be used in securing a child restraint system in that location. Most vehicle and child car seat manufacturers advise not to use this location and stress using the rear seating positions.

Consult the owner's manuals of your vehicle and child car seat.

Shoulder belts should never be worn without a regular lap belt. Seat belts should be worn and properly adjusted as specified in your owner's manual.

DID YOU KNOW?...

Transport Canada recommends that children 12 years and under be properly restrained in the back seat, especially if the vehicle is equipped with side air bags.



All new vehicles are equipped with seat belts that must be worn by the drivers and passengers. Many cars are also equipped with air bags. Air bags give additional protection from serious injury in head-on collisions where the driver and front seat passenger may strike the steering wheel, dashboard or windshield. Seat belts must be used in conjunction with air bags.

5.4 Penalties for seat belt infractions

Police officers throughout New Brunswick may check at any time for seat belt usage by drivers and passengers. Drivers are not assessed points for other passengers but they will be charged for those under 16 who are not wearing a seat belt. Passengers over the age of 16 are charged for the offence with no loss of points.

If a driver is convicted for not wearing a seat belt, they must pay a fine and will be assigned a loss of two points on their driving record. While it is an offence for

a passenger to not wear a seat belt, there is no assessment of points against a passenger's licence or the driver should a passenger not be wearing a seat belt.

5.5 Preparing your vehicle for winter driving



Winterize your car and your driving habits. Have these items carefully checked and repaired if necessary.

Radiator

Check for leaks and proper level of anti-freeze.

Battery

Cold weather starts adding an extra strain on battery life. Check the charge and the water level in the battery.

Brakes

Have them adjusted or serviced if necessary. Be sure all four brakes are engaging equally. On icy roads, poorly adjusted brakes can cause your car to skid dangerously.

Muffler

Have it checked for leaks. A leaking muffler or exhaust system can create a carbon monoxide hazard, particularly if you are stalled in traffic or a blizzard. Never start your car in a closed garage. If you start to yawn, have a headache, feel dizzy, weary or nauseated while driving or parked, turn off the motor, get out of the car and walk around. Open your window to let fresh air into your vehicle.

Tires

Check them and replace any damaged or bald tires. Verify condition to ensure sufficient tread to make the vehicle safe in various ice and snow conditions. Winter driving is safer with snow tires or studded tires. However, the use of studded tires may cause more of a skid in an emergency stop than rubber tires, depending on road conditions.

DID YOU KNOW?...

You are permitted to use studded tires from October 15 to April 30 of each year.

For added traction and steering control you should mount snow tires on all four wheels. A good compromise would be all-season radials with sufficient tread depth to self-clean in snow and slush conditions. Do not mix radials with non-radial snow tires. Consult your Owner's Manual.

Tire chains may also be carried in the vehicle for use in ice and snow conditions. The use of chains may also cause more of a skid in an emergency stop.

Windshield wipers and heater/defroster

Be sure your wiper blades are in good working condition. Ensure rubber is not broken or worn. Check your heater/defroster unit to be sure it is in proper working order.

5.6 The driver

The most common causes of highway crashes in New Brunswick are:

- Inattention/driver distraction
- Operating too fast for conditions
- Failure to grant right of way
- Impaired driving
- Obstructed view
- Following too closely
- Improper use of lanes

Safe driving — meaning the avoidance of crashes — is the result of a combination of attitude and skill on the part of the individual driver. Skill is acquired largely through proper instruction and careful practice. In addition, if you strictly observe the law and develop an attitude of consideration for others you can help eliminate most highway crashes. Remember, you should always adjust your speed according to the conditions of the road.

Distracted driving

The use of hand-held electronic devices while operating a motor vehicle is prohibited. This includes hand-held mobile devices for calling or texting, portable global positioning systems (GPS) and entertainment devices such as video game players and mp3 players.

The law also prohibits the manual programming or adjusting of any GPS unit while driving. In addition, television-style display screens, monitors, DVD players and computer screens are not permitted within the visual range of the driver

unless they are part of a GPS unit or provide information to the driver on the vehicle's various operating systems.

Speed

Speed too fast for conditions is one of the greatest causes of crashes.

Speed limits indicate the maximum speed at which it is safe to drive under ideal conditions and other conditions listed below can only be met safely by a reduction in speed:

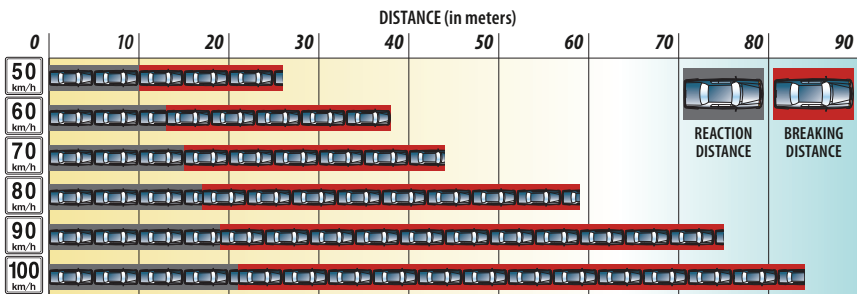
- Poor visibility
- Wet or slippery highway
- Pedestrians (adults and children) and/or animals on or near the highway
- Heavy traffic
- Fatigue, illness, nervous tension (these could be reasons not to drive at all)

The higher the speed, the longer it takes to stop a vehicle and the greater the force of impact in the event of collision. When the speed is doubled, the impact on striking an object is four times as great.

Stopping

Stopping a vehicle is a complex operation which is performed in two stages:

1. The driver must see a reason for stopping. To see the reason for an emergency stop calls for continual close attention to the road and traffic conditions when driving.
2. As the driver, you must react quickly. You must take your foot off the gas pedal and apply the brakes. The time required for this varies slightly with individual drivers. Under normal conditions, the average reaction time is about 3/4ths of a second. In 3/4ths of a second your car travelling at 50 km/h will go 10 metres (about two car lengths) before you can even start to apply the brakes.



Note: Data based in tests of cars having brakes in first class condition and on dry level asphalt surfaces. Reaction distance is based on average reaction time of three-quarters of a second.

Driving posture

Proper handling and control of a vehicle only happens when the driver keeps a good erect posture.

- *Adjusting the seat:* The seat can be moved backward and forward to fit the leg length of each driver (some cars with power seats can also be moved up and down). The seat should be adjusted to allow the driver to sit comfortably in a relaxed position and to reach all the pedals and controls easily.
- *Adjusting the mirrors:* It is essential that all mirrors be adjusted so the driver has good visibility to see traffic behind and cover as many blind spots as possible.
- *Adjusting seat belts:* Seat belts should be adjusted properly and not worn loosely. Injuries could result if seat belts are not worn properly.
- *Headrest:* Ensure that the headrest is properly adjusted.
- *Controls:* Become familiar with and locate all interior controls before starting (i.e. wipers, horn, heater, lights, etc.).
- *Foot controls:* Always use your right foot to operate the accelerator and brake pedal. Your right heel should rest on the floor at the base of the accelerator pedal so that it can easily be moved to the brake pedal, when necessary. Use the left foot for operating the clutch in standard gear shift vehicles.
- *Steering wheel:* Keep both hands on the steering wheel, usually at the 10 and 2 o'clock positions.

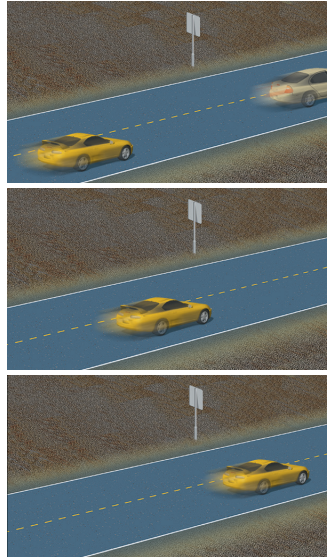


Following

Following too closely or tailgating is a frequent cause of highway collisions. To drive safely you must leave sufficient space between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead so that you can stop in the event of an emergency.

The **two-second interval** is a good way to learn to recognize safe following distance. Just watch the vehicle ahead of you pass some definite point on the highway, such as a sign post. Then count to yourself “one thousand and one, one thousand and two”. If you pass that same spot before you finish the count, you are following too closely. This holds true at any speed. This rule applies to favourable driving conditions. Unfavourable conditions call for lower speed and a longer count.

Another equally valid system is to allow at least one car length for each 20 km of speed.



Defensive driving

Defensive driving means driving in anticipation of possible collision situations and being prepared to avoid them.

Many collisions cannot be avoided once they have begun to develop but they might have been avoided if the driver had anticipated and guarded against them. Watch for signs of possible hazards such as:

- A ball bouncing on the street may mean a child or animal running out into the roadway;
- Exhaust smoke coming from a vehicle could indicate a driver ready to pull out;
- A vehicle approaching a stop sign or red light at an obviously fast rate of speed may not stop;
- Brake lights flashing in a line of traffic means you should be prepared to stop.

Always watch for any other indication of what a driver or pedestrian might do.

The essence of defensive driving is to reduce your own driving mistakes and to anticipate the mistakes of others (drivers and pedestrians) and guard against them.

Animals on the highway

Animal crossing signs warn drivers where there is a known danger of large animals, such as moose and deer crossing the roads. Drivers should use caution especially at dawn and dusk. Animals are unpredictable so reduce your speed. Stay alert and scan both sides of the road, not just the pavement in front of you.

5.7 White cane

By law, the use of the white cane is restricted to people with visual impairment. When you see a pedestrian with a white cane you should exercise extreme caution.

Remember, you can see them but they cannot see you.

5.8 Crash

Some day you may be driving along a highway and come upon a serious collision. Very likely your first instinct will be to run to the car involved and start removing people. Both medical and collision records show that efforts of untrained rescuers often aggravate the injuries caused by the collision. Use the following information as a guide.

DID YOU KNOW?...

At 30 km/h the impact is the same as if your car fell from the top of a one storey building. At 60 km/h (double the speed) the impact is the same as if your car fell from the top of a four storey building (four times the force of impact).

If you arrive first at a collision

Prevent a second crash. Pull completely off the road far enough away from the crash scene to protect the vehicles from further collisions with other cars. Display your four-way flashers to warn other vehicles.

If you have a mobile phone, call 9-1-1. Remain calm. Identify your location and describe the scene. Follow the directions of the 9-1-1 operator. Stay on the phone until you are directed to hang up.

Do not move the injured. Unless they are in a burning car or other immediate danger, leave them in the car until trained help arrives. Do not twist or turn them. Unnecessary moving often complicates injuries. If a driver is trapped by a steering wheel, the pressure can be eased by releasing the seat catch and pulling the seat back.

If you are not trained in first aid, you can help the injured by:

- covering them with blankets or coats to keep them warm;
- loosening collars, ties and belts to help the injured to breathe more easily;
- calming them by talking to them and telling them that help is on the way.

Reduce fire hazard. Turn off the ignition of the damaged vehicles. Keep smokers away. In case of fire, try to put it out with a fire extinguisher, dirt or a heavy fire retardant blanket. Caution must be used when approaching a burning vehicle.

Attend first... to anyone who is not breathing or who is bleeding severely. To stop the bleeding put the cleanest available pad directly on the wound and apply pressure. Use a cloth, handkerchief or clothing. If the pad becomes blood-soaked, leave it on, put another on top of it. Maintain pressure until professional help arrives.

Artificial Respiration

In a real emergency, to help a person start breathing:

1. Remove anything in the person's mouth that might block air. Tilt the head back, pull chin upward so tongue does not fall back to block airway.
2. Pinch nose shut. Seal mouth with yours. Blow into mouth. Give a full breath for an adult, and a gentle breath for an infant.
3. Remove mouth, take deep breath, blow in air again – every five seconds for an adult, every three seconds for an infant.
4. If chest fails to rise and you hear no exhaling, recheck mouth for possible blockage, again tilt head back, pull chin up and start the technique again.
5. If you cannot obtain a tight seal over the person's mouth, close mouth and breathe into nose. For an infant, breathe into both mouth and nose.
6. Continue effort until professional help is on hand or until the injured person is breathing.



Otherwise, unless you are trained and know how to perform first aid properly, you should leave it up to someone who does know.

5.9 Impaired driving

Impaired driving — consuming alcohol and/or drugs before getting behind the wheel — is one of the greatest contributing factors in motor vehicle fatalities.

Drivers who are impaired by drugs or alcohol do not have complete control over themselves and therefore cannot be in control of a vehicle. As a driver you have responsibility to yourself, your passengers and other road users. The passengers in your vehicle are usually your family and friends.

All motorists in New Brunswick under the age of 21 must maintain a zero percent Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) while driving. There is also a zero tolerance program in place for drug-impaired driving for novice drivers and those under 21 years of age.

In addition to loss of driving privileges, a conviction for impaired driving could result in higher insurance rates, difficulty obtaining insurance or loss of employment for the convicted driver. There are also tragic consequences, such as serious injury, disability and the loss of life.

Alcohol

Alcohol can affect you in different ways, depending on your body weight, your emotional state, your diet, and if you are also taking prescription or recreational drugs. The most important factors contributing to alcoholic impairment are the amount of alcohol absorbed into the blood and the amount of time allowed for the elimination of this alcohol. This rate is affected by other factors such as body weight, the quantity and type of food in the stomach and the type of alcoholic beverage consumed.

Another danger develops when the alcohol starts to “wear off”. You can easily convince yourself that you no longer feel the effects and are perfectly sober. This state of mind is a delusion. You are comparing your peak feeling of impairment with the declining impairment that you feel as your body eliminates the alcohol from the blood. But you are not sober. You are only making a dangerous comparison.

Drugs and medication

Drugs — both legal and illicit — can impair your ability to operate a vehicle safely.

Some prescription or over-the-counter drugs are known to cause inattention and drowsiness, such as those used to treat common infections like colds or flu. Avoid driving if you are taking these medications, and never mix with alcohol.

Make the safe decision

Drugs and alcohol impair your ability to drive by affecting your motor skills, reaction time, attention and judgment. If you plan to consume alcohol or cannabis, do it responsibly. Plan for a safe ride home: have a designated driver, take a cab or use public transit.

Consequences for drug-impaired driving

Police officers who stop a driver showing signs of impairment by drugs — including cannabis — have the power to seize vehicles and suspend a driver's licence on the spot.

Consequences for anyone caught driving under the influence of legal or illegal drugs include:

- Immediate short-term roadside suspensions;
- An administrative licence suspension program for those charged with or convicted of drug-impaired driving;
- Discretionary and mandatory vehicle impoundment for short-term and administrative licence suspensions;
- Participation in a re-education course for impaired drivers;
- Licence reinstatement fees.

Consequences for alcohol-impaired driving

It is prohibited under the Criminal Code of Canada to drive with a blood-alcohol concentration (BAC) of 80 milligrams or more (mg) of alcohol per 100 millilitres (ml) of blood (0.08 percent or more). However, if you are caught driving with a BAC level within the “warning range” of 0.05 and 0.08 percent, you will face penalties under New Brunswick's *Motor Vehicle Act*.

Vehicle Impoundment Program

For a driver caught with a BAC level within the warning range of 0.05 and 0.08, vehicles will be impounded for:

- first offence within five years: three days (discretionary);
- second offence within five years: seven days (discretionary);
- third or more offences within five years: seven days (mandatory).

For a driver caught with a BAC level of 0.08 or over:

- First suspension for blood alcohol content (BAC) 80mg or over – OR - failure or refusal to provide breath sample within 10 years: 30 days (mandatory);
- Previous suspension for blood alcohol content (BAC) 80mg or over – OR - failure or refusal to provide breath sample within 10 years: 60 days (mandatory);
- There is a mandatory seven-day vehicle impoundment period for novice drivers who violate the zero tolerance rule.

Drug-impaired drivers may also have their vehicle impounded for short-term and administrative licence suspensions.

Ignition Interlock Program

Enrollment in the ignition interlock program is mandatory for all drivers convicted for driving while impaired by alcohol or failure or refusal to comply with a demand under the Criminal Code.

An ignition interlock device prevents a driver from starting or driving a vehicle when under the influence of alcohol. Eligible drivers will apply to have interlock devices installed in their vehicles. The driver will be issued a restricted drivers licence which allows the individual to operate only vehicles equipped with an alcohol ignition interlock device. Participants bear the cost of the program.

There is a voluntary program available for drivers suspended for a 30-day short-term licence suspension or a three-month Administrative Licence Suspension for alcohol impaired driving.

The Registrar of Motor Vehicles has the authority to extend the time in the ignition interlock program and grant exemptions, including for medical reasons.

24-hour suspension for driver unfitness

In New Brunswick, police officers have discretion under the *Motor Vehicle Act* to suspend a driver's licence for 24 hours if they have concerns about the safety of the driver and others who share the road.

A police officer who has reasonable grounds to believe that a driver of a motor vehicle is unfit to drive the motor vehicle safely for a medical or other reason may require the driver to stop their motor vehicle for the purpose of determining whether or not there is evidence to justify that belief.

If a police officer believes a driver is unfit to drive a motor vehicle safely for a medical or other reason, the police officer may request the driver to surrender their licence and suspend their driving privilege.

Failure or refusal to comply with a demand

If a police officer has reasonable grounds to suspect a driver is impaired by alcohol or drugs, they may require the person to submit to a standard field sobriety test, provide a sample of breath or bodily substance and/or submit to an evaluation by a Drug Recognition Expert. A conviction for failure or refusal to comply will result in the same penalties as that of a driver convicted of impaired driving.

5.10 Some rules for safe driving

Courteous drivers seldom cause crashes. Use courtesy and common sense while driving. Follow these safe driving rules to reduce crashes:

- You must not assume that you will be given the right of way. The other person may not think that they should grant it.
- Slow moving vehicles must drive to the extreme right and must not impede traffic.
- Do not pass on a hill or curve at any time.
- When stopping is necessary, see that you and your vehicle are clear of the paved surface or close to the curb. Be cautious of traffic when exiting your parked vehicle. Never park on the left side of the roadway facing traffic.
- Know and obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Line markings on the pavement are for your guidance and protection. Where the road is marked with double lines, a solid line on your side prohibits passing. A broken line on your side indicates you may overtake and pass if conditions so warrant. Do not ride the line.
- When approaching an intersection slow down and check in all directions for hazards.
- Except when driving in two or more marked lanes going in the same direction, never pass on the approach to an intersection, a bridge or a railroad crossing.
- When leaving a parked position check oncoming traffic and signal, check your blind spot as well as your mirrors. Pull out only when way is clear, both behind and in front.
- A driver must yield the right of way to a pedestrian in a crosswalk or in an unmarked crosswalk at the end of a block.
- Year after year “speed too fast for conditions” is a major cause of collisions in which the driver is held responsible. The remedy is simple - observe road and weather conditions and adjust your speed accordingly.

- When passing, check for other traffic, ahead and behind. Signal before changing lanes and sound your horn for the driver you are passing.
- On a two lane highway, do not try to pass more than one car at a time.
- Don't follow another car that is passing; allow that driver to complete the pass before you attempt to pass. If you are being passed, give way to the other driver.
- Be extra careful when there are bicyclists and/or motorcyclists on the road.
- Remember to provide one-metre clearance when passing a bicyclist. Do not tailgate. Watch for them in your mirror. They may be riding in your "blind spot".
- Stop driving when you become drowsy. Pull off the highway as soon as it is safe to do so. Drowsiness is one of the greatest dangers in highway driving.
- Avoid distractions while driving, especially on high speed roads. Keep your eyes on the road not on other passengers in the vehicle. Do not drive with animals loose in the car.
- When you leave the highway after a long drive and begin to drive on two-lane highways and/or city streets, you must make a complete adjustment in speed and vision to the changes in driving conditions.

Good drivers do more than comply with the law. Be considerate of other drivers. The life you save may be your own.

Good driving habits and the right vehicle may save you money at the gas pump. For information on fuel-efficient driving techniques and other tools and tips, visit www.tc.canada.ca

Check Your driving habits

Yes **No**

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Traffic laws: Do you know and drive by the rules? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Signs, signals, markings: Do you read and heed the signs that point the way to safety? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stop and turning signals: Do you let other drivers know your intentions? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Traffic lanes: Do you always drive in and turn from the proper lane? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Speed: Do you keep in mind that speed limits are for your protection? Do you glance at your speedometer frequently to ensure you are driving within the speed limit? |

- Bad weather conditions:** Do you always keep an eye on the weather and adjust your driving accordingly? Rain, sleet, snow, ice and fog automatically mean slow down!
- Nighttime:** Do you slow down at sundown?
- Pedestrians:** Are you a driver who always yields to pedestrians?
- Children:** When it comes to traffic, do you always expect the unexpected from children... especially in school zones, near playgrounds and in residential areas?
- Driving sober:** Do you refuse to drive while impaired?

An important safety device in any car... A driver with safe driving habits!

5.11 Highway, weather and visibility conditions

Friction

The only contact your car has with the highway is through the tires and it is the friction between the tires and the highway that enables you to start, stop and control the car. This contact is about equal to the length of the palm of your hand. On a wet or slippery road, this friction is greatly reduced and it becomes correspondingly more difficult to stop or control a vehicle.

If your vehicle is equipped with cruise control, you should avoid using it in wet or slippery conditions.

Stopping on ice

If you apply your brakes suddenly on an icy road your car will go into a skid. If your vehicle is equipped with an anti-lock braking system (ABS), apply steady pressure to the brakes and do not pump the brake pedal.

If you have to stop on a slippery surface and your vehicle does not have ABS, it is advisable to pump the brake pedal — in and out — gradually slowing the vehicle without locking the wheels.

The use of studded tires decreases stopping distance on ice but can also increase the distance in extreme cold temperatures.

How your vehicle responds to a skid depends on whether or not it has rear wheel, front wheel or four-wheel drive. Refer to your vehicle's owner's manual for proper braking procedure.

Rain

Many drivers do not realize that roads are likely to be especially slick just after it begins to rain or drizzle. The first few drops loosen the grease and dirt accumulated on the surface of the road. The loosened grease and dirt mix with the raindrops and the road is quickly covered with a slippery film that makes it extremely dangerous. The first few drops of rain are danger signals telling you to slow down and use extra caution.

Hydroplaning — “water skiing on the highway”

Hydroplaning takes place on wet roads. As speed increases, your tires start to ride up on a film of water. In a passenger car, partial hydroplaning starts at about 55 km/h and increases with speed to about 85 km/h at which point the tires may be totally up on the water. In a severe rainstorm, for example, the tires lose all contact with the road at 85 km/h. When this is the case, there is no friction available to brake, accelerate or corner. A gust of wind, a change of road angle or a slight turn can create an unpredictable and uncontrollable skid.

The best thing to do is to take your foot off the accelerator and let the car slow down. If you skid while your car is only partially hydroplaning, you should be able to control by correcting for the particular type of skid that occurs. If you are totally hydroplaning, follow your natural impulse and steer to keep the car going in its original direction but be careful — DO NOT OVERSTEER. When you feel the car regaining traction start to straighten your wheels but be prepared to handle a skid in the opposite direction.

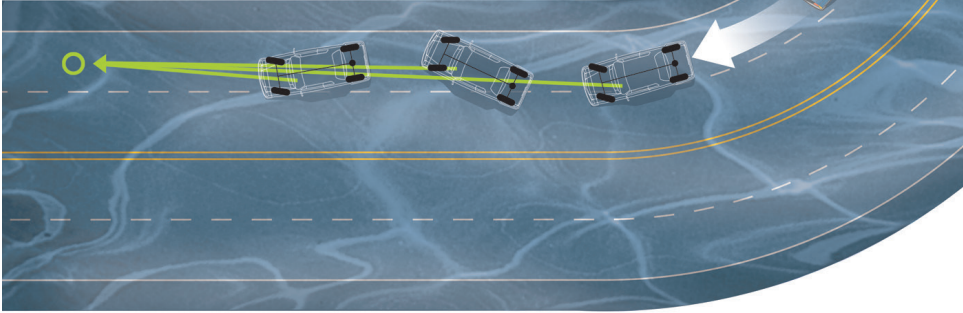
To prevent hydroplaning, it is most helpful to have good tires with deep treads. The treads allow the water to escape from under the tires and tend to prevent complete hydroplaning at normal highway speeds. However, when the depth of the water exceeds the depth of the treads, complete hydroplaning can be expected.

Skids

When tire grip fails, skidding occurs and the driver loses control. Skidding can be caused by:

- excessive speed
- excessive acceleration
- sudden and/or excessive braking
- abrupt steering

To correct a rear-wheel skid, remove your feet from the pedals and steer in the direction of the skid. To correct a four-wheel skid, release the brake. Reapply it gently and increase pressure slowly to avoid locking the wheels again.



Experienced front wheel drive vehicle drivers may find that gentle acceleration will help the vehicle pull out of a rear wheel skid. If the front wheels skid, take your foot off the accelerator. The engine braking effect may slow the car to the point where front end traction is regained. If the skid continues, depress the clutch or select neutral.

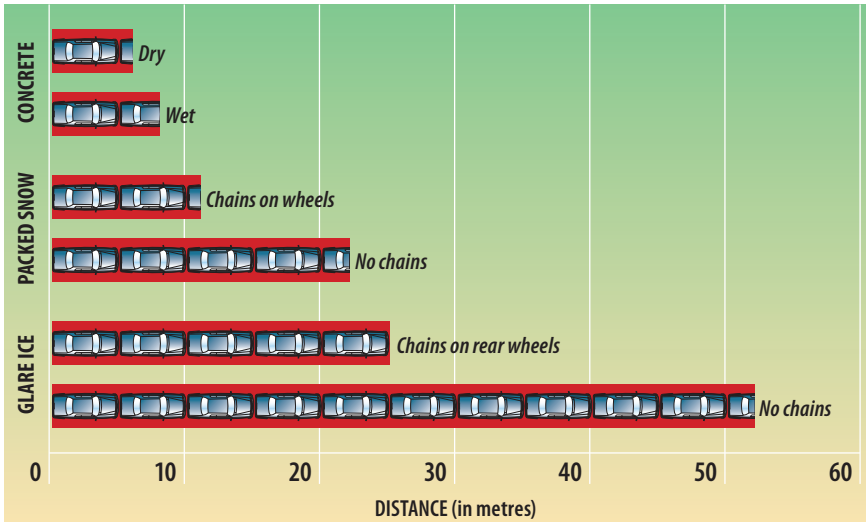
Freely rolling wheels are better able to regain traction.

For added traction and steering control you should mount snow tires on all four wheels. A good compromise would be all-season radials with sufficient tread depth to self-clean in snow and slush conditions. Do not mix radials with non-radial snow tires. Consult your owner's manual.

Rules for winter driving

- *Accept your responsibility* to do all in your power to drive without collisions. Do not blame the weather for a crash. Be prepared to meet any situation.
- *Adjust your speed to conditions* — Slow down on wet, snow covered or icy roads so that you can stop in time if you have to. Watch for ice patches, especially in shaded areas, on bridges and on overpasses.
- *Get the "feel" of the road* — Try brakes occasionally while driving slowly and if away from traffic. Find out just how slippery the road is and adjust your speed to road and weather conditions. Remember, you cannot stop on a dime. Never make sudden moves like slamming on brakes or accelerator. Downshift the gears to slow down for a stop.

Braking distances of a car travelling at 30 km/h



- *Keep the windshield clear* of snow, ice and condensation. Be sure headlights, windshield wiper blades and defrosters are in top working condition. You have to see danger to avoid it.
- *Use snow tires, tire chains or studded tires* on snow and ice. They cut stopping distances and give more starting and climbing traction ability. However, even with the help of chains or studs, slower than normal speeds are a must on snow and ice.
- *How your vehicle responds* to winter weather driving conditions depends on whether or not it has rear wheel, front wheel or four-wheel drive. If your vehicle has an anti-lock braking system (ABS), learn how to use it correctly.
- *Follow at a safe distance* — Keep well back of the vehicle ahead of you to give yourself room to stop. Remember, without tire chains, it takes up to 12 times the distance to stop on snow and ice as on dry concrete.
- *Remember* that condensation on the pavement of bridges and overpasses freezes before the rest of the roadway.

5.12 Intersections

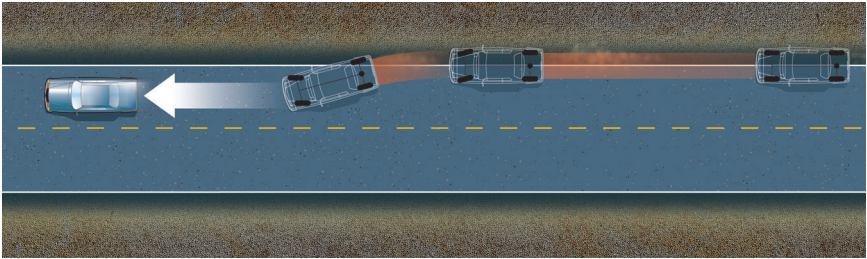
Since a great many collisions occur at intersections, drivers should exercise extra caution when approaching any cross street or road. Always reduce your speed before entering the intersection and check for oncoming traffic and pedestrians, first to the left and then to the right, to make sure the way is clear before proceeding.

5.13 Tire blow-out

If a tire blows out do not apply the brake. Let up on the accelerator. Keep the clutch engaged, make sure you have a firm grip on the steering wheel with both hands and slow down gradually until you have come to a stop. One protection against blow-outs is careful tire maintenance. Check your tires frequently for wear, bulges and proper inflation.

5.14 Running off the pavement

If a wheel runs off the pavement onto the shoulder of the road, remove your foot from the accelerator and steer straight ahead. When the way is clear behind you, turn wheels to the left and drive slowly back onto the pavement. If you jerk the car back on the road too quickly, it may go out of control and swerve into the path of oncoming traffic or overturn.



5.15 Curves

To drive around a curve safely:

1. reduce speed when approaching and
2. gradually accelerate after entering the curve.

Collisions occur when drivers enter at top speed and then attempt to slow down in the curve. If the road is slippery, a slight force would be enough to push the car off the road. If there is an advisory speed posted, slow down to the speed. Never stop, park or make a U-turn in a curve.

Since curves and hills obstruct the view of the road, do not pass or back up in these areas.

5.16 Driving at night

Night driving calls for special care because of reduced visibility. It is particularly important not to overdrive your headlights - that is, to drive at so fast a speed that you cannot stop the car within the distance in which your headlights will reveal objects on the highway. Unless you immediately reduce your speed when deflecting headlight beams, you are driving into a blind area.

DID YOU KNOW?...

It is the law to have your headlights on at all times if your daytime running lights are not operational or your vehicle is not equipped with daytime running lights.

5.17 Driving in fog

Fog is one of the most dangerous driving conditions the driver can encounter. Most drivers recognize the hazards of driving in fog but are unaware of what should be done to increase safety and minimize hazards.

Follow these tips:

1. The very first thing to do when fog is encountered is gradually reduce speed. Avoid sudden stops. Remember that other vehicles - especially trucks - need a greater distance in which to slow down.
2. In dense fog, creep. Most collisions in fog are caused by overdriving visibility distance - in other words, travelling too fast.
3. Drive using low-beam headlights which throw light down onto the road rather than into the fog. Lighted headlights provide an additional safety factor by helping other drivers to see your vehicle. Do not use parking lights under these conditions.
4. When stopping because of poor visibility in fog, be certain to get as far off the road as possible. It's a good idea, especially if traffic is heavy, to get out of the car and move far off the road. Moving off the highway and waiting for the fog to lift is by far the safest thing to do.

It is also wise to use the above practices in conditions of densely falling or blowing snow.

SEE and BE SEEN — TURN ON YOUR HEADLIGHTS!

5.18 Limited access highway

Two lane highway with climbing lane

Slow traffic lanes are designed to allow faster moving traffic to pass slower moving vehicles.

Where a traffic control device directs traffic to use a designated lane, drive in that lane.

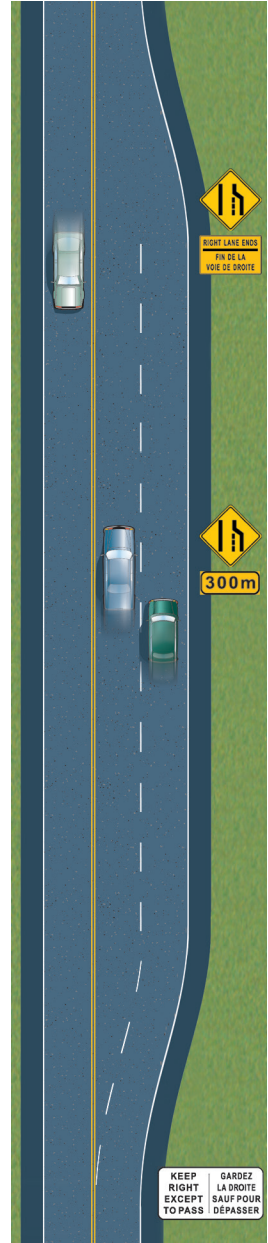
In the situation of either a climbing lane or slow traffic lane, at the end the driver in the right hand lane must yield to the driver in the left lane.

Entrance and exit ramps

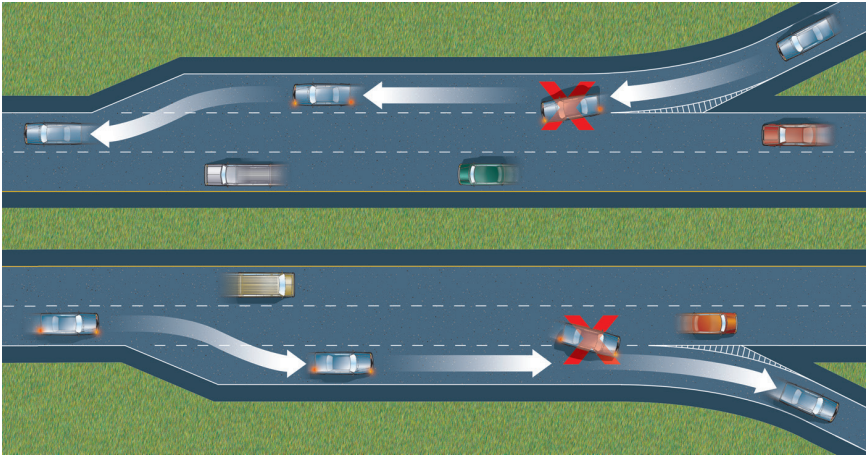
Limited access roads and other multi-lane highways in the city or country are designed for more convenient and safer driving.

However, they are safe only when motorists know and practice the following rules:

1. Plan your route before you use these roads. Follow your guide signs.
2. When approaching exits and interchanges, keep alert - read and obey the signs. Use the proper lanes for leaving or continuing on these highways. If changing lanes, make sure it is safe to do so and give the proper signal.
3. When entering the highway use the acceleration lane to increase speed when merging into through traffic. The driver on the road should be prepared to change to the left lane if it is safe to do so or slow down to allow traffic to enter the highway.
4. Use deceleration lanes to lower speed when exiting the highway.
5. Drive within the minimum and maximum limits unless the traffic or weather conditions make these limits unsafe. Remember, keep a safe following distance. Leave enough space for an emergency stop.
6. Never stop on the travelled portion of the roadway even if you miss an exit.



7. If you pass your exit, drive to the next one. Never back up on a highway.



Continuity lines

Continuity lines are painted on the highway at entry and exit ramps. They indicate the separation between the through lane and the entry/exit ramps. They are wider than the regular lane separation lines and are shown in the graphic.

Intersections

Modern interchanges involving roads which cross each other at different levels may be designed in a number of ways. For example, at a diamond interchange all exits from the main road are to the right. All turning movements are made at the intersections with the minor road.

Zipper Merge



A zipper merge is when a lane of traffic is ending and drivers in that lane are forced to merge into an adjacent one. Executing a zipper merge means going as far as you can in that ending lane until you reach the barrier and then merging with traffic into the other lane. On multi-lane highways or when lane closures are a result of construction or highway maintenance, zipper merging helps to keep the flow of traffic moving.

Part 6: Traffic on the highway – Sharing the road

When driving remember that there are many different users of our streets and highways.

It is everyone's responsibility to watch out for and adjust to the presence and actions of others.

- Passenger car drivers
- Truck drivers
- Motorcycle drivers
- Motor driven cycle drivers (moped)
- Bicyclists
- Pedestrians
- School bus drivers
- Emergency vehicle operators

The safety of all road users is shared. The more we make ourselves aware of and accept this responsibility, the safer we will make our streets and highways.

6.1 Drivers helping other drivers

Driving is a high risk task. It is important to always pay attention — keep your mind on driving — be alert and adjust to the actions of others:

- Keep a safe following distance;
- Avoid tailgating;
- Avoid crowding other vehicles and leave yourself space in case of an emergency.

Check your blind spot and watch for other drivers when turning or changing lanes. Avoid travelling in another vehicle's blind spot.

Avoid sudden or abrupt moves that might confuse other drivers.

Regardless of the speed limit posted, do not drive faster than conditions allow — adjust your speed to weather, road, traffic and vehicle conditions. Winter conditions demand your constant attention — watch for temperature changes, especially at or near the freezing point when roads are most slippery.

6.2 Drivers and large commercial vehicles

Very large vehicles can be intimidating to car drivers. The fact is that it works both ways.

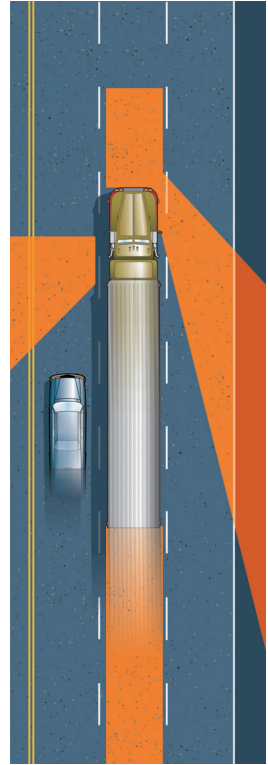
Vehicle drivers

Large vehicles require more space when making turns at intersections.

- Right turn — may require the driver to swing left before turning right. **NEVER** attempt to move into this open space.
- Left turn — may require the driver to swing wide and use all the extra space.
- Heavy vehicles require longer stopping distances and accelerate more slowly. Avoid passing while going down hill. Wait until you are on level ground and the speed has stabilized.
- Large vehicles have very large blind spots — always keep eye contact with the driver. Remember, if you cannot see the driver, the driver cannot see you.
- Allow additional time and distance to pass these vehicles safely.

Large commercial vehicle drivers:

- must have consideration for smaller vehicle drivers.
- do not tailgate, always keep a safe following distance.
- do not attempt to pass unless you have enough time to complete the pass safely.
- be alert while turning for vehicles that may crowd in beside you.
- be alert for smaller vehicles cutting in front of you especially at intersections, driveways, business areas and multi-lane highways.



6.3 Drivers and motorcycles

Vehicle drivers and motorcyclists must share the road and do so safely. Always follow the rules of the road and be alert to the traffic around you.

Vehicle drivers:

- Look for motorcycles; make sure you know what the motorcycle driver is going to do before you make your manoeuvre into their path.

- A motorcycle is entitled to a full highway lane. **NEVER** crowd into the same lane as the motorcycle.
- Motorcycles can stop quicker than other vehicles, therefore allow extra following distance.
- Motorcycles may be difficult to see and can easily disappear in your blind spot — **USE CAUTION**.

Motorcycle drivers:

- Remember your vehicle is small and not easily seen. Make eye contact with other drivers.
- Position yourself to see and be seen - as a rule, ride in the left wheel position and keep a safe following distance.
- Maintain your lane position. Do not zig-zag between cars in traffic.

6.4 Drivers and bicycles

Riders of bicycles must obey the traffic rules and regulations that apply to all road users. Drivers must respect the bicyclist's right to share the road.

Vehicle drivers:

- Bicyclists are at greater risk of death or injury in the event of an accident.– Drive with extreme caution when sharing the road with a cyclist.
- Under the *Motor Vehicle Act*, the driver of a motor vehicle shall not pass a bicycle travelling in the same direction as the motor vehicle, unless there is sufficient space to do so safely. When it is safe to pass, the driver must leave at least one metre (three feet) of open space between the vehicle and the bicycle. Cross the yellow line if safe to do so with no oncoming traffic.
- Do not tailgate or crowd bicyclist.
- Slow down when necessary.
- Check blindspot when turning.
- Avoid driving and parking in bike lanes.
- Look first before opening car doors

DID YOU KNOW...
about Ellen's Law? Failure to provide bicyclists one metre of space is an offence under the *Motor Vehicle Act* and can result in a fine and loss of demerit points.

Bicyclists

Road safety is everybody's responsibility. As a bicyclist, you have an obligation to operate your bike in a safe manner.

- Wear bright colours and lights and reflective clothing at night.

- It is an offence to drive on sidewalks. Bicyclists are subject to the same rules of the road as motor vehicle drivers. A cyclist must drive in the same lane as traffic, as close to the right as possible.
- Ride on the right side of the road or designated bike lanes if available.
- Use hand signals.
- Make eye contact with the driver.
- Bicycles should be equipped with a headlight, reflectors and a horn or bell
- It is against the law to ride a bicycle without a helmet.

6.5 Drivers and pedestrians

Vehicle drivers

Remember that pedestrians are extremely vulnerable to death or injury in a collision with a motor vehicle.

- Drivers must give the pedestrian the right of way in a crosswalk, unless otherwise indicated by a sign or signal.
- Pedestrians may not act as you expect – expect the unexpected. Be alert.
- Persons with disabilities may take longer to cross the street – give them enough time.
- Never pass a vehicle yielding to a pedestrian at a crosswalk.

Pedestrians:

- Always stop and make eye contact with drivers. Check ahead, left, right and behind for other vehicles.
- Always look behind the one car you see for passing vehicles - learn to expect the unexpected.
- Cross the street briskly. Do not run.
- At night, wear light coloured or reflective type clothing so drivers can see you better.
- Do not rely on the driver for your own safety.
- Obey all traffic signals, use crosswalks and sidewalks.

Important note:

Drivers must always be aware that pedestrians can be hidden in the vehicle's blind spot:

- behind the rear view mirror.
- beside the door pillars.
- to the sides of the vehicle.
- in front of and behind the vehicle. Do a circle check before starting your vehicle.

6.6 Drivers and school buses

Transportation of school students is an important part of our education system and requires the co-operation of all drivers.

Vehicle drivers

School buses are specially marked and have alternating flashing lights.

- Alternating flashing amber lights are to be used 150 metres (500 feet) before the school bus stops to pick up children. Be alert for students.
- Alternating flashing red lights are used when the school bus is stopped, while picking up or discharging students.
- Except on a road divided by a median, all drivers meeting or coming up behind a stopped school bus must stop at least 5 metres from the school bus and not proceed until the red lights are no longer flashing.

It is illegal to pass a school bus displaying the alternating flashing red lights.

School bus drivers:

- School bus drivers should be courteous and assist in maintaining the flow of traffic.
- Be alert for passing motorists when picking up or discharging students.
- Train your students to be alert and cautious when using the school bus.
- All drivers hired to transport children to and from school must obtain a "B" or "C" endorsement on their driver's licence.

Drivers of school buses must stop before proceeding through a railway crossing unless otherwise indicated.

6.7 Drivers and emergency vehicles

Drivers of emergency vehicles and other vehicle drivers must share the responsibility of assisting in dealing with emergencies.

Drivers:

When approached by an emergency vehicle using siren and flashing lights:

- Pull over to the right and come to a complete stop. Allow the emergency vehicle to proceed.
- Yield the right of way to emergency vehicles at intersections.
- It is an offence to follow an emergency vehicle within 150 metres (500 feet).

- When an emergency vehicle is stopped on the highway and has its flashing lights on, drivers must pay particular attention to allow emergency responders to do their job safely. Move over for emergency vehicles — *it is the law!*
- Slow down and proceed with caution;
- Make sure it is safe to proceed, then move over to the left, away from the emergency vehicle;
- If there are two or more lanes of traffic, the driver must move into the other lane if it can be done safely. This will ensure that drivers won't collide with an authorized emergency vehicle or endanger anyone outside the emergency vehicle.

DID YOU KNOW?...

Failure to move over for an authorized emergency vehicle could result in a fine and the loss of demerit points under the *Motor Vehicle Act*.

Emergency vehicle drivers:

- May only use siren and flashing lights when responding to an emergency.
- Are required to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highways at all times.

6.8 Drivers and farm vehicles

Agriculture is a part of life in New Brunswick, and from time to time you may see farm equipment on our roads and highways. When approaching, it can be difficult for other drivers to determine the rate of speed at which the farm equipment is traveling.

Three major types of accidents involving farm equipment include:

- rear end collisions with moving vehicles;
- collisions at intersections where the direction of movement of the farm vehicle was difficult to recognize; and
- overtaking a farm vehicle that is turning left.

As a result, regulations are in place regarding the safe movement of farm vehicles. It is important that all other road users be familiar with safe driving practices when in the presence of such vehicles:

- **BE ALERT!** — Watch for slow moving farm equipment and adjust your speed accordingly. Give these drivers the courtesy that you would expect if you were driving the equipment.
- **BE AWARE!** — Look for any farm lanes near the highway and watch for signs indicating high volumes of agricultural equipment. When you encounter slow-moving equipment, slow down, keep your distance and assess the situation.

- **DO NOT PASS!** — First ensure that the operator of the farm equipment is fully aware of your intentions. Be sure that the way is clear. Always check your rear view mirror for other approaching vehicles that may be traveling at a faster rate than you.
- **BE PATIENT!** — Often, these large farm vehicles will not be able to respond to you immediately. It may be impossible for the equipment to move over right away if there are obstructions or soft shoulders on the road.

A note to farm vehicle operators Except when directly crossing the highway, every farm tractor and self-propelled implement of husbandry and any other type of vehicle prescribed by Regulation, when operating on a highway or any vehicle towed by them, shall have a slow-moving vehicle sign, as prescribed by regulation, attached to the rear in accordance with the Regulations.

6.9 Sharing the road with large trucks

Whether they are accelerating, braking, climbing a hill, switching lanes or turning onto a side street, tractor-trailers and large trucks must perform certain manoeuvres that all motorists need to understand.

A typical tractor-trailer combination — a power unit pulling a loaded semi-trailer — may weigh up to 49,500 kilograms.

Depending on the trailer the total length of the combination may exceed 23 metres. On the busiest intercity routes a motorist may encounter double trailer combinations (B-trains) up to 25 metres in length and weighing up to 62,500 kilograms.

These large trucks, at a traffic light, accelerate much slower than the typical late-model car. The truck may have to go through nine to 18 gears – a relatively lengthy process – to reach the speed limit. The truck may have two or three times more power than a car but with 31,750 kilograms or more of trailer and cargo behind it, a truck engine must move 30 to 50 times more weight than a car engine.

Braking

Most motorists understand that a semi-trailer will take more time and distance to brake to a stop than a car travelling at the same speed. But how much more? Typically, a passenger sedan travelling 90 kilometres per hour stops in 56 metres while a sleeper-cab tractor with a loaded trailer requires a minimum 60 metres.

It takes almost as long to stop a “bobtail” – a tractor running without its trailer – as it does to stop a loaded tractor-trailer combination. Without the weight of a trailer on its rear wheels, the bobtail comes to a stop only after travelling 56 metres.

When motorists do not understand the physical forces that act on trucks, the resulting confusion can have serious consequences. Using the example of a bobtail’s braking distance, our “instincts” tell us that a lightly loaded truck should have less momentum and a shorter stopping distance than one carrying a heavy load - and that a bobtail should stop fastest of all.

Braking distances are increased by two additional factors: reaction time and brake lag. Reaction time is the number of seconds it takes a driver to recognize a problem and take the appropriate action.

The average reaction time of most people is three-quarters of a second. At 90 kilometres per hour, a truck will travel 18 metres before the driver applies the brakes.

Brake lag, the period between the application of the foot valve and the time the brakes react to maximum brake efficiency, is more evident in trucks. The hydraulic brakes on cars and smaller trucks engage almost immediately. In tractor-trailers, however, the air-brake systems that transmit braking power from the tractor to the trailer are subject to a lag that can add many metres to the stopping distance.

A combination truck travelling at 90 kilometres per hour with a full load under ideal conditions will travel a total of 102 metres before coming to a complete stop. With hot brakes, the distance will be even longer, in excess of 103 metres. A tractor-trailer of any kind takes far longer to stop than does a passenger car and motorists must take this into account while driving.

Braking characteristics are not the only way in which motorists may be confused by a truck’s actions.

Turning characteristics have the same effect. For example, many motorists following a semi-trailer assume that if the truck moves to the left it is preparing to make a left turn.

In fact, semi-trailers often swing out to the left as the first step in making a right turn. Particularly when making a tight turn at an urban intersection or when pulling off the street into a driveway, the tractor must swing to the left first to

prevent the trailer from riding up over the curb or striking vehicles in the parking lane. Unprepared motorists, however, sometimes misinterpret this preliminary swing to the left as the beginning of a left turn that will allow them to pass the truck on the right. When the truck proves to be turning right, the smaller vehicle is trapped between the truck and the curb in the “right turn squeeze”.

When following a truck, observe its turn signals before trying to pass on the right at an intersection.

A trucker’s blind spots

One of the most serious misjudgments motorists make about trucks concerns a trucker’s field of vision. Many motorists believe that because a truck driver sits twice as high as the driver of a smaller vehicle, the truck driver can see farther ahead and can react more promptly to events as they develop. While the truck driver has a better view over the top of any cars ahead of them, they also have serious blind spots motorists do not have – immediately in front, on either side of the cab and up to 60 metres in the rear.

A truck driver cannot see over or through another tractor trailer in front of them any better than a motorist can and may have a limited view of the road directly in front of their cab. If they are driving a tractor with a long hood, they may not be able to see the first six metres of concrete in front of their bumper – ample space for a car to slip unnoticed into a position of danger. Even on some of the more streamlined tractors with sloped hoods or with no front hood (called cab-overs), there can be a blind spot of up to 3 metres.

The blind spots on the sides and in the rear hamper a truck driver’s ability to take evasive action to avoid collisions, so motorists must be careful to ensure their vehicle will be seen. An often-cited rule of thumb for motorists overtaking a semi-trailer is, if you cannot see the truck driver in their side mirror, they cannot see you.

Part 7: Traffic Signs

Many collisions and near crashes occur as a result of drivers who ignore or fail to respond appropriately to traffic signs. It is essential that the meaning of traffic signs be interpreted correctly. Signs are classified according to their function: regulatory, warning and information.

The easiest way to identify traffic signs is to learn to recognize their shapes and colours. For safe driving, you must recognize and obey traffic signs without hesitation.

A sign-conscious driver is a safe driver. Keep a constant look-out for signs as you move your eyes in the field of view ahead of you.

7.1 Six basic sign shapes every driver must know



Stop

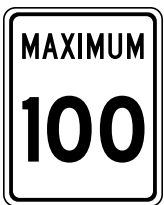
The stop sign, a red octagon with white lettering, means come to a full stop and be sure the way is clear before proceeding.



Yield

Yield Right of Way signs are triangular and have a red border on a white background.

A yield sign means you must reduce speed when approaching an intersection. Give right of way and stop if necessary if any other traffic is in, or closely approaching, the intersection.



Regulatory

Regulatory signs are white rectangles or squares with black or other coloured lettering. These signs state the law, such as speed limits, parking regulations and turning and passing movements.



Warning

Warning signs are diamond shaped and are yellow or orange with black letters or symbols. They warn of dangerous or unusual conditions ahead, such as a curve, turn, dip or side road.



Railway Crossing

The crossbuck is the traditional symbol at roadway-railway crossings. Signs with a red reflective border on a white reflective background have replaced the older sign with "Railway Crossing" in black lettering.



School Zone

The fluorescent yellow five-side (pentagonal) sign indicates a school zone. When children are present in a school zone, slow down, watch for children and exercise extreme caution. The maximum speed permitted is 50 km/h unless otherwise posted.

Regardless of the speed limit posted in a school area, your speed must be reasonable and prudent for existing conditions.

7.2 Standard sign colours

Each colour has a particular meaning.



Red — Stop or prohibition



Blue — Attraction/tourism information or motorist services



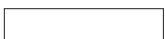
Green — Indicates traffic movement such as turns which are permitted or directional guidance



Yellow — General warning danger/caution



Fluorescent yellow — School zone and school crosswalk ahead signs



White — Regulatory



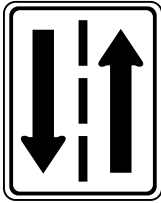
Orange — Construction and maintenance warning

7.3 Regulatory Signs

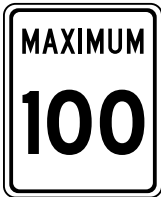
Regulatory signs inform drivers of laws and regulations affecting the use of the highway. It is an offence under the *Motor Vehicle Act* to disregard them.



One-way street or highway



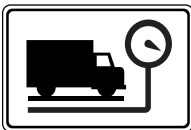
Two-way traffic



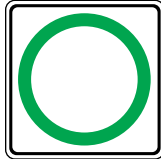
The maximum speed allowed under ideal conditions



Advance warning of a lower maximum speed zone ahead



Truck inspection station



Signs with a green circle give permission, as indicated



Passing permitted



Heavy trucks should use this roadway



Dangerous goods route



Signs with a red circle and diagonal slash deny permission, as indicated



Passing not permitted



No heavy trucks are allowed on roadway



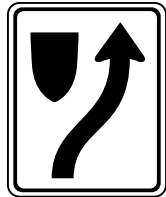
Dangerous goods carriers prohibited



Do not enter



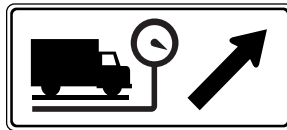
You must not turn your vehicle around in the roadway to travel in the opposite direction (no U-turn)



Keep to the right of traffic islands or obstruction



Weight limit of vehicle permitted on highway or bridge expressed in tonnes



Inspection station exit (Arrow indicates which side of road)

Parking signs

Parking prohibited
as indicated



Stopping prohibited
as indicated

Pedestrian signs

These signs indicate pedestrian movement, either at an intersection or mid-block. You must yield to pedestrians within the crosswalk.

Lane designation signs

These signs may be mounted above (or to the side of) the roadway. When mounted above, each sign is centred over the lane it controls.



This lane must
turn left



This lane left
or right



This lane must
turn right



This lane all
movements



This lane left
or through



This lane
through only



This lane right
or through



Two-way
left turn lane

Turn control signs

These signs may be accompanied by a tab that indicates the sign is only in effect during certain hours of the day.



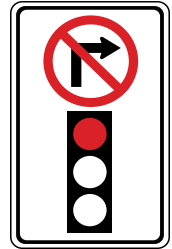
No left turn



Turn left only



Turn right only



No right turn on red
*Wait for green light
before making
a right turn*



No right turn



Through or left turn



Through or right turn



Turn right or left



No turns

7.4 Warning signs

Warning signs are yellow and diamond shaped, and use symbols instead of words. They give warning of some condition of the road ahead that calls for special care on the part of the driver.



Two-way traffic
ahead



Obstruction
Pass to either side



Stop sign ahead



Divided highway
begins
Keep to the right



Divided highway ends



Concealed or unusual
intersection ahead
*Road from right
and/or left*



Narrow bridge ahead
*Width of pavement
narrower than
approach*



Lane ends
Right lane ends



Road surface slippery
when wet



Road narrows
*Road ahead is not as
wide as the road you
are driving on*



Reverse curve ahead
*Two turns in opposite
directions separated by
a tangent of less than
120m, first turn right*



Curve to the right
ahead



Traffic signals ahead
Be prepared to stop



Section of roadway
regularly crossed by
animal depicted



Winding road ahead
First curve right



Checkerboard
*Road ends but may
proceed left or right*



Bump or rough road
ahead



Steep hill ahead
*Shift to lower gear or
slow down if going
down very steep hill*



Underpass ahead
*Overhead clearance as
indicated*



Sharp curve
*Maximum advised
speed*



Added lane
*Two roads converge
and merging
movements are not
required*



Warns of "T"
intersection
*Road turns sharply
right and left*



Two lanes merge ahead
Traffic entering from right



Railway ahead
Road intersects with rail tracks ahead at angle depicted



Pavement ends
Continuation has gravel surface



Cattle crossing ahead



Surface subject to icing
Bridge or roadway surface may be slippery at zero degrees Celsius — slow down



School bus stop ahead
Stop for bus with flashing lights



Snowmobile crossing ahead



Playground ahead



School crosswalk ahead



Pedestrian crosswalk ahead

Hazard Markers



Chevron
Chevron alignment signs may be used to guide drivers around sharp curves in the road



Hazard close to the edge of the road
The downward lines show the side on which you may safely pass



Slow moving vehicle
Mounted on the rear of vehicles that travel at speeds less than 40 km/h
It warns drivers approaching from behind to slow down



Warning sign on overdimension loads or on escort vehicles

Construction Signs

Construction signs have black letters or symbols on an orange background.



Construction ahead
This sign indicates you are entering a construction zone. Drive with extra caution and be prepared for changes in the speed limit.



Road work ahead
This sign marks a zone where construction workers and maintenance activities are present. Pay attention to the posted speed limits in these zones and practice caution.



Survey crew ahead
This sign indicates a survey crew is working on or near the travelled portion of the road. Slow down and practice caution.



Pavement drop-off
This sign warns motorists that they are on or approaching a section of roadway where either the adjacent lane or shoulder or both are lower or higher than the motorist's travel lane.



Traffic control person ahead
Be prepared to stop for instructions.

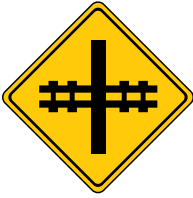


Detour ahead



Truck entrance left/right
The location at which trucks are entering, leaving or crossing.

7.5 Railway Crossings



The deadliest of all highway collisions is that which occurs between a motor vehicle and a train. Railway/highway crossing collisions should never occur. Public railway/highway crossings are marked with signs, and may also have mechanical or electrical warning devices, for your protection. Learn what they are and watch for them.

Advance warning signs

These signs tell you to look, listen and slow down because you may have to stop. There may be an advisory speed sign erected below the advance warning sign to show that the safe road speed is less than the posted speed.

Pavement markings

Pavement markings consist of an "X" and/or stop line that may be painted on the pavement at the approach to some railway/highway crossings.

Railway Crossing signs

Railway Crossing signs are found at all public railway/highway crossings. A Railway Crossing sign means drivers must yield to all trains. If there is more than one track, the sign below the Railway Crossing sign indicates the number of tracks.

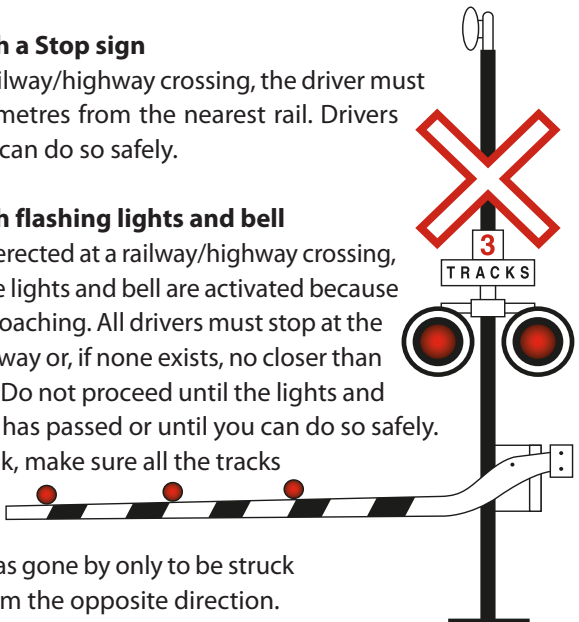
Railway Crossing signs with a Stop sign

If a stop sign is erected at a railway/highway crossing, the driver must stop no closer than five (5) metres from the nearest rail. Drivers must not proceed until they can do so safely.

Railway Crossing signs with flashing lights and bell

If flashing lights and bells are erected at a railway/highway crossing, the driver must stop when the lights and bell are activated because this means that a train is approaching. All drivers must stop at the stop line painted on the roadway or, if none exists, no closer than five metres from nearest rail. Do not proceed until the lights and bells have stopped, the train has passed or until you can do so safely.

If there is more than one track, make sure all the tracks are clear before crossing. Drivers have started across the tracks right after a train has gone by only to be struck by a second train coming from the opposite direction.



7.6 Guide Signs

Guide signs are essential to guide the motorist along established roads, to inform them of intersecting roads, and generally to give such information as will help the driver along their way in the most simple, direct method possible.



Trans Canada
highway



Arterial highway



Collector highway



Local highway



Hospital



Airport
Plane points
direction to airport



Local airport

7.7 Information Signs

These signs are square in shape. They indicate the location of various facilities.



Museum



Gasoline



Picnic facilities



Campground



Accommodations



Food



Tourist information