



# Winter Driving Survival Guide (UK)

## 1. Understanding Winter Road Risks

- Ice and black ice
- Snow and slush
- Heavy rain and floods
- Fog and low visibility
- Low sun glare
- Cold tyres reduce grip

## 2. Preparing Your Car for Winter

### Essential Checks:

- Tyres: minimum 1.6mm tread (3mm recommended)
- Lights clean and working
- Good wipers
- Winter screenwash
- Healthy battery

### Emergency Items:

- Ice scraper & de-icer
- Torch
- Warm blanket
- Phone charger
- High-vis jacket
- First-aid kit
- Water & snacks
- Gloves



### 3. Driving in Snow, Ice & Frost

Before Moving:

- Clear all windows & mirrors
- Remove snow from roof
- Low revs pulling away
- Use higher gear to avoid wheel spin

On the Road:

- Stopping distance x10
- Low, smooth speed
- Avoid harsh braking
- Gentle steering
- Watch bridges & shaded areas

If You Skid:

- Ease off brake
- Steer gently
- Don't overcorrect

### 4. Driving in Heavy Rain & Floods

- Reduce speed
- 4x stopping distance
- Avoid deep water
- Slow steady driving through puddles
- Test brakes after

### 5. Driving in Fog

- Use dipped headlights
- Use fog lights below 100m visibility
- Avoid full beam
- Leave extra space
- Open window at junctions

## 6. Winter Motorway & Dual Carriageway Tips

- Lower speed
- Smooth lane changes
- Watch lorry spray
- Top up washer fluid
- Avoid driving behind gritters

## 7. Winter Night Driving

- Clean headlights
- Dim dashboard brightness
- Watch for hidden ice
- Slow for oncoming lights
- Check mirrors often

## 8. When Not to Drive

- Road closures
- Floods
- Amber/Red weather warnings
- Cannot clear windscreen
- Road feels unsafe

## Quick Winter Safety Checklist:

- Windows clear
- Lights on & bright
- Slow acceleration
- Extra braking distance
- Smooth steering
- Emergency kit ready