Avoiding Rear-End Collisions
Rear – End Accident Avoidance
Rear-end Accident Contributing Factors

- Distractions
- Speeding or driving too fast for conditions
- Inadequate following distance
- Driver fatigue
- Securing & Positioning Load (trailers)
- Mechanical breakdown
“Be Aware Distances”

- **Perception**
- **Reaction**
- **Braking**

### Typical Stopping Distances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speed (mph)</th>
<th>Distance (ft)</th>
<th>(m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>6 m</td>
<td>8 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>9 m</td>
<td>14 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>12 m</td>
<td>24 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>15 m</td>
<td>38 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>18 m</td>
<td>55 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>21 m</td>
<td>75 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The distances shown are a general guide. The distance will depend on your attention (thinking distance), the road surface, the weather conditions, and the condition of your vehicle at the time.

- **Thinking Distance**
- **Braking Distance**

Average car length = 4 metres (13 feet)

The distances shown are a general guide. The distance will depend on your attention (thinking distance), the road surface, the weather conditions, and the condition of your vehicle at the time.

- **210 ft** dry
- **325 ft** wet
- **260 ft** dry
- **345 ft** wet
Perception Distance

Be aware of perception distance: the number of feet your vehicle travels from the time an event occurs, such as brake lights ahead, until you see and recognize it.
Be aware of reaction distance: the number of feet your vehicle travels from the time you **recognize** the **hazard** and when you **brake**.
Braking Distance

Be aware of braking distance: the number of feet your vehicle travels from the time you brake and when your vehicle stops is braking distance.
Tips to avoid rear-end accidents

• Maintain a safe following distance: (2-4 sec between vehicles).
• Stay alert and prepared: Ready to react, foot off of accelerator ready to apply brake.
• Scan and anticipate: Look far ahead, watch for brake lights, changing traffic signal, pedestrians, emergency vehicles etc.
Tips to avoid rear-end accidents- cont’d.

• Plan your trip: Monitor weather, traffic reports.
• Consider road conditions: Increase following distance during adverse weather.
• Slow down in advance of intersections: Previous vehicles may have leaked fluids; rain; snow - they all can make the road slick.
Tips to avoid rear-end accidents - cont’d.

• Avoid stopping too closely to the vehicle in front of you at intersections: Keep at least one car length between your car and other vehicles.

• Yellow lights mean caution: Don’t assume vehicle in front of you is going through the intersection.
Tips to avoid rear-end accidents - cont’d.

- Make sure your brake lights work: they give the vehicle behind you a warning of your intentions.
- Keep your windows clean: Clear fields of vision are required so you can see what the other driver is doing and react accordingly.
Tips to avoid rear-end accidents- cont’d.

• Be aware of and avoid aggressive drivers: Try to move away as safely and quickly as possible.
• Do not drive under the influence Drugs or Alcohol.
• No driving if you are tired or ill.
• Do not ride your brakes: The following vehicle can not determine your intentions.
• Always wear your seatbelt.
Tips to avoid rear-end accidents- cont’d.

• Avoid distracting activities while driving: Examples include texting, using cell phone, reading, writing, eating, reaching for distant or moving objects etc.

• Follow posted speed limits: Remember to adjust for adverse conditions.
Avoid Rear-End Collisions

Following the tips that have been presented, you will decrease the chances of being involved in a rear-end accident, and if you are in a rear-end accident the tips will increase your chances of survival!
DRIVE SAFELY