



FACTSHEET - Snowsafe Driving Winter 2022

RoadSafe North East, is urging motorists to *put road safety first* this snow season. Here's some helpful tips for ensuring a safe and enjoyable drive to Victoria's ski resorts.

TOP 10 TIPS FOR SNOWSMART DRIVING

1. Taking extra care starts before hitting the road. Check tyres, battery, brakes, cooling system, engine and windscreen. **Always carry chains** and carry a torch, garbage bag (to avoid wet knees!) and gloves to make chain fitting easier.
2. Don't forget to add '**Alpine Diesel**' mix, if you have a diesel vehicle - available at service stations in alpine region. Add **anti-freeze** to the engine radiator.
3. **Ice and snow – take it slow!** Avoid sudden braking or acceleration on snow or ice. Allow plenty of room between you and the car in front. If you hit ice, stay calm and apply the brakes gently to slowly regain traction.
4. Take corners **slowly and steer gently** to avoid skidding. Never brake if the vehicle skids, instead, ease off the accelerator and steer slightly into the direction of the skid until you gain control.
5. If stuck in snow, **do not spin the wheels** or rev the vehicle, as this will dig the vehicle further in. Instead, put the vehicle into as high a gear as possible and slowly manoeuvre the vehicle lightly forwards and backwards to gently creep out.
6. **ICE AND SNOW REMOVE IT BEFORE YOU GO:** clear ALL snow from your vehicle before leaving the resort – there's a hefty fine and loss of demerit points for driving with snow on your roof. Carry an ice-scraper use the heater and fan/air conditioner.
7. **No puffy ski jackets** on kids in car seats PLEASE! A thick jacket can loosen the seat's harness and they could slide out easily.

8. Engage **low gear** when you drive down a mountain and headlights on low beam at all times.
9. **Don't use Cruise Control.** In cruise control mode you are less able to quickly react to poor road conditions and situations. If the vehicle skids it will keep accelerating – not a good plan!
10. Keep up to date **with current road conditions** before your trip by visiting traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au or downloading the VicTraffic app.

Safe & Happy Travels from RoadSafe North East!