Winter Driving Safety Quiz

Test your knowledge to see if you are prepared for this winter’s weather challenges.

1. The first winter storm of the season is considered by many to be the most dangerous because:
   a. Many motorists are not prepared for winter weather.
   b. Emergency crews may not be prepared.
   c. You may not be accustomed to driving during winter weather conditions yet.
   d. All of the above.

2. At what temperature does ice begin to form on roadways?
   a. 32 degrees
   b. 28 degrees
   c. 39 degrees
   d. 34 degrees

3. Hydroplaning is caused by:
   a. Water spray from other vehicles.
   b. Lack of windshield wiper fluid.
   c. Driving too fast on wet roads.
   d. Icy roads.

4. Ice forms more readily in the following areas:
   a. On bridges and overpasses.
   b. Shaded areas.
   c. At intersections.
   d. All of the above.

5. When passing a snow plow, you should:
   a. Move as far to the left as possible.
   b. Avoid passing unless it is necessary and safe to do so.
   c. Pass quickly to avoid getting in the way.
   d. Thank the driver for keeping the roads clear.

6. Steps to reducing weather-related accidents include:
   a. Reducing speed.
   b. Increasing following distance.
   c. Turning and braking carefully on slippery roads.
   d. All of the above.

7. You are at a four-way stop. The roadway is snow-covered and icy. You have the right of way and proceed into the intersection as a vehicle approaches from the right. The other driver is unable to stop and hits your vehicle in the intersection. This accident is:
   a. Preventable, because you failed to anticipate that the other driver may have difficulty stopping.
   b. Non-preventable, because the other driver failed to stop.
   c. Non-preventable, because the other driver did not anticipate ice at the intersection.

8. It is beginning to snow and the roadway is almost snow-covered. Any delay could cause you to miss your appointment. What should you do?
   a. Move to the left lane to pass slower traffic.
   b. Find somewhere safe to park and call ahead to let others know you will be late. Continue — driving cautiously — if safe to do so, or stay put until conditions improve.
   c. Convoy with four-wheel drive trucks that drive fast.
   d. Take an alternate route with less traffic to slow you down.

9. To increase visibility during adverse weather conditions, you should:
   a. Flash your headlights.
   b. Turn your four-way flashers on.
   c. Turn your headlights on.
   d. All of the above.

10. During severe adverse weather, such as heavy snow, glare ice, torrential rain or very strong winds, you should:
    a. Follow the vehicle in front of you.
    b. Find a safe place to park and wait for conditions to improve.
    c. Wait for a police escort.
    d. Block the roadway to stop traffic.

See Answers on page 6

How to Stay Safe During Winter Storms

Winter is right around the corner. It’s important to know how to stay safe during a storm and to be prepared and know how to respond during an emergency. OSHA has a Web page dedicated to Emergency Preparedness and Response: Safety and Health Guides – Winter Storms. Some of the topics include:

- Types of injuries that can occur during winter storms
- What can be done to avoid frostbite and hypothermia
- How to walk safely on snow and ice
- What to do if stranded in a vehicle

Check out the entire list at www.osha.gov/SLTC/emergencypreparedness/guides/winterstorms.html, as well as our resources under Emergency Preparedness at riskcontrol.com.
Answers to Winter Driving Quiz

1. **D** — Practice makes perfect, as the saying goes. At the beginning of the winter season, many drivers are out of practice and need time to adjust their driving habits.

2. **A** — In addition to temperature, the point at which ice forms on the roadway depends on factors such as the type of precipitation and whether anti-icing agents have been applied.

3. **C** — Hydroplaning can be very dangerous and can occur at speeds as low as 30 mph. Water on the roadway can be difficult to see, especially at night.

4. **D** — Expect ice whenever the air temperature or ground temperature are below freezing and there is precipitation or water on the roadway, especially in the areas listed.

5. **B** — Passing a snow plow can be very dangerous and should only be done when necessary and when it is safe to do so. Snow plows have the right of way and frequently stop or turn unexpectedly.

6. **D** — Reducing speed, increasing following distance, and turning and braking carefully are critical defensive driving techniques during adverse weather.

7. **A** — When it comes to accidents, “preventable” and “at-fault” are not the same. An accident caused by one motorist can often still be prevented by others. Driving in a manner that compensates for the mistakes of other motorists is a fundamental defensive driving principle.

8. **B** — You should never compromise your safety or the safety of others by exceeding the speed limit or driving too fast for road or weather conditions.

9. **C** — Keeping your headlights on during adverse weather conditions helps other motorists see you better. It is also required by law in most places.

10. **B** — When road or weather conditions deteriorate to the point where visibility and your ability to control your vehicle are severely reduced, it is a good time to get off the road.

Your score: _____. How prepared are you for this winter’s driving challenges?

10 correct answers: Well done. Drive safely this winter!

8-9 correct answers: Good job, but you should review a few things.

6-7 correct answers: It’s time to adjust your driving habits before it’s too late!

5 or fewer correct answers: Your wheels are spinning and you need help.

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FALL/WINTER RISK CONTROL RESOURCES

Looking for resources that can keep your business running smoothly this fall and winter? Check out these documents in our Risk Control Customer Center on riskcontrol.com:

- “Get ready to turn on the heat” article from Risk Control Topics and Challenges Fall 2006 (Search “Get ready”)
- Six-page “Slip, Trip and Fall Accident Control” technical bulletin (Search “Accident control”)
- “Winter Weather Checklist” technical bulletin (Search “Winter weather checklist”)
- “Snow and Ice Removal” technical bulletin with sample snow and ice removal log (Search “Snow and ice removal”)

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Alliance Spotlight:

Risk Control Forms Alliance with ServSafe Alcohol®

The challenges surrounding alcohol service have increased dramatically over the years. Rising alcohol liability premiums, more sophisticated fake IDs, stricter dram shop laws and a more litigious environment are all major concerns.

To help establishments protect themselves, Travelers has formed an alliance with the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation to enable Travelers policyholders to take advantage of the ServSafe Alcohol program. ServSafe provides staff training in proper and responsible alcohol service. The training program covers alcohol law and responsibilities, recognizing and preventing intoxication, checking identification and dealing with difficult situations.

Training is available in either online or classroom-style formats. For more information, visit servsafe.com or visit our alliance section under Risk Management Resources in the Risk Control Customer Center of riskcontrol.com.