

**SALTIRE**  
SAFETY



**Winter driving tips**

## Winter Driving Tips

Weather conditions will always affect the way we drive, and this is especially true in winter. Not only do cold temperatures mean it can take more time for your vehicle to get started, but there are a range of challenges you could encounter – sometimes on the same day.

The weather in the UK is unpredictable at the best of times, so preparation is essential. 45% of drivers don't do any checks on their vehicle before winter starts, but knowing what to do and what you need could save your life.

Make sure you know how to look after your vehicle and adapt your driving, and you're more likely to have a safe, calm journey.

### How likely is it that the UK will get snow?

When we were younger, we might have looked forward to snow days. But snow can be disruptive to your journey when you've got to drive.

According to the Met Office:

# 23.7 DAYS

The UK gets an average of 23.7 days of snowfall or sleet per year.

# 15.6 DAYS

However, the amount that settles on the ground is a lot lower, at 15.6 days per year on average.

# 38.1 DAYS

In Scotland, where we get an average of 38.1 days of snowfall or sleet.

## So how can we prepare

Equipment; be prepared for every situation:

- ❖ De-icer and an ice scraper
- ❖ Warm clothing
- ❖ Torch
- ❖ A shovel and a bag of sand or salt
- ❖ Extra food and drink
- ❖ Mobile phone charger

Check the following:

- ❖ Tyre tread
- ❖ Windows, windscreen wipers and mirrors
- ❖ Fluid levels
- ❖ Always remove as much snow as possible from the vehicle

Driving in hazardous conditions - hints and tips:

- ❖ Slow down
- ❖ Drive smoothly
- ❖ Bigger breaking area
- ❖ Plan alternative routes

## **Drive safely this winter**

