

## DRIVER IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

## KNOW THE HAZARDS OF THE ROAD AND HOW TO AVOID THEM.



**Defensive:** Driving to prevent accidents in spite of the actions of others or the presence of adverse driving conditions

**Decisive:** Making the correct decision at the proper time

**Dependable:** Being consistent in your driving habits, making the correct decision and applying the appropriate defense to the traffic situation

### U.S. TOTAL TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS RESULT IN<sup>1</sup>:

- Over 23,000 occupant fatalities
- Over 33,000 total fatalities
- One death every ten minutes

#### PREVENTABLE ACCIDENT:



A situation in which the driver failed to do everything reasonable to avoid the collision

#### MAKE DUE ALLOWANCE FOR:

Road, traffic, weather and mistakes of others

#### ATTITUDES:

Can change weekly, daily, hourly due to surrounding circumstances

#### ROAD RAGE:

Drivers should be trained to do the following:

- Put distance between you and the “rager”
- Drive to a public area
- Do not try to “get even” or “teach them a lesson”
- Do not drive home
- Ignore the person causing the problem
- Call the police

#### DECISIVE DRIVING - CAUSES OF ACCIDENTS:

##### Human Failure

- Indecision
- Wrong decision

##### Mechanical Failure

- Poor maintenance
- Sudden failure
- Alleged failure

#### ALCOHOL ALWAYS HAS ADVERSE AFFECTS:

If you drink, don't drive! If you drive, don't drink!

#### DON'T BE TRAPPED BY MISTAKES OF OTHERS:

Be patient

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**GOOD DRIVING:**

**Knowledge:** Know the traffic rules

**Skill:** Vehicle handling

**Experience:** Judgment

**COMMON DISTRACTIONS:**

- Cell phones
- Scenery
- Route problems
- Unfamiliar situation
- Problems inside vehicle
- Mental disturbance
- Lighting cigarette
- Children

**AT 30 MPH - DRY, LEVEL CONCRETE:**

- One second distraction equals 44 feet
- 3/4 second reaction time equals 33 feet
- Braking distance equals 45 feet total distance = 122 feet

**FASTER SPEEDS INCREASE:**

- Accidents
- Fuel consumption
- Accident severity
- Maintenance cost

**RADAR DETECTORS:**

Not permitted in commercial vehicles

**SEAT BELTS:**

- Keep you inside vehicle
- Reduce serious and fatal injuries 60%
- Enhance your chances of survival
- Required of all vehicle occupants

**FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY<sup>2</sup>:**

- 50% of all traffic deaths occur within 25 miles of home at speeds less than 40 mph
- 80% of drivers in accidents are first timers

**FIVE DRIVING RULES**



1. Be far sighted
2. Move eyes continuously
3. Take in the whole picture
4. Maintain space cushion
5. Communicate

**ACCIDENT PREVENTION FORMULA:**

1. See the hazard
2. Understand the defense
3. Act in time

**TWO-VEHICLE CRASH POSITIONS:**

- Intersection accidents
- Collision with vehicle ahead or behind
- Passing or being passed accidents
- Head-on accident

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Business Insurance  
Employee Benefits  
Auto  
Home

<sup>1</sup> NHTSA - Annual Reporting "Summary of Motor Vehicle Crashes" 2017 edition

<sup>2</sup> National Safety Council - Annual Reporting of Accident Facts - 2017 edition

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