

Driving Checklist

By Taylor Peterson

- Obey The Law
 - Obey all speed limits for both maximum and minimum speeds.
 - Obey traffic signs and signals.
 - When a light turns green, make sure the intersection has cleared before you go.
 - Pass other vehicles only on the left; signal your intention before changing lanes.
 - Never pass a stopped school bus.
 - Yield to drivers who have the right of way.
 - Don't drink and drive.
 - Don't take drugs and drive.
 - Always wear your seat belt, and make sure all your passengers buckle up, too.
 - Never try to pack in more passengers than there are seatbelts in the car.
 - Don't blast the radio.
 - Don't drive with small children in the front seat of a car.
 - Don't talk on your cell phone, put on makeup, comb your hair, or eat while driving.
 - Always pull over if a police officer stops you.
- Drive Defensively
 - Correctly position mirrors and seat before you start.
 - Never tailgate, stay at least three car distances behind the driver ahead of you.
 - Don't insist on the right-of-way if the other driver will not yield it
 - Dim your headlights for oncoming cars and those ahead
 - Be aware of what's happening several vehicle lengths ahead and behind you
- Expect the Unexpected
 - Reckless behavior from other drivers.
 - People or animals darting into the road.
 - Swerving cyclists.

- Potholes or debris in the roadway.
- Take Bad Weather Precautions
 - Make sure your windshield is clean.
 - Use wipers, defroster and headlights.
 - Counter glare from sun or snow with sunglasses.
 - Clear snow from hood, roof and all windows.
 - Reduce speed when visibility is poor or roadways are slick.
 - Watch out for puddles, icy patches and sudden pockets of fog.
- Maintain Your Vehicle
 - Conduct a pre-driving inspection every time.
 - Be sure that scheduled maintenance checks are carried out in time.
 - Don't abuse your vehicle by driving too fast over bumpy terrain.
 - Don't make unnecessarily sharp turns or sudden stops and starts.
 - Don't allow friends or other uninsured drivers to drive your car.