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SAFETY BRAKE

DRIVING THROUGH FOG

Fog has been considered one of the most dangerous weather conditions for new and experienced drivers¹. Driving in heavy fog is like driving with a blindfold on. Fog is one of those unpredictable weather conditions that can sneak up on you and disappear just as fast. Driving in fog requires common sense, extra following distance and excellent driving skills to maneuver in the fog.

- ◆ As you enter fog, check your mirrors and slow down. Tap your brakes lightly so that your lights warn following drivers.
- ◆ Use low beam headlights and fog lights if visibility is reduced so you can be seen. High beams direct light up into the fog making it difficult for you to see. Low beams direct light down onto the road and help other drivers see you.
- ◆ Slow down. Mist fog related traffic fatalities occur because someone was driving too fast and could not stop in time to avoid a collision.
- ◆ Stay focused on the road. Focus on the road, turn down the radio and stop conversations with passengers.
- ◆ Use roadside reflectors as a guide to help identify roadway changes².
- ◆ Increase your minimum safety gap (Use six seconds in ideal conditions).
- ◆ Keep an eye on your speedometer because studies show that some driver adjust themselves to foggy conditions and unconsciously increase their speed over time.
- ◆ Use your windshield wiper to clear the mist off your windshield.
- ◆ Beware of other drivers who are not using their headlights.
- ◆ If you pull off the road to park, turn off your driving lights and turn on your emergency flasher so others know you're there and won't think you're driving on the road.
- ◆ Remember that other drivers have a limited sight distance and that fog can leave roadways slick. Signal early, and when you use your brakes, don't stomp on them.

The safest thing to do if you run into fog is to move well off the road and wait for the fog to lift.

1. <https://www.travelers.com/resources/auto/safe-driving/driving-in-fog-safely>

2. <https://www.statefarm.com/simple-insights/auto-and-vehicles/drive-safely-in-dense-fog>

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