

DRIVE DEFENSIVELY

- Do you really know what defensive driving means?
- Do you realize the commitment that one has to make to become a defensive driver?
- Defensive driving means driving to prevent accidents in spite of the actions of others.
- Defensive driving also means to prevent accidents even in the presence of adverse driving conditions.

Defensive Driving means no surprises.

According to the National Safety Council's defensive driving program, the object of defensive driving is to drive without having a preventable accident.

- Defensive driving requires the knowledge and strict observance of all traffic rules and regulations.
- Defensive driving requires a constant alertness for the illegal acts and driving errors of other drivers, and a willingness to make timely adjustments in your own driving so that these illegal acts and errors will not involve you in an accident.
- Defensive driving requires a knowledge of all the adjustments required in your driving for the special hazards presented by abnormal, unusual or changing conditions—in the mechanical functioning of your vehicle, type of road surface, weather, degree of light, kind of traffic, and your physical condition and state of mind.
- Defensive driving requires a thorough knowledge of the rules of right-of-way and the willingness to yield the right-of-way to the other driver whenever necessary to avoid an accident.



There are three basic steps to defensive driving

1. **See the hazard**—when driving, think about what is going to happen or what might happen as far ahead of encountering a situation as possible. You should never assume everything will be "all right."
2. **Understand the defense**—specific situations require specific ways of handling. Become familiar with the unusual conditions which you may face and learn them well so that you can apply them when the need arises.
3. **Act in time**—once you've noted a hazard and understand the defense against it, act! Never take a "wait-and-see" attitude.