

Driving and towing



Driving can seem routine but involves many different risks. The places we drive, conditions we drive in and loads we move can increase these risks.

To control these risks, you're required to:



Inspect your vehicle before use

- Check tyres, fuel, oil, brake fluid, coolant, windscreen and lights.
- Secure all items, ensuring that there are no loose items in the cabin. Tools and other items can easily become projectiles in an accident.
- Store heavy items in the rear load bed.
- Be aware of your load and weight, particularly when towing. Loads must not exceed the vehicles Gross Vehicle Mass [GVM].
- Balance loads evenly and secure with correctly rated tie-down straps.
- Make sure your vehicle is safe to operate and equipped for the road and weather conditions.



Stay alert and protect yourself while driving

- Only use phones hands-free and as permitted by law.
- Never drive under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medication that impairs alertness.
- Give your full attention to driving and do not attempt to multi-task.
- Always wear a seatbelt.
- Adjust your speed to suit the weather and road conditions. Reduce your speed if it is wet, foggy or conditions restrict visibility.



Manage driving fatigue

- Limit driving to eight hours a day where possible and plan your trip to allow time to return safely.
- Do not drive for more than 12 hours in a day, even with periodic breaks.
- Stop at least every 2 hours to take a break.
- Drink water and eat regularly to maintain hydration and energy levels.
- Share driving duties where possible to reduce fatigue.
- If you experience any signs of fatigue, you must stop immediately and take a break.



Secure the vehicle when parked

- Switch engine off and engage hand brake before leaving the vehicle.
- Place chocks or clamps on vehicles and trailers when parked on slopes or uneven ground.
- Apply the handbrake and put chocks in place before uncoupling the trailer from a vehicle.



Secure trailers and loads

- Inspect hitches, appliances and safety chains before use.
- Secure the trailer to the vehicle properly.
- Use shackles that comply with regulations for the load.
- Check load security during long trips or after travelling on rough terrain.
- Any equipment or cargo in an open box or tray, or on roof racks to be covered and secured.
- Chains and straps used to secure loads must be certified for the weight of the load.
- The mass of the trailer and its load must not exceed the maximum capacity of the towing attachment and towing mass of the vehicle.
- Take corners at lower speeds, particularly when driving 4WD vehicles with a high centre of gravity.

Be someone you can rely on.



Check for risks before starting each task.

Connect the right controls to stay safe.

Complete the work once controls are in place.



bai communications