


A study by the
**American Transportation
 Research Institute**
 concluded the following:

If a Driver Had:	Increase in Crash Likelihood:
A Failure to Use/Improper Signal Conviction	96%
A Past Crash	88%
An Improper Passing Violation	88%
An Improper Turn Conviction	84%
An Improper or Erratic Lane Change Conviction	80%
An Improper Lane/Location Conviction	68%
A Failure to Obey Traffic Sign Conviction	68%
A Speeding More Than 15 Miles Over the Speed Limit Conviction	67%
Any Conviction	65%
A Reckless/Careless/ Inattentive/Negligent Driving Conviction	64%

 Operation Safe Driver is a safety campaign of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance – in partnership with state, provincial and local law enforcement, federal agencies and industry – aimed at combating the number of deaths and injuries resulting from crashes involving large trucks, buses and cars.

SAFETY TIPS

EVERY PROFESSIONAL DRIVER MUST KNOW



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I WILL KEEP MY EYES ON THE ROAD, HANDS ON THE WHEEL, HEAD IN THE GAME.



We all have to share the road. You've heard that one before. The fact of the matter is our roads are only going to get busier.

You spend a good part of your life on the roads. Make sure you're doing so safely. Follow these important safety tips:



Buckle Up

It is your last line of defense. Remember, seat belts save lives.

Prepare For the Drive

Adjust mirrors and instrument panel lighting, and get directions or program the GPS before you hit the road.

Drive Safely

Obey speed limits and traffic signs. Excessive speed reduces your ability to avoid a crash, extends your vehicle's stopping distance and increases the severity of a crash if it occurs. Slow down in bad weather and at construction zones.

Avoid Distractions

Avoid distractions such as adjusting the radio, eating, personal grooming or other activities that remove your attention from the road.

Be Aware of Other Drivers

Never forget that far too many of the drivers sharing the road with you might be driving distracted.

Never Text or Email While Driving

Pull off to a safe location if you must text. An in-cab driving study of commercial motor vehicle drivers by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute indicated that the most dangerous distraction is texting. Truck drivers who texted while driving had 23 times the risk of being involved in a crash or a near-crash incident. It's best to turn off your cell phone or put it on silent mode and let calls go to voicemail while you're driving.

Avoid Aggressive Driving

Don't provoke or allow yourself to be provoked. If another driver is acting aggressively, don't take the bait. Simply ignore them.

Only Make Safe and Necessary Lane Changes

Pick a lane and stay in it for as long as possible. Lane changes increase risk of an accident. When you do have to change lanes, always signal any lane change or turning movement well ahead of the event.

Don't Tailgate

Following too closely reduces your visibility of the road ahead and impacts your reaction time.

Allow Plenty of Time

Allow plenty of time to reach your destination so you will be less likely to speed.

Never Drive Under the Influence

And watch out for other motorists whose driving behavior suggests they may have been drinking.

Get Enough Sleep

Sleep deprivation and fatigue causes lapses in attention, slowed awareness and impaired judgment.

Don't Multi-Task Behind the Wheel

Glancing away from the road for more than one second – for any reason – can be extremely dangerous. At 55 miles per hour, during a three-second glance away from the road, your vehicle will move nearly 250 feet down the road without your attention; that's almost the length of a football field.

Short glances at vehicle instruments, mirrors, installed communication devices, GPS systems or other technology can be done safely, if these scans are limited to less than one second and are related only to the driving task.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SAFELY SHARING THE ROADS WITH OTHER VEHICLES, VISIT:
www.OperationSafeDriver.org