

9

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT...



Driving Safely In Construction Zones

Construction is underway, and truck drivers and motorists alike need to be prepared. Whether you've been driving for decades or got your driver's license last week, the tips below are important reminders to make sure you and our construction workers get home safely.

1 EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED IN CONSTRUCTION ZONES

Normal speed limits may be reduced, traffic lanes may be changed and people and vehicles may be working on or near the road.

2 SLOW DOWN, BE ALERT AND PAY ATTENTION TO THE SIGNS

Diamond-shaped orange warning signs are generally posted in advance of road construction activities.

3 COMPLY WITH THE DIRECTIONS GIVEN BY THE FLAGGER

Stay alert and be prepared to obey the flagger's directions. In a construction zone, a flagger has the same authority as a regulatory sign, so you can be cited for disobeying his or her directions.

4 BE PATIENT IN ROAD CONSTRUCTION ZONES

Construction zones aren't there to personally inconvenience you. They're necessary to complete important construction activities for the Gordie Howe International Bridge project.

5 SLOW DOWN — DON'T DRIVE TOO FAST FOR CONDITIONS

A truck traveling at 66 mp/h travels 88 feet per second. If you're going 60 mp/h and you pass a sign that says "Road Work 1,500 feet," you'll be in that work zone in 17 seconds.

6 DRIVE DEFENSIVELY — DON'T FOLLOW TOO CLOSE

The most common crash in a work zone is a rear-end collision. Remember to leave seven seconds of braking distance between you and the vehicle in front of you. Most rear-end incidents occur because of following too close and traveling too fast for conditions.

7 KEEP USING DEFENSIVE DRIVING TECHNIQUES TO SAVE LIVES

Keep a safe distance between your vehicle and traffic barriers, construction equipment and construction workers. Just like you, construction workers want to return home safely after each day's work.

8 OBEY THE POSTED SIGNS UNTIL YOU SEE THE ONES THAT SAY YOU'VE LEFT THE WORK ZONE

Some work zones — like line painting, road patching and mowing — are mobile, moving down the road as the work is finished. Just because you don't see the workers immediately after you see the warning sign doesn't mean they're not out there.

9 EXPECT DELAYS — PLAN FOR THEM AND LEAVE EARLY TO REACH YOUR DESTINATION ON TIME

Contractors use many different ways to inform motorists about the location and duration of major work zones. Plan ahead. Stay alert and stay safe so you get home safely.

Source: US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration

