

“Learn to Drive Smart” Vocabulary

Accelerator- Controls the amount of fuel going to the engine. The more fuel, the faster the car will go.
Airbags- Work by inflating and then deflating to reduce the shock of a collision and chance of injury.
Anti-lock Brakes- Keeps the wheels from locking when you press heavily on the brake pedal.
Blind Spots- Large areas that you can't see in your mirrors. The most dangerous areas are to the side.
Brake Pedal- Located to the left of the accelerator and is used to slow down and stop the vehicle.
Centre of Gravity- This is the point around which all of an object's weight is balanced.
Clutch- In a standard transmission car, this disconnects the engine from the transmission to shift gears.
Cruise Control- Lets you pre-set a speed that will stay the same.
Cul-de-sac- A street that's closed at one end.
Four-way Stop- When there are stop signs at all corners of an intersection.
Gearshift Lever- Controls the car's transmission - the connection between the engine and the wheels.
Gravity- This is the force that pulls everything towards earth.
Hazard Lights- These let people know you have stopped for an emergency.
Hydroplaning- When the tires lose contact with the road surface and float on a film of water.
Inertia- This is the tendency for moving objects to continue moving forward in a straight line.
Merging- Waiting for a safe gap in traffic and then changing lanes when driving in a lane that ends ahead
Mirrors- These let you know what is happening behind you. Adjust them to get the best possible view.
Parking Brake - This keeps the vehicle from moving when it's parked.
Shoulder Check- Turning your head to see your blind spot whenever you plan to change your direction.
Signalling - Letting other traffic know what you intend to do like turn left or right, change lanes, or park.
Tailgating- Following too closely behind the vehicle in front.
Traction- This is the grip your tires have on the road.
Two-way Stop- When two streets intersect and only one of the streets has stop signs at an intersection.
Yield - Let pedestrians, cyclists and other road users have the right-of-way.

