# GEAR UP FOR WINTER DRIVING

Winter is here so it's time to step up your winter driving game with the right gear & know-how to take the wheel with confidence.

#### WINTER TIRES



Look for the three-peak-mountain-and-snowflake symbol and choose a set of dedicated winter tires. In temperatures as warm as 7 degrees Celsius, winter tires offer superior grip and control over all-seasons.

## **2** COLD WEATHER BATTERY

Regular battery inspections can help you maintain reliable engine starts. Look for a battery designed to provide reliable starting in cold temperatures.

> PRO TIP: WINTER TIRES CAN EARN YOU FINANCIAL INCENTIVES SUCH AS LOWER INSURANCE PREMIUMS. CONTACT YOUR INSURANCE PROVIDER TO FIND OUT HOW YOU MIGHT QUALIFY.

# **3** WINTER-READY WIPER BLADES

Not all wiper blades are created equal when it comes to handling extreme cold and preventing snow and ice build-up, so make a swap when the temperature drops.

PRO TIP: ADJUST YOUR DRIVING TO THE CHANGING WEATHER. TAKE YOUR TIME, DRIVE DEFENSIVELY, AND KEEP EXTRA DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND OTHERS.

ナ

# **5** SYNTHETIC OIL

Synthetic oils are designed to flow better at low temperatures, making for better cold weather engine starts.

PRO TIP: DRIVE SLOWLY NEAR WORKING SNOWPLOWS AND DON'T PASS THEM - IT'S DANGEROUS! BE PATIENT AND GIVE THEM ROOM. THEY WILL PULL OFF ONCE THEY REACH THE END OF THEIR ROUTE.

# 7 WINTER SAFETY KIT

Be ready for the unexpected with an emergency kit that has winter safety essentials like jumper cables, roadside reflectors, a tow rope, candles, matches, flashlight, shovel, traction mat, phone charger and basic gear to keep you warm.

#### **4** WINTER WASHER FLUID

Make sure your windshield washer fluid is effective up to -40 degrees Celsius, regularly top up and keep extra reserves safely stored in your cargo area.

PRO TIP: USE FOUR WINTER TIRES OF THE SAME TYPE. MIXING CREATES A TRACTION IMBALANCE BETWEEN THE FRONT AND REAR WHEELS, MAKING YOUR VEHICLE HARDER TO CONTROL.

### **6** SNOW & ICE CLEARING



#### Use a telescopic snow brush and ice scraper to clear all surfaces (including lights, safety sensors and cameras) before you shift into drive. This not only improves your visibility, but also prevents flying snow and ice from distracting others.

#### 8 PLAN AHEAD

Check your local weather forecast and plan your route before you hit the road so you're not caught off guard by testy weather.

PRO TIP: SINKING TEMPERATURES ALSO BRING A DROP IN TIRE PRESSURE SO GET IN THE HABIT OF MONTHLY CHECK-UPS, FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED IN YOUR OWNERS' MANUAL OR VEHICLE INFORMATION PLACARD.

PRO TIP: PRINT ME OUT AND STICK ME UP IN THE OFFICE, ON THE FRIDGE, OR BY THE COFFEE MACHINE. SAFER DRIVING FOR EVERYONE!

#### FOR MORE WINTER SAFETY TIPS, VISIT BETIRESMART.CA

FOR THE WINTER

TIRE