



Winter weather news: TAKE CARE OUT THERE; it's more slippery than you think...

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As freezing, snowy weather arrives with a vengeance, Bridgestone hopes flurry of winter driving messages will stick...

With the temperatures plummeting across the UK in recent days and heavy snow falling in parts of the UK, Bridgestone is urging motorists to take some simple driving tips to stay as



safe as possible.

With a marked drop in temperatures now being felt, Bridgestone's managing director Robin Shaw is once again calling on motorists to adopt some simple driving habits to stay as safe as possible.

He said: "Driving in winter conditions is something everyone must prepare for. It is not only about having the right tyres; the driver's behaviour is also essential in these conditions as he or she needs to understand and adapt to different winter hazards.

It is therefore crucial to not only prepare our vehicles, but also ourselves when the weather gets cold."

Some of Robin's tips include checking tyre pressure and tread depth, after surveys carried out by Tyresafe revealed that more than 27% of tyres were already illegal when they were eventually replaced by motorists.

That equates to more than one-in-four of the 37 million cars and light commercial vehicles (LCVs) on the UK's roads being driven with a tyre that could cost its driver a £2,500 fine and three penalty points, an MoT failure – or worse

Robin's tips for motorists:

- Periodically check traction, or available grip, when driving in challenging conditions. Road conditions can change drastically in a short period of time or distance in winter. Apply the brakes with moderate pressure to determine the available grip and modify your driving, if needed, to respond to ever-changing road conditions.
- Under-inflated tyres not only compromise motorists' ability to brake and manoeuvre safely, but they also consume more fuel and wear out faster. Information on the recommended tyre pressure can be found in the operating manual, on the inside of the door pillars or under your fuel cap.
- The legal minimum tread depth is 1.6mm. Insert a 20p coin in the tread; if you can see the



border, it's time to change the tyres.

- Maximise available grip by separating driving manoeuvres when negotiating a curve. Brake to an appropriate speed while travelling in a straight line prior to a curve. This allows you to use all the available grip for negotiating the curve. Accelerate gradually when you are able to straighten the steering wheel at the exit of the turn.
- Avoid cruise control in wet, icy or snowy conditions. Maintain control of acceleration and deceleration at all times.
- Avoid driving in bad weather conditions. Your safety comes first.

Meanwhile, Bridgestone's sister brand Firestone boasts an all-weather tyre option which could be the most appropriate for the unpredictable UK climate.

The Firestone Multiseason is made for drivers who live in mild weather areas which may face variable weather conditions.

Robin added: "Where summer tyres fail to perform, the Multiseason takes motorists safely into cold and more challenging winter conditions. It also boast tuned tread patterns for low noise and optimum road contact in all surface conditions."

For more general information about road journeys this winter, visit www.bridgestone.co.uk



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