"Do your part to be safe."

Our Mission

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) is focused on reducing crashes, injuries, and fatalities involving large trucks and buses.

AS A PROFESSIONAL DRIVER, you may have millions of miles of safe driving experience. Often you may think you are sharing the road with drivers who seem to have no driving experience at all.

In too many cases you may be right! Many commercial vehicle crashes occur due to errors in judgment by passenger car drivers operating around large trucks and buses. Unfortunately, when these crashes occur, they reflect poorly on the motor carrier industry, regardless of who caused the collision. We're counting on you to improve the situation by developing good safety practices.

SHARE THE ROAD SAFELY

TRUCK and BUS DRIVERS

Safety Practices for Sharing the Road Safely with Passenger Vehicles

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

For more information visit:

www.fmcsa.dot.gov
www.sharetheroadsafely.gov

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Practice These Driver Safety Tips When You Are on the Road.

1 *Keep Your Distance*

Leave enough space between you and the vehicle in front of you.

Rear-end collisions account for close to 25 percent of all fatal crashes involving large trucks and buses. Car drivers often squeeze in the extra space trucks and buses leave in front of them; however, in rear-end collisions, if you hit someone from behind, you are considered "at fault."

2 *Drive Defensively, Not Aggressively*

Always maintain a safe speed. Aggressive driving is dangerous!

Driving defensively is the safest way to drive. Aggressive driving (such as speeding or tailgating) greatly increases your chances of being involved in a crash. Maintain a safe speed and leave plenty of space between you and other vehicles. Protect yourself and others by helping to make our roadways safe.

3 *Be Aware of Your "No-Zones"*

Passenger car drivers may not be aware of the size of your blind spots.

Car drivers may not be aware of the large blind spots (No-Zones) surrounding your truck or bus. Pay special attention when changing lanes since a car driver could be hanging out in your blind spot.

4 *Take Care of Yourself*

Be very cautious about the prescription and over-the-counter drugs you take and their side effects while driving.

Prescription drugs are legal and intended to help a person when taken correctly. However, they can be dangerous when operating a motor vehicle. Coupled with fatigue or a distraction, these drugs can affect your judgment and driving abilities.

5 *Maintain Your Vehicle*

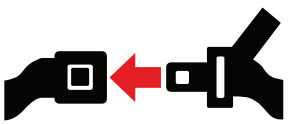
Proper vehicle maintenance can save your life.

Inspecting your vehicle regularly can save your life. Failing brakes are the leading vehicle malfunction that results in a crash. Learn how to inspect your brakes, identify safety defects and have them repaired before risking your life and the lives of others on the highway.

6 *Please Fasten Your Seatbelt*

Buckle up for safety and vehicle control.

If you are in a crash, a seat belt may save your life and that of others. It will keep you in your seat and allow you to maintain control of your truck. Increasing seat belt use is still the single most effective thing we can do to save lives and reduce injuries on our roadways.



BE READY.
BE BUCKLED.