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Winter Driving

Be Prepared for Successful Driving in Snow and Icy Conditions

- **Are Four-wheel or All-wheel Drive Vehicles Better in the Snow?**

No. Having power too all wheels helps you move but does not help you steer or stop.

Excerpt from AAA Everyday Magazine

- **Do I Need Snow Tires?**

It depends. Snow tires are better in snow, but worse on dry pavement. All-season tires attempt to find middle ground. If you plan to drive in all weather and can't wait for the plows, you will need snow tires.

- **What Should I do if I Skid on Snow or Ice?**

Skids are caused by driving too fast for conditions. By driving slower, you reduce instances of wheel spin or brake lock-up. If you still experience a skid, stay off the brakes and gas while you look and steer in the direction you want to go. You don't need to steer into the skid.

- **What is Traction Control & How Should I Use It?**

Antilock brakes and traction control are a real plus in the winter. If you brake too hard, the ABS will pump the brakes rapidly too avoid wheel lock-up leading too a skid. If you attempt to accelerate too quickly, the traction control system kicks in to avoid a wheel spin. You may feel some vibration and pulsation when these systems engage but the sensation is normal and should only last a few seconds.

Whether you will be driving a lot this winter or staying close to home, be safe out there.

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