

# Winter driving tips

Winter 2016



**31%**

of breakdowns were battery related



## Why your customers should upgrade to At Home breakdown cover this Winter

At Home cover provides RAC attendance for cars that have broken down in the driveway.

In the Winter months the cold can cause issues such as alternator and battery failure, blown headlights, windscreen wiper and washer problems, frozen locks and door handles and broken road coil springs.

In the event that your vehicle were to break down at home, we would come to your house and help to get you on your way.

With the cold days drawing in and winter ever closer, a large proportion of RAC call outs will be to customer's homes. So this added benefit would provide peace of mind for the cold snap.

**2,402,225**

2015 breakdowns in the UK

**648,064**

Happened during the Winter months



# Driving in Extreme Conditions

If the driving conditions are extreme then do take note of Met Office weather warnings and only drive if necessary.



## 25%

of all 2015 Winter breakdowns were tyre related



## 23%

of all 2015 Winter breakdowns were mechanical issues



## 5%

of all 2015 Winter breakdowns were electrical problems



## 4%

of all 2015 Winter breakdowns were involved in an accident



## 2%

of all 2015 Winter breakdowns were because of a lock out



## 1%

of all 2015 Winter breakdowns were because of misfuelling



### In snow

- ⚠ To reduce the likelihood of wheel spins, use low revs and try to get into higher gears
- ⚠ Steer into skids
- i Stopping distances may increase depending on severity of the snow
- i Brake, steer and accelerate smoothly



### In heavy rain

- ⚠ In the event of aquaplaning, do not brake but ease off the accelerator
- ⚠ Leave more space between your car and the car in front
- i Use dipped headlights
- i Avoid using rear fog lights



### In fog

- ⚠ Increase the distance between your car and the car in front
- i Use dipped headlights
- i Use your front and rear fog lights



### In high winds

- ⚠ Hold the steering wheel firmly
- ⚠ Maintain control by reducing speed
- i Give all other motorists extra space



### In ice & hail

- ⚠ Importantly, only drive if necessary
- ⚠ Steer into skids
- i Clear all of your windows
- i Increase stopping distance
- i Driving in higher gears can help tyres to grip the road

# Patrol hero advice

## 1. Take your time

Gary Stanton

"Take your time and pay attention to other road users."



## 2. Clear your windows

Phil Kerby

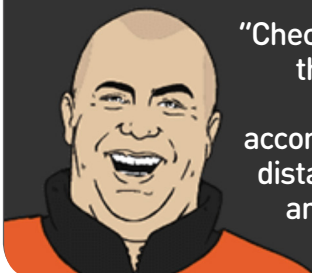
"Spend five minutes allowing your car to warm-up and to clear your windows fully of snow or ice."



## 3. Check the forecast

Ian Webster

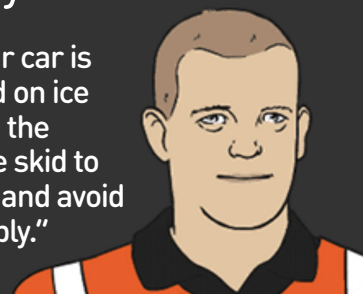
"Check the forecast, assess the road conditions and adjust your speed accordingly and leave more distance between your car and the vehicle in front."



## 4. Skid control

Ryan Guy

"If you feel your car is starting to skid on ice then steer into the direction of the skid to regain control and avoid breaking sharply."



## Win a Winter Breakdown kit

To be in with a chance of winning, simply email using the subject line 'Winter' to [jbrown@rac.co.uk](mailto:jbrown@rac.co.uk)

