

WHAT DO TRACTION ADVISORIES MEAN?

Traction Tires Advised:

Oversize loads prohibited from roadways. Commercial Vehicle Services and load information: wsdot.wa.gov/commercialvehicle

TRACTION
TIRES
ADVISED

Traction Tires Required:

All passenger vehicles must have approved traction tires.* Chains required on all vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 10,000 pounds, including large passenger trucks, SUVs and RVs.

TRACTION
TIRES
REQUIRED

Tire Chains Required:

All vehicles must have approved tire chains, except four- and all-wheel-drive vehicles.** Violators face a \$500 fine.

TIRE
CHAINS
REQUIRED

Chains Required On All Vehicles:

During extreme weather, **ALL** vehicles must install chains when this is posted — even 4WD/AWD.

CHAINS
REQUIRED
ON ALL
VEHICLES

Anyone traveling through high elevations or winter conditions should carry chains in their vehicle. When weather conditions are extreme, **ALL** vehicles may be required to install chains — even 4WD/AWD. Studded tires do not meet chain requirements.

* **Approved traction tires** must have at least an eighth of an inch of tread and be labeled M+S, All Season, or have a Mountain/Snowflake symbol. These tires can be used all year. When you install approved chains, any tire becomes a traction tire. For more information on traction tire options, contact your local tire dealer.



** 4WD and AWD must still **CARRY** chains during this advisory level or face a violation and fine.
(Washington Administrative Code 204-24-050)

ADA Information: This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing the Office of Equal Opportunity at wsdotada@wsdot.wa.gov or by calling toll free, 855-362-4ADA(4232). Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make a request by calling the Washington State Relay at 711.

APPROVED ALTERNATIVE TRACTION DEVICES

The following are state-approved alternative traction devices. Consult your owner's manual and the Washington State Patrol website www.wsp.wa.gov/driver/vehicle-equipment-requirements/

Passenger vehicles

- AutoSock
- Polaire Grip
- Grip Tex
- Polaire Steel
- ISSE Safety
- SOS Grip

Front wheel drive vehicles only

- Easy Grip EVO

Commercial vehicles (less than five axles)

- AutoSock
- ISSE Safety

Commercial vehicles (five or more axles)

- AutoSock

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Subscribe, Follow, Listen



Download the WSDOT app or subscribe to email or text alerts: wsdot.wa.gov/inform

- Follow WSDOT social media accounts: wsdot.wa.gov/inform
- Call 511 for travel information and mountain pass conditions
- Program your radio to WSDOT's Highway Advisory Radio: **530 AM** and **1610 AM**
- WSDOT Winter Info.: wsdot.com/winter
- WSDOT Newsroom: wsdot.wa.gov/news
- Mountain Pass Reports:
Online: wsdot.com/traffic/passes
Twitter: [@wsdot_passes](https://twitter.com/wsdot_passes)
- Cameras & Traffic Alerts: wsdot.com/traffic
- Weather: wsdot.com/traffic/weather



WINTER DRIVING GUIDE



WHAT'S INSIDE

- Prepare for Winter Driving
- What to Carry on Winter Trips
- Tires and Chains
- Roadway Advisories



WINTER TRAVEL: PREPARE, EQUIP, FILL UP

Winter travel can be tough on you and your car. Are you prepared? Make sure you:

- Get a winter maintenance check-up. Check your tires, battery, belts, hoses, radiator, lights, brakes, heater/defroster and wipers.
- Talk to your tire dealer about which tires are the best match for your car and your travel.
- Fill up your gas tank before heading out, so you'll have plenty of gas if delayed in a road closure.

WINTER TRAVEL: ON THE ROAD

- Carry chains. Find out which chains (includes cable chains), or approved alternatives, fit your vehicle and practice installing them.
- Studded tires do NOT meet the chain requirement. Even vehicles equipped with studded tires need to carry chains in winter conditions.



STUDDED TIRE INFORMATION

Washington only allows studded tires from Nov. 1 through March 31. There is no individual exception to the studded tire dates and violators face a \$136 fine. WSDOT may extend the deadline if forecasts indicate severe winter weather conditions are likely across much of the state.

DRIVING IN SNOW AND ICE

- Slow down and drive for conditions.
- Turn on headlights.
- Focus on driving. Don't use cruise control.
- Leave extra room between vehicles.
- Slow down when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shady spots.
- Snowplow drivers have a limited field of vision. Stay back 15 car lengths until you're sure it is safe to pass or until the plow pulls off the road.
- Obey chain up notices - violators face a \$500 fine. Many pass closures are due to slide outs from drivers without proper equipment.
- Not confident about your vehicle or winter driving skills? Consider delaying travel plans.

