

acceleration lane lane that permits drivers entering an expressway to accelerate to the speed of expressway traffic (225)

accelerator pedal controls the flow of fuel to the engine and regulates speed (43)

active restraint device restraint device that you have to engage (100)

advisory speed limit speed limit set for special conditions such as sharp curves (22)

alternator device that generates an electrical current needed to recharge the battery and operate electrical equipment in a vehicle (357)

alternator warning light light or gauge on the instrument panel warning that the battery is being drained (41)

angle parking parking the vehicle diagonally to the curb (120)

antilock braking system (ABS) computer-controlled braking system that keeps the wheels from locking if the driver brakes hard (41)

assigned-risk insurance provides minimum bodily injury and property damage liability coverage to high-risk drivers for a higher premium (346)

backup lights white lights at the rear of the vehicle that tell other drivers you are backing up (81)

banked curve curve higher on the outside than it is on the inside that helps overcome a vehicle's tendency to move to the outside of the curve (97)

basic speed law law stating that you may not drive faster than is safe and prudent for existing conditions, regardless of posted speed limits (22)

belted tire tire that has special layers added to a bias-ply tire for improved strength, performance, and mileage (365)

blind-spot area area that rearview mirrors cannot show (44)

blood-alcohol concentration (BAC) amount of alcohol in the blood expressed as a percentage of alcohol in the bloodstream (318)

blowout sudden loss of tire air pressure while driving (95, 268)

blue-book price average market value for a specific model and age of a used vehicle (339)

bodily-injury insurance covers the driver who is at fault against claims (342)

brake fade loss of braking effectiveness caused by the brakes overheating after long, continuous, hard braking (270)

braking distance distance your vehicle travels from the time you apply the brake until your vehicle stops (99)

car pooling several individuals sharing transportation to one or more destinations in a car (349)

carbon monoxide colorless, odorless, tasteless gas contained in the exhaust fumes of gasoline engines (261)

carburetor engine part that mixes air and gasoline in the proper proportion and sends it as a fine mist to the engine cylinders (361)

catalytic converter part of a vehicle's emission system that converts harmful gases into less harmful gases and water (361)

center of gravity point around which an object's weight is evenly distributed (92)

central vision cone-shaped area of up to 10 degrees in your field of vision in which you can see clearly while looking straight ahead (68)

closed zone space not open to you because of a restriction in your line of sight or intended path of travel (66)

clutch pedal pedal in a manual transmission vehicle that enables a driver to shift gears (43)

collision contact between two or more objects, as when two vehicles collide into each other (9)

collision insurance provides coverage to pay the costs of repair or replacement of your vehicle from a collision (344)

color-blindness inability to distinguish colors (298)

commentary driving system of thinking out loud as you practice the IPDE Process (83)

common speed speed used by most drivers on an expressway (231)

comprehensive insurance provides coverage for replacement or repair of your vehicle from damage other than from a collision (344)

compromise space reduce risk by giving as much space as possible to the greater of two or more hazards (79)

console compartment mounted between the front seats in a vehicle (42)

controlled-access highway highway that vehicles can enter and exit only at interchanges (222)

controlled braking reducing speed as quickly as possible while maintaining steering control of your vehicle (258)

controlled intersection intersection at which traffic signals or signs determine the right of way (134)

controlled railroad crossing railroad crossing controlled by flashing red lights and/or crossing gates (138)

countersteer steer in the opposite direction (277)

cover the brake take your foot off the accelerator and hold it over the brake pedal to be ready to brake quickly (184)

crossbuck large white X-shaped sign located beside an uncontrolled railroad crossing (141)

cruise control device that lets you maintain your desired speed without keeping your foot on the accelerator (42)

deceleration lane expressway lane used to slow your vehicle without blocking vehicles behind you (235)

decide third step of the IPDE Process in which the driver selects the best actions as well as when and where to take them to avoid conflicts (6)

deductible amount an insurance policyholder agrees to pay toward vehicle repair or replacement (344)

defensive driving protecting yourself and others from dangerous and unexpected driving situations (7)

delayed green light indicates that one side of an intersection has a green light while the light for the oncoming traffic remains red (137)

depreciation decrease in the value of a vehicle over time (336)

depressant drug that can slow down the central nervous system (321)

depth perception ability to judge distance between yourself and other objects (300)

designated driver person who decides ahead of time not to drink alcoholic beverages and is appointed to drive others who do drink (320)

differential arrangement of gears at the rear of the vehicle allowing one wheel to revolve faster than the opposite wheel during turns (356)

downshifting shifting from a higher to a lower gear (56)

drive shaft in rear-wheel vehicles, long metal tube turned by the transmission that carries power to the differential (356)

driving task all social, physical, and mental skills required to drive (6)

driving under the influence (DUI) an offense for which a driver can be charged in some states if the driver's blood-alcohol concentration is above 0.05 (323)

driving while intoxicated (DWI) an offense for which a driver can be charged in all states if the driver's blood-alcohol concentration is above a certain level (323)

emotion strong feeling such as anger, fear, and joy (292)

energy of motion kinetic energy or the energy an object has because it is moving (93)

engine-management system computerized system that monitors and adjusts the fuel, ignition, and emission systems (371)

entrance ramp ramp leading onto an expressway (225)

euphoria false sense of well-being developed as a result of alcohol or drug consumption (315)

execute fourth step of the IPDE Process in which a driver performs proper vehicle control responses to avoid possible conflicts (7)

exit ramp ramp leading off an expressway (235)

field of vision all the area a person can see while looking straight ahead (67)

field sobriety test series of on-the-spot, road-side tests that help an officer detect impairment of a driver suspected of DUI or DWI (324)

financial responsibility law law that requires you to prove that you can pay for collision damages you cause that result in death, injury, or property damage (342)

fishtail sliding of the rear of a vehicle from side to side (258)

flashing signal traffic signal that alerts drivers to dangerous conditions or tells them to stop (29)

force of impact force with which one moving object hits another object; varies according to speed, weight, and distance between impact and stop (100)

4–6 second range area where you will be traveling during the next 4 to 6 seconds, and where you get the final update of how you are controlling your intended path of travel (67)

fresh green light light that has just turned from red to green (136)

friction force that keeps each tire from sliding on the road (94)

friction point in shifting, the point at which you feel the engine take hold and the vehicle start to move (53)

fringe vision the part of your peripheral vision that is closest to your central vision and helps you monitor zone changes (300)

fuel-injection system fuel-combustion system (replacing a carburetor) in which vaporized fuel is pumped under pressure to the engine cylinders (361)

full stop a complete stop as required at a stop sign or red light (20)

gap distance between vehicles (144)

glare recovery time time your eyes need to regain clear vision after being affected by glare (301)

glare resistance ability to continue seeing when looking at bright lights (301)

graduated driver licensing program program requiring young drivers to progress through a series of licensing stages with various restrictions (11)

gravity force that pulls all things to earth (92)

ground viewing making quick glances to the roadway in front of your vehicle (70)

guide sign sign that gives directions, distance, services, points of interest, and other information (25)

hallucinogen mind-altering drug that tends to distort a person's perceptions of direction, distance, and time (322)

hand-over-hand steering pulling the steering wheel down with one hand while the other hand crosses over to pull the wheel farther down (113)

hazard flasher device that flashes front turn-signal lights and taillights to warn others the vehicle is a hazard (44)

head restraints padded devices on the backs of front seats that help reduce whiplash injuries in a collision (44)

highway hypnosis drowsy or trancelike condition caused by concentration on the roadway ahead and monotony of driving (238)

highway transportation system (HTS) complex system made up of people, vehicles, and roadways (4)

hydroplaning occurs when a tire loses road contact by rising up on top of water (252)

identify first step in the IPDE Process in which the driver locates potential hazards (6)

ignition switch switch operated by a key which starts or stops the engine (42)

implied-consent law states that anyone who receives a driver's license automatically consents to be tested for blood-alcohol content and other drugs if stopped for suspicion of drug use while driving (323)

inhibitions inner forces of personality that restrain or hold back impulsive behavior (316)

international symbols symbols used on traffic signs that give a message without using words (26)

intoxilyzer breath-test machine most commonly used for determining blood-alcohol content (324)

IPDE Process organized process of seeing, thinking, and responding that includes the steps of identifying, predicting, deciding, and executing (6–7)

jack hand-operated device used to lift and hold one corner or side of the vehicle (268)

joining traffic turning right or left into lanes of other vehicles (144)

lane signal signal, usually overhead, that tells whether a lane can or cannot be used at a specific time (30)

leasing alternative to purchasing a vehicle (338)

legend chart that explains the markings and symbols used on a map (380)

liability insurance provides compensation for damages to a third party for which the insured is legally obligated to pay; covers others when you are at fault (342)

line of sight distance you can see ahead in the direction you are looking (65–66)

lug nuts devices that hold the wheel to the vehicle (269)

mass transportation involves moving large numbers of people together from place to place (349)

master cylinder device in the brake system from which brake fluid is forced to the wheel cylinders when a driver steps on the brake pedal (363)

median area of ground separating traffic moving in opposite directions (202)

merging area stretch of roadway at the end of an acceleration lane on an expressway where vehicles join the flow of traffic (225)

minimize a hazard reduce the possibility of conflict by putting more space between your vehicle and the hazard (78)

minimum speed limit speed limit to keep traffic moving safely by not allowing drivers to drive slower than a certain speed (22)

moped two-wheeled vehicle that can be driven with either a motor or pedal (160)

motor scooter low-powered, two-wheeled vehicle that is more powerful than a moped (161)

muffler device that reduces the noise from combustion sounds in the engine (362)

navigating following a route by reading a map (384)

night blindness not being able to see well at night (300)

no-fault insurance covers an insured's losses and expenses associated with a collision regardless of who is at fault (342)

no-zones large blind-spot areas where truck drivers cannot see other vehicles (168)

nystagmus involuntary jerking of the eyes as a person gazes to the side (325)

odometer device on the instrument panel indicating the total number of miles the vehicle has been driven (40)

oil pump device that forces oil from the oil pan to parts of the engine that need lubrication (359)

open zone space where you can drive without a restriction to your line of sight or intended path of travel (65)

orderly visual search pattern process of searching critical areas in a regular sequence (67)

overdriving headlights driving at a speed that makes your stopping distance longer than the distance lighted by your headlights (248)

oversteer turning the steering wheel too much (110)

overtake pass the vehicle ahead (186)

over-the-counter (OTC) medicine drug that can be obtained legally without a doctor's prescription (321)

parallel parking parking the vehicle parallel to the curb (121)

passive restraint device restraint device, such as an air bag or an automatic seat belt, that works automatically (100)

path of travel space your vehicle will occupy as you travel ahead (65)

pedestrian signal signal used at heavy traffic intersections that tells pedestrians whether they should walk or wait (30)

peer education process in which young people help other young people make decisions and determine goals (327)

peer pressure influence of others of a similar age (326)

perception distance distance your vehicle travels during perception time (98)

perception time length of time you take to identify, predict, and decide to slow for a hazard (98)

peripheral vision area a person can see to the left and right of central vision (68)

perpendicular parking parking the vehicle at a right angle to the curb (120)

personal reference point adapting the standard reference point to one's own vehicle (119)

point-of-no-return point beyond which a driver can no longer stop safely without entering the intersection (132)

powerplant vehicle's engine or motor that generates power (356)

power steering system that uses a hydraulic pump and fluid to make steering easier (363)

predict second step of the IPDE Process in which the driver anticipates possible conflicts (6)

premium specified amount of money paid to an insurance company for insurance coverage over a specified period of time (342)

prescription medicine drug that can be purchased legally only when ordered by a doctor (321)

preventive maintenance routine care and attention to your vehicle (368)

principal driver person who will drive a certain vehicle most often (345)

property-damage insurance protects the driver who is at fault against claims for damages to another person's property, up to specified limits (342)

protected left turn left turn made on a left-turn light, green arrow, or delayed green light while oncoming traffic is stopped (137)

protective equipment items a motorcyclist wears to protect head, eyes, and body (156)

pull-out area additional right lane on narrow mountain roadways for slower-moving vehicles (214)

push-pull steering pushing the steering wheel up with one hand and pulling it down with the other (113)

radial tire tire that has plies that run straight across under the tread and strengthening belts of steel or other materials that circle the tire (365)

radiator part of cooling system that holds and cools the coolant (360)

reaction distance distance your vehicle travels while you react (99)

reaction time length of time you take to execute your action (98)

recreational vehicle large vehicle such as a van, motor home, camper, travel trailer, pickup truck, or sport utility vehicle, used mainly for pleasure and travel (165)

reference point a part of the outside or inside of the vehicle, as viewed from the driver's seat, that relates to some part of the roadway (119)

regulatory sign sign that controls traffic (20)

restraint device any part of a vehicle that holds an occupant in the seat during a collision (100)

ride the brake resting your foot on the brake pedal while driving (184)

riding the clutch resting your foot on the clutch pedal while driving (54)

right of way privilege of having immediate use of a certain part of a roadway (21, 142)

right-turn-on-red turning right when the red signal is on unless specifically prohibited to turn (137)

risk in driving, possibility of having a conflict that results in a collision (4)

roadway marking marking that gives you a warning or direction (31)

roadway users people who use the HTS by walking, driving, or riding (4)

rocking a vehicle repeating the sequence of driving forward a little and then back a little to move your vehicle out of deep snow, mud, or sand (254)

rumble strips sections of rough pavement intended to alert drivers of approaching roadway construction, tollbooth plaza, or other traffic conditions (33)

runaway vehicle ramp place on mountain roads for vehicles to safely get out of traffic when their brakes are not effective (214)

safety chains backup link used in case a trailer hitch fails (388)

scanning glancing continually and quickly with very brief eye fixations through your orderly visual search pattern (68)

school zone portion of a street or highway near a school that is subject to special speed limits (24)

selector lever device in an automatic transmission vehicle used to select gears (42)

selective seeing identifying and selecting only those clues and events that restrict your line of sight or can change your intended path of travel (69)

separate the hazards process of adjusting the speed of a vehicle to handle one hazard at a time when two or more hazards threaten a driver (78)

shared left-turn lane lane on a busy street that helps drivers make safer mid-block left turns into business areas from a center lane (31, 115)

skid when tires lose part or all of their grip on the road (256)

slow-moving vehicle vehicle unable to travel at highway speed (209)

Smith System organized method designed to help drivers develop good seeing habits by using five rules for safe driving (7, 64)

solar-powered vehicle vehicle that captures light from the sun and transforms it into electrical power (350)

space cushion open area around a vehicle consisting of adequate following distance between it and the vehicles ahead and behind, plus swerve paths to left and right (76)

speed smear occurs when objects off to your sides become blurred and distorted as your speed increases (302)

stale green light light that has been green for a long time (136)

standard reference point point on the vehicle typical for most drivers (119)

stimulant drug that speeds up the central nervous system (322)

switchback turn in a road that bends sharply in the opposite direction (213)

tailgate to follow another vehicle too closely (180)

target stationary object that appears in the distance in the center of the path you intend to occupy (50)

target area section of roadway where the target is located and the area to the left and right of the target (66)

target area range space from your vehicle out to target area (66)

thermostat part of cooling system that opens and shuts to control the flow of coolant to the radiator (360)

total stopping distance distance your vehicle travels while you make a stop (98)

traction friction or gripping power between the tires and the roadway surface (74, 94)

tractor-semitrailer type of tractor-trailer that pulls one trailer; commonly called an "eighteen wheeler" (167)

tractor trailer truck that has a powerful tractor that pulls a separate trailer (167)

traffic circle intersection that forms when several roadways meet at a circle (130)

traffic signal any signal used to control the movement of traffic (27)

transaxle device in a front-wheel drive vehicle that carries power to the front wheels via two half-shafts (356)

transmission mechanism in a vehicle that delivers power from the engine to the drive wheels (356)

tread outer grooved surface of a tire that grips the road (94)

tunnel vision being able to see in a narrow field of vision of 140° or less (300)

turnabout maneuver for turning your vehicle around to go in the opposite direction (116)

12–15 second range area you will be traveling in during the next 12 to 15 seconds, and where you need to identify changes in your path of travel (66–67)

uncontrolled intersection intersection that has no signs or signals to regulate traffic (139)

uncontrolled railroad crossing railroad crossing that does not have flashing red lights or crossing gates (140)

underinsured motorist insurance covers costs that exceed what the other person's insurance company will pay as a result of a collision (344)

understeer not turning the steering wheel enough (110)

uninsured motorist insurance covers costs up to a certain amount if you are struck by another vehicle whose driver has no insurance (344)

unprotected left turn left turn made at a signal-controlled intersection without a special left-turn light (137)

van pooling several individuals sharing transportation to one or more destinations in a van (349)

vehicle code federal and state laws that regulate the HTS (5)

velocitation condition of unconsciously driving too fast as a result of driving for long periods at high speeds (238)

visual acuity ability to see things clearly both near and far away (298)

warning sign sign that alerts you to possible hazards and road conditions (23)

warranty written guarantee that the seller will make certain repairs for a stated period of time (339)

water pump part of cooling system that draws coolant from the radiator and forces it through the engine's cooling passages (360)

wolf pack group of vehicles traveling together in a bunch on an expressway (231)

yield to allow another vehicle or roadway user to proceed first (21, 142)

zero-tolerance law law stating it is illegal for persons under the age of 21 to drive with any measurable amount of alcohol in the blood (324)

zone one of six areas of space around a vehicle that is the width of a lane and extends as far as the driver can see (65)

Zone Control System organized method for managing the space—or six zones—around your vehicle (7, 64)

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