

What Are Snow and Ice Road Driving Techniques?

Worksheet

Snow and ice road driving requires gentle acceleration/braking, smooth steering, winter or chain-equipped tyres, 8–10 second following distance, and skid recovery training. Speed must be well below the legal limit.

Questions

1. Starting on ice without wheelspin...

- A) Full throttle in 1st gear
- B) Gentle throttle in 2nd gear
- C) Use high beam to see better
- D) Accelerate quickly then brake

2. Braking distance on ice is...

- A) Same as dry road
- B) 2× dry road
- C) 4–5× dry road
- D) 10× dry road

3. Rear skid on ice — steer...

- A) Away from the skid
- B) In the direction of the skid
- C) Full throttle
- D) Turn off steering assist

4. Best following distance on ice?

- A) 2 seconds
- B) 4 seconds
- C) 8–10 seconds
- D) 20 seconds

5. How to accelerate on ice without wheelspin?

6. Braking distance on ice vs. dry road?

7. Recovering from a rear-wheel skid on ice?

8. Define: Winter tyres vs. all-season in snow?

9. Define: What gear for ice acceleration?

10. Define: Skid on ice — which way to steer?

Answer Key

1. B) Gentle throttle in 2nd gear — High gear + gentle throttle = lower torque, less wheelspin.
2. C) 4-5× dry road — Ice reduces friction drastically; allow 4-5× the normal distance.
3. B) In the direction of the skid — Steer into the skid to regain control; this is counterintuitive but correct.
4. C) 8-10 seconds — Ice requires 8-10 seconds; normal is 2 seconds.
5. Release clutch very slowly (manual) or gently press throttle Feel for grip; if wheels spin, ease off Use 2nd gear if available; avoid 1st on ice Accelerate over several seconds, not sudden
6. Dry road: 50 km/h → ~15 m braking Ice road: 50 km/h → ~60-80 m (4-5× longer) Always assume ice is worst case and allow distance
7. Stay calm, grip wheel firmly Steer in the direction the rear is sliding Do not brake; ease off throttle if spinning Once grip returns, straighten wheels gently
8. Winter tyres have softer rubber and more sipes; they grip snow much better.
9. 2nd gear (or higher) to reduce wheel torque and avoid wheelspin.
10. Steer in the direction the rear of the car is sliding, not against it.

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