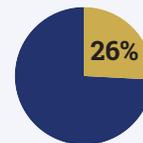


Nine Tips for Driving Safely Around Large Trucks and Buses

If we could put every member of the public in a truck or bus for a day, there would be a lot more awareness and a lot less crashes. But since we can't do that, here are nine tips to help you stay safe around big rigs. One or all of these could save your life.

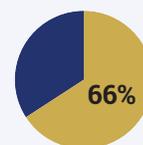
- 1 Never cut in front of a truck or bus. If that vehicle needs to reduce its speed abruptly, a fully loaded truck can take 400 feet (more than the length of a football field) to stop.
- 2 Keep a safety cushion around trucks and buses. Leave at least a 10-car-length gap when your vehicle is in front of a truck or bus, and 20 to 25 car lengths when you are traveling behind a truck or bus. An average passenger car traveling 55 miles per hour takes about 130 to 140 feet to stop.
- 3 Never linger alongside a large truck or bus. Cars can "disappear" from view due to unavoidable blind spots on a truck or bus.
- 4 Pass trucks and buses quickly, and safely, to increase visibility and reduce dangers associated with lingering beside a truck.
- 5 Only change lanes when you can see both of the truck's headlights in your rearview mirror.
- 6 If possible, pass a truck or bus on the left, not on the right. The truck's blind spot on the right runs the length of the trailer and extends out three lanes.
- 7 Check a truck's mirrors. If you are following a truck and you cannot see the driver's face in the vehicle's side mirrors, the driver cannot see you.
- 8 Allow trucks and buses adequate space to maneuver. Those vehicles make wide turns at intersections and require additional lanes to turn.
- 9 Buckle up. It is your last line of defense.

We all have to share the road and the fact of the matter is our roads are only going to get busier. So, do one thing fast: LEARN the proper way to drive in a cooperative manner and the safer we ALL will be. Don't be one of the more than 38,000 people who lose their lives each year on North America's roadways.



For more than two decades, speeding has been involved in approximately one-third of all motor vehicle fatalities. Speeding was a factor in 26% of all traffic fatalities in 2018, killing 9,378, or an average of over 25 people per day.

(NHTSA)



66% of traffic fatalities are caused by aggressive driving.

(NHTSA)