



# Car Features

## to Help Keep You Safe on Wintery Roads

At this time of year, roads can be full of surprises—like snow, sleet, freezing rain, and ice. Having a vehicle with top-notch safety features can go miles toward keeping you and your passengers safe when driving in inclement conditions. What should you look for in a car or truck? Let's take a look...

### 7 Vehicle Safety Features to Give You Peace of Mind

4x4

#### 1. All-Wheel or Four-Wheel Drive

These systems, which feed power to each tire, offer more traction than rear- or front-wheel drive vehicles. They can make it easier to navigate snow-covered streets, parking lots, and driveways.

LED

#### 2. LED Taillights

LED taillights have several advantages over halogen taillights. They are brighter, making it easier to see at night and in fog, rain, snow, and sleet. Also, they last longer, which means less maintenance and lower costs in the long run.



#### 3. Adaptive Headlights

This automatic feature helps to make driving in low-light conditions and at night safer by improving visibility when going over hills and around bends. Adaptive headlights automatically react to the car's steering, speed, and elevation, adjusting how they illuminate the road. For example, if you steer the vehicle to the left, adaptive headlights will automatically angle to the left. Or, if you're heading up a steep hill, adaptive headlights will angle upward so you can better see what's ahead of you on the incline.



#### 4. Lane Departure Warning Systems

A lane departure warning system (LDWS) lets you know if your car has begun to go over a lane marker. It helps prevent you from unintentionally crossing the center line (or highway lane lines) and entering the path of other cars. Some systems alert drivers with a visual, audible, or vibration warning signal. Others will also automatically apply steering assistance to keep the vehicle in its lane.



#### 5. Forward Collision Warning and Automatic Braking Systems

Together, these systems can help avoid accidents. Forward collision warning systems use sensors to determine how fast the vehicle ahead of you is going and compute the distance between your car and that vehicle. Automatic braking systems kick into gear to adjust your vehicle's speed if they detect you are at risk of a collision and need to slow down. These systems can be especially beneficial when adverse weather conditions limit what drivers can see. They can help avert disasters by slowing

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**HUMOR**  
**me**

## SNOW FACTS

- **Snowflakes aren't the only form of snow.**  
Snow can also fall as graupel or sleet. Not to be confused with hail, graupel (or snow pellets) are opaque ice particles that form in the atmosphere as ice crystals fall through freezing cloud droplets—meaning cloud particles that are colder than the freezing point of water but remain liquid.
- **No two snowflakes are the same is a myth!**  
In 1988, a scientist found two identical snow crystals during a storm in Wisconsin.
- **Snow is Translucent not white.**  
Snow is actually colorless, like the ice particles it's made up of. It's translucent, which means that light does not pass through it easily, but is rather reflected. It's the light reflected off a snowflake's faceted surface that creates its white appearance.
- **Each winter in the U.S., at least 1 septillion ice crystals fall form the sky.**  
That's 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000—24 zeros!
- **The Most snow to fall in a 24-hour perios in the United States is 75.8 inches.**  
In 1921, over six feet of snow fell between April 14 at 2:30 p.m. and April 15 at 2:30 p.m. in Silver Lake, Colorado.
- **Not every big snowstorm is a blizzard**  
In order to be classified as a blizzard, a snowstorm must meet a very specific set of qualifications. Winds must blow at least 35 miles per hour and the snowfall must reduce visibility to less than 0.25 miles for a period of at least three hours.

From <https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/61089/15-incredibly-cool-facts-about-snow>

## Recommended Vehicles for Safe WINTER DRIVING

We've turned to several resources for suggestions on which cars offer the best safety-enhancing features for winter driving. Below are several recommended makes and models from 2020 through 2022.

- 2020 Subaru Crosstrek All-Wheel Drive (AWD)
- 2020 Subaru Forester AWD
- 2020 Jeep Cherokee 4x4
- 2020 Acura RDX AWD
- 2020 Volvo V90 AWD
- 2020 Ford Expedition
- 2020 BMW 3 Series xDrive
- 2021 Kia Telluride
- 2021 Subaru Outback AWD
- 2021 Honda CR-V
- 2022 Subaru Ascent
- 2022 Hyundai Tucson
- 2022 Jeep Grand Cherokee
- 2022 Kia Telluride
- 2022 Toyota RAV4 Hybrid
- 2022 Subaru Outback
- 2022 Audi A4 Allroad
- 2022 Volvo XC40
- 2022 BMW 3 Series xDrive
- 2022 Honda CR-V
- 2022 Mercedes-Benz GLA
- 2022 Dodge Charger SXT AWD

Sources:  
<https://blog.nationwide.com/best-cars-for-snow>  
<https://autobala.com/best-cars-for-snow-and-winter-in-2022/270155>

## Tips for Choosing Winter-Worthy Tires

You've invested a significant amount of money in your vehicle. If you skimp on its tires, your investment could be all for naught. Choosing tires wisely—and replacing them when needed—helps to ensure optimal performance and safety from your car or truck. Often, “you get what you pay for” when it comes to tire quality. So, don't base your decision on dollars and cents alone.

### Two Key Factors to Consider When Buying Tires

So, what should you consider when buying or replacing tires?

#### 1. Tread Depth

Worn-out tires put your vehicle at risk of hydroplaning in wet conditions and slipping and sliding in the snow. A good rule of thumb is to buy tires with at least a 4/32-inch depth and replace them when their tread has worn down to 2/32-inch depth.

**TIP:** Measure tread depth by inserting a quarter vertically, with George Washington's head upside down, in the tire's tread groove. If George's head is more than just slightly visible, the tread is starting to wear, and it may be time to ask us to replace your tires.

#### 2. Tire Type

There are some excellent all-season tires available that make a good choice for winter driving. Some have an M+S (mud and snow) rating, with a tread designed for enhanced performance on most road conditions.

Whether they're adequate for your vehicle depends on the severity of your winter weather and if you are typically able to wait to travel until roads are cleared. For some locales, they might not be enough.

Winter tires (a.k.a., snow tires) are specially made to better grip snowy or icy road surfaces. If you live in an area with plentiful snow and other winter precipitation, they may be well worth the investment.

### We're Here to Help Keep You Safe!

If you're not sure which type of tires and brands will deliver the best value, performance, and safety for your money, we're here to help. Give us a call, and we'll be happy to give you more information and our recommendations.



## Car Features

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down vehicles even when drivers are unaware of upcoming road hazards or traffic dangers.



### 6. Traction Control

This safety feature helps prevent vehicles from slipping—especially on wet, icy, or snowy surfaces—when they accelerate. Electronic sensors monitor the speed of each wheel and activate the brakes of one or more wheels automatically (or reduce the engine's power to the wheel) if they are spinning faster than the other wheels. Traction control helps vehicles maintain their grip on the road by regulating and equalizing wheel speed.



### 7. Electronic Stability Control

Electronic stability control (ESC) facilitates a safe driving situation regardless of the weather conditions. ESC uses computerized controls and sensors to monitor steering wheel input, automatically decrease engine power, and apply brakes to individual wheels to help prevent spinouts and rollovers. The feature helps drivers maintain control over their vehicles if they oversteer or understeer during challenging circumstances, such as hydroplaning or skidding on snow or ice.



**Preparation time:** 10 minutes

**Baking time:** 10 Minutes

**Makes 4 - 4 ounce servings**

**INGREDIENTS:**

1lb salmon fillet, cut into 4 pieces

**Glaze**

1/4 cup maple syrup

1 teaspoon lite soy sauce

1 teaspoon freshly grated ginger root or  
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

1 large clove garlic, minced or 1/2 teaspoon  
garlic powder

1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Preheat oven to 400 deg.
2. Combine glaze ingredients in small bowl.
3. Place salmon on baking pan lined with aluminum foil (for easy clean up). Brush salmon with glaze.
4. Bake 10-15 minutes until salmon flakes or reaches an internal temperature of 125 deg.

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