



# Winter Driving Safety

## Tailgate Meeting Guide



### Winter tire specs

Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of workplace deaths in British Columbia.

Whether you drive for work full time or part time, your vehicle is your 'workplace on wheels'. Winterize it to maximize your safety.

**One of the first lines of attack is installing four winter tires** – each with the mountain snowflake symbol and tread of no less than 3.5 mm. Tires marked with an M+S are also legally acceptable but do not provide the same degree of performance as a mountain snowflake tire in severe winter conditions.



Make sure your four tires match. If you use different types of tires, instead of four matched ones, it could cause your vehicle to fishtail.

### Winter tires versus all-season tires:

- Winter tires outperform other types of tires during all winter conditions once the temperature drops below 7 degrees Celsius.
- All-season tires can't compete. The rubber in them begins to harden once it dips below 7 degrees. This means the tires lose elasticity and traction on the road.
- In contrast, the grooves in winter tires are about 30 per cent deeper than all-season tires, so they grip the road more effectively.

Some think they can get away with all-seasons by relieving the tire pressure to offer more contact with the road. You can't! An underinflated tire can be too flexible and could damage the vehicle's internal components resulting in possible tire overheating or even a blowout.

### Obey the 'Winter Tire' and 'Chain Up' signs

There are designated routes that require winter tires or chains from October 1 to March 31. Always put chains on in a safe area. Wear an approved high-visibility vest and turn on your work vehicle's hazard lights.

Visit [DriveBC.ca](http://DriveBC.ca) for information on winter tire requirements for various highways. You'll also find chain-up instructions.

If you have any questions about using chains, talk to your Supervisor.



### Know before you go.

Before heading out:

- Visit [DriveBC.ca](http://DriveBC.ca) for current road conditions.
- Visit [ShiftIntoWinter.ca](http://ShiftIntoWinter.ca) for tips on ways to prepare yourself, your vehicle, and how to drive safely on winter roads.



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Project: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Shift: \_\_\_\_\_

Number on Shift: \_\_\_\_\_ Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other safety issues or suggestions made by attendees:**

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**Record of those attending:**

Name (please print)	Signature	Company
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**Manager's remarks:**

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Manager: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

(signature)

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