

# November

# Wheels

## Use the gentle touch while driving in the winter

Use the gentle touch when driving during the winter. Aggressive starting and steering can lead to skids and slides.

### Go Slow

Slow down well in advance of intersections and leave plenty of room between you and the other driver. Slamming the brakes could lock the wheels and produce an uncontrolled skid. Allow extra time to reach your destination.

### Getting Going

Easy does it when starting on icy or hard-packed snow surfaces.

The application of too much power will spin wheels. If you can't

**Slamming the brakes while on snow or ice could lock the wheels and produce an uncontrolled skid.**

get moving, first turn your wheels side to side a few times to push the snow out of the way then steer straight ahead and ease forward gently. Spinning wheels only gets you in deeper unless

the ice or snow surface is thin or brittle.

### Improve Traction

Tire chains are a great aid to traction. However, even their effectiveness is eliminated as the temperature approaches -20°C. Snow tires are designed to bite into packed snow but are little help on ice or hard-packed snow.

Sanded surfaces may be slippery. While sand is very effective in increasing traction on ice and hard-packed snow at temperatures near the freezing point, it too, becomes increasingly less effective if applied to slippery surfaces as the temperature approaches -20°C.

### If You Get Stuck

Clear away snow from around the tires. Spread a little sand, rock, salt or ashes under the tires. Gently rock

the car back and forth, shifting from forward to reverse, gradually increasing the distance traveled with each rock.

If the going is heavy, this is the time to put on tire chains, but remove them as soon as the road is clear to prevent damage to the road surface or the car and wear on the tires.

### See and Be Seen

Changing weather conditions often affect visibility and perception.

Road spray may reduce your headlight and tail light efficiency so clean them often. In a snowfall use low beams to reduce the glare and reflection from the snow.

### Out Of Control

If your vehicle starts to slide, take your foot off the accelerator and declutch (manu-

al shift) or shift to neutral (automatic shift). Do not brake. Follow your natural impulse and steer to keep the car going in its original direction but be careful - don't oversteer.

When you feel the car regaining traction start to straighten your wheels but be prepared to handle a skid in the opposite direction.

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### Be prepared - even maintained vehicles break down

- From page 14
  - exterior lights;
  - ignition system;
  - tires, including the spare;
  - windshield wipers;
  - and all automotive fluids, especially the engine oil.
- Because even the best maintained vehicles can break down, CAA suggests that motorists prepare a winter survival kit. (For details about the survival kit, please see page 11.)

# MARKVILLE TOYOTA

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