ADVERSE WEATHER CONTINUED

SNOW AND ICE

When driving in falling snow, you need to be able to see and be seen. Improve your visibility by use of the wipers or stopping every so often to clear the windscreen by hand. Keep the demister and heaters on to clear the inside windows. Dipped headlights will make it easier for others to see you.
Extra care is needed at junctions because the snow may be covering any road signs or markings. Just before you start out on a journey, you should test the brakes to ensure that they haven't become snowbound. You should drive in the highest gear possible, as this will reduce the chance of a wheel spin. Your stopping distance can be as much as ten times greater than that of a dry road, so compensate by leaving a greater distance from the traffic ahead. When slowing down you should brake early and very gently. You may find it useful to use the gears to slow the car (avoid in normal driving). All gear changing, braking, steering, and accelerating must be done smoothly to reduce the risk of skidding.
When descending a hill, you may find selecting a lower gear will help to keep a check on the speed and prevent the car going too fast. To climb a hill you should leave a good gap between you and any vehicle on the hill. Select the highest gear which enables you to climb the hill at a steady pace and maintain momentum. You should avoid stopping or changing gear on the hill itself.

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