TYPICAL STOPPING DISTANCES


The Overall Stopping Distances are DOUBLED (x 2) for wet roads and multiplied by TEN (x 10) for snow and icy conditions.

Below is a chart showing a system for working out the Overall Stopping Distance in feet.
Example: $30 \mathrm{mph} \times 21 / 2=75 \mathrm{ft}$
Thinking Distance in feet is the same as the speed travelling at.
Example: $30 \mathrm{mph}=30 \mathrm{ft}$ think distance
To calculate the Braking Distance in feet just deduct the Thinking Distance from the Overall Stopping Distance Example: $75 \mathrm{ft}-30 \mathrm{ft}=45 \mathrm{ft}$

CALCULATION SYSTEM FOR STOPPING DISTANCES IN FEET

| MPH | THINKING DISTANCE | + | BRAKING | $=$ | OVERALL STOPPING DISTANCE | $=$ | MPH x ? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 20 | 20 | + | 20 | $=$ | 40 | $=$ | $20 \times 2$ |
| 30 | 30 | + | 45 | = | 75 | $=$ | $30 \times 21 / 2$ |
| 40 | 40 | + | 80 | = | 120 | $=$ | $40 \times 3$ |
| 50 | 50 | + | 125 | = | 175 | $=$ | $50 \times 31 / 2$ |
| 60 | 60 | + | 180 | = | 240 | = | $60 \times 4$ |
| 70 | 70 | + | 245 | $=$ | 315 | $=$ | $70 \times 41 / 2$ |

$1 \mathrm{~m}=3.28$ feet. For metres: divide measurement in feet by 3 and take the nearest answer.

## SEPARATION DISTANCES

A reasonable rule to apply with good dry road conditions is a gap of 1 metre per mph of your speed. Example: $45 \mathrm{mph}=45$ metre gap.

To judge this gap a useful technique is the 'two second rule'. When the vehicle in front passes an object, say to yourself - 'only a fool breaks the two second rule' if you reach the object before you've finished saying it then your are too close.

If a vehicle travelling behind you has a gap of only 1 second, then increase the gap in front of you to 3 seconds.

