

## Stay safe this winter



The VLS team are always here to help

# Top tips

## To keep your vehicle worry-free this winter



- Regularly check your tyres are in good condition, correctly inflated and have a good tread depth
- Keep your vehicle well maintained with an up to date MOT and services as well as regular visual checks
- Always keep an ice-scraper and de-icer in your vehicle
- Complete a winter check of your cars fluids, including your oil and top up your windscreen washer bottle and radiator with anti-freeze. Many garages offer a winter check if you are not confident of checking your vehicle.
- Pack a winter driving kit in case of emergencies. This should include a torch, spade, blanket, warm clothing, suitable footwear, food and drink, first aid kit and a warning triangle
- Keep a pair of sunglasses in your car to avoid the dazzle from low winter sun



- Before starting a journey you should ensure all snow is cleared from your windscreen, windows, roof, lights, mirrors and number plate, you could be breaking the law if not
- Use your air conditioning to demist your windows ensuring all round visibility
- Allow extra time for your journey
- Check the weather forecast before your travel across all points on your route
- Plan your route before you set off using main roads as these are more likely to be gritted
- Check your phone has enough charge to complete your journey in case of an emergency
- Avoid hills, inclines and sharp bends wherever possible



- Only drive if essential
- Never set off when it's snowing heavily
- Use the highest gear possible to prevent wheel spin
- Avoid harsh acceleration and braking
- Drive to the conditions of the road
- Take corners slowly and carry out manoeuvres slowly and with extra care
- Brake gently to prevent your wheels from locking
- Stopping distances can be 10 times greater in snow and icy conditions
- Never assume roads have been gritted
- Stay well back from the vehicle in front as snow and spray make it difficult to see
- Stopping will be more important than starting.



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#### **CONTACT OUR TEAM ON:**

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