CMV Driver Tips

Make a Plan for Safe Speed

- Slow Down in Work Zones
- Be Aware of Long Stopping Distance
- Review Your Route Ahead of Departure
- Check the Weather
- Complete Vehicle Pre-Checks
- Reduce Speed On Curves and Ramps
Slow Down in Work Zones

Work zones present many hazards, like lane shifts, sudden stops, uneven road surfaces, moving equipment and workers, and more. Stay alert and be prepared to stop.

Be Aware of Long Stopping Distance

As speed increases, stopping distance also increases. Maintain a safe speed so if the need to stop arises, it can be done efficiently.

Review Your Route Ahead of Departure

Be aware of detours, mountainous terrain, and road conditions to anticipate when a slower speed may be necessary. Large vehicles accelerate slower uphill and may gain speed quickly downhill.

Check the Weather

Stay up to date on weather forecasts that may impact your route. Hazardous conditions like rain, sleet, or snow can greatly increase stopping distance for CMVs. Drive at an appropriate speed to avoid the risk of a crash.

Complete Vehicle Pre-Checks

Make sure pre-trip safety inspections are complete, particularly for tires and brakes. This helps you take control of the speed you’re maintaining throughout your journey.

Reduce Speed on Curves and Ramps

The speed limits posted on curve warning signs are intended for passenger vehicles; CMVs should reduce speed even further. Approach curves and entrance/exit ramps at a safe speed to avoid rollovers.

FIND MORE CMV DRIVING TIPS AT:
www.fmcsa.dot.gov/ourroads/tips-truck-and-bus-drivers