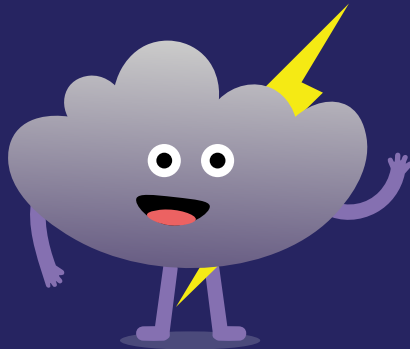
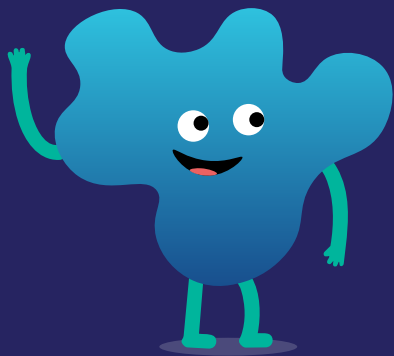


WEATHER YOUR DRIVE

Weather events like floods, storms and heat can rapidly change road conditions, reducing visibility, vehicle control and driver performance—significantly increasing the risk of crashes.



Did you know?

Crash risk increases by 22% in warm temperatures and 15% in sudden weather changes¹³.

Planning in advance and adjusting when and how you drive is critical for safety.

Types of Weather Events on Australian Roads

-  Flooding (flash floods and road inundation)
-  Fog and low visibility
-  Heatwaves (affecting roads and vehicles)
-  Bushfire smoke and dust storms
-  Hail and strong winds
-  Heavy rain and storms

In an NRSPP survey exploring road safety in severe and changing weather, 46% of respondents identified driving too fast for the conditions as the most unsafe behaviour on the road.

This driver behaviour drastically reduces stopping distance, reaction time, traction and visibility, which can lead to high-speed collisions and fatalities. Drivers must safely adapt to the weather conditions to maintain vehicle control and prevent hazards.

In the same survey, 47% said drivers are not well prepared for sudden or severe weather changes. It is important to know when to stop driving and wait for conditions to improve. If roads are unsafe or closed, you feel your health or safety is compromised, visibility is poor or your vehicle is not performing normally, these are clear indicators to safely pull over when possible and reassess the situation.

Factors contributing to poor driving habits in harsh weather conditions

- ⚡ Failure to adjust driving behaviour
- ⚡ Ignoring unexpected weather changes
- ⚡ Overly-confident drivers
- ⚡ Inadequate vehicle maintenance

There are many challenges when driving in varied and adverse weather events that can change the course of your trip.

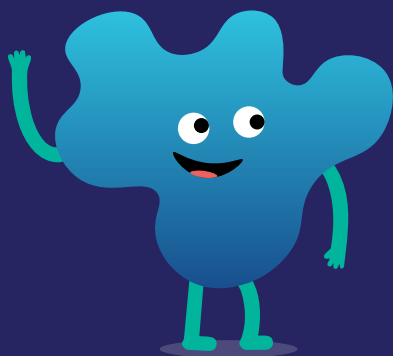
When the weather changes, stopping somewhere safe until it clears up can be critical for your safety. Never drive in extreme and risky situations.

These oversights contribute to road trauma and crashes. Prioritise slowing down, avoid sudden braking or other manoeuvres, and safely modify your driving style to suit the conditions¹⁴. Never underestimate the climate and its impact on road conditions, or feel pressured to follow what other drivers do if it is not safe.



Key takeaways to prevent crash risk

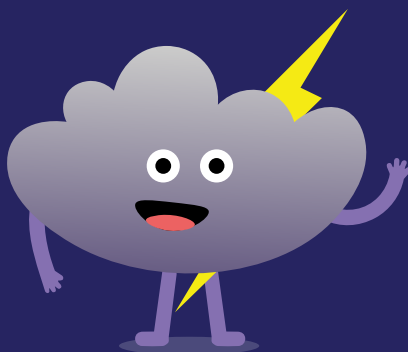
Flood



Never drive through floodwater - turn around.

Read more in our Flood Wise Fact Sheet [here](#).

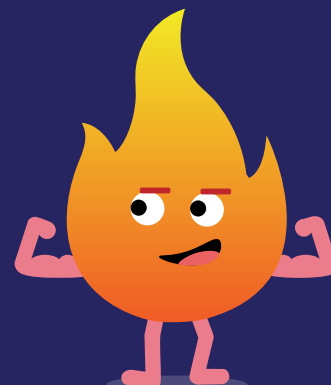
Storm



Slow down earlier than you think you need to.

Read more in our Storm Smart Fact Sheet [here](#).

Heat



Check your vehicle before driving (especially tyres and coolant).

Read more in our Heat Ready Fact Sheet [here](#).

Recommendations for drivers

- Maintain your vehicle.



- Be observant and patient on the road.



- Stay informed by checking the forecast.



- Slow down when conditions change.



- Plan your journey and only travel when necessary if weather conditions are poor.



Recommendations for managers

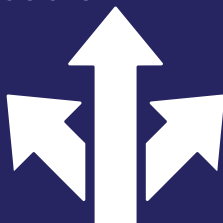
- Establish clear weather-related driving policies.



- Reduce or cut back non-essential travel for employees.



- Empower employees to make safe driving decisions.



- Provide regular, up-to-date safety and driver behaviour training.



Weather Resources

- ⚡ Bureau of Meteorology: Emergency management crisis support
- ⚡ Australian Warning System: National approach to information and warnings¹⁵
- ⚡ ABC Emergency: Alerts in your area¹⁶
- ⚡ State Emergency Services: Volunteer-based organisation with 24/7 emergency assistance during natural disasters in each state/territory
- ⚡ 000: If in immediate danger

**Be Flood Wise,
Be Storm Smart,
Be Heat Ready.**

