CHAIN REQUIREMENTS
“R” ratings on snowy roads indicate chain requirements for various conditions.

Most vehicles come equipped with snow tires. Look for M&S (mud and snow), All-Season, or All-Terrain on side of tire.

R-1 chains required except for vehicles with snow tires (chains required for any vehicle pulling a trailer)

R-2 chains required except for 4-wheel drive with snow tires

R-3 chains required for all vehicles

BAD WEATHER?
• Slow down
• Allow extra time
• Leave extra distance between you and the car ahead
• Gently apply brakes to avoid skids
• Open window a crack if caught in stalled traffic to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning

BAD WEATHER CHECKLIST:
• Tires with plenty of tread
• Windshield wipers in good condition
• Washer full of fluid
• Gas tank full
• Defroster working
• Muffler and exhaust in good condition
• Antifreeze in radiator

CARRY:
• Tire chains and tighteners
• Flashlight and batteries
• Flares
• Small shovel
• Windshield scraper
• Warm, waterproof clothing
• Blankets, snacks, and drinking water

CALL AHEAD FOR ROAD CONDITIONS
California road information from California telephones 1-800-427-7623 (ROAD)

California road information from outside California 1-916-445-1534

Nevada road information 1-877-687-6237

Updated weather info also is available on the Internet: www.chp.ca.gov • www.dot.ca.gov

CHAIN INSTALLATION SERVICES
Chain installers are not state employees. They are licensed workers required to display a permit on their jacket. Fees must be posted and a receipt given for payment. Chain installers are not permitted to sell chains.

CHAINING UP
• Move out of vehicle lanes.
• Park off roadways, freeways, and access ramps.
• Park out of path of snow removal equipment.
• Install chains on vehicle drive tires.

Additional information regarding chain requirements in California may be found on the Internet at: www.dot.ca.gov
• Drive with headlights on.
• Stay alert for vehicle hydroplaning.
• Apply brakes more slowly; they may pull.
• Leave extra distance between your car and the next motorist.

• Drive with lights on LOW beam. It is illegal to drive with parking lights on.
• Watch for California Highway Patrol pace vehicles to guide you through fog.
• Avoid crossing traffic lanes.
• Do not stop on highways except in emergencies.
• Move away from stalled or disabled vehicle.
• Consider postponing trip until fog clears.

• Carry chains in snow conditions, even if vehicle has 4-wheel drive. It’s the law.
• Observe speed limit in chain control areas – 22363CVC states, The speed limit when chains are required is either 25, 30, 35 or 40 miles per hour, based on conditions.
• Check owner’s manual for operating tips on your vehicle’s braking system.
• Watch for paddle-shaped markers – they show the road’s edge.
• Studded pneumatic tires may only be used between November 1st and April 31st, unless the studs are retracted.
• Stay with your vehicle if you break down.

Be aware, smoke and dust are as deadly as fog.