Instructions: Use the arrows or swipe left / right to browse through the slides. (The slideshow will autoplay unless you click the PAUSE button.) When you have completed your review of all slides, click on the X in the upper right corner of the presentation to return to your lesson.
There are many factors which determine an individual’s attitude toward driving.

All of these factors combine and help determine if a driver will be courteous, safe and law abiding or a tailgating, speeding and discourteous individual that fails to use his safety belt.
Age, sex, employment background, education and where someone lives.

Tolerance, aggressiveness, risk-taking and susceptibility to peer pressure.
3 DEVELOPMENTAL
Physical, emotional, social and behavioral.

4 ENVIRONMENT
Community involvement, risk perception, entertainment and parental influence.
5 DRIVING ENVIRONMENT
Daylight or dark, weather and road conditions, vehicle type and passengers.

6 DRIVING ABILITY
Knowledge, skill and experience.
Most of us would like to believe that we not only know what it takes to be a good driver, but that we put such knowledge into practice every time we are behind the wheel. Unfortunately, most of us never get past the basics.

Defensive driving involves a proactive attitude behind the wheel and anticipating potential hazards instead of simply reacting to them.
You should know the limitations of both yourself and your vehicle, and how to handle both in a hazardous situation.

Driving defensively means not only taking responsibility for yourself and your actions, but also keeping an eye on “the other guy.”
DEFENSIVE DRIVING TECHNIQUES

The SIPDE Technique

This technique effectively teaches motorists how to drive defensively. Defensive driving not only ensures road safety, it also saves fuel, lowers the cost of insurance premiums and increases the overall life of the vehicle.
Sweep, search and scan. Keep your eyes moving at all times to effectively see imminent danger.
Identify hazards. Identify what’s happening (such as roadway features). Take notice of things that could cause trouble.
PREDICT

Predict which hazards could potentially come into conflict with you. Predict two things:

1. Worst Case Scenario
2. Actions
Decide on a safe action. For example, decide on something to do should a dog run across the road.
Execute a move to avoid conflict: braking, accelerating, turning, etc.
While there are many characteristics of a defensive driver, these FOUR are essential to the driving task:
A defensive driver will try to predict possible danger and be prepared to act accordingly. Good defensive drivers are alert to what is going on around them. They are well rested and would never take any drugs or alcohol that could affect their concentration before driving. You must ALWAYS pay attention to details happening around you as you drive, and if you are impaired in any way, you will not be able to do that properly.
(2) ANTICIPATION

Defensive drivers maintain a safe following distance. Defensive drivers anticipate what may or may not happen and they take action to avoid many problems. Tailgating, and following too closely, does not allow for the needed seconds to avoid a possible crash.

You MUST anticipate potential hazards from other drivers, motorists, pedestrians, weather, and equipment, and take steps to minimize the risk.
(3) JUDGEMENT

Make sure you do not exceed the posted speed limit. In poor weather conditions, slow down so you are able to control your vehicle. Good defensive drivers do not make risky maneuvers, like trying to beat red lights or trains. They don’t try to pass unless its safe, and they look for alternatives to any traffic situation.
Good defensive drivers, have the skills to operate a vehicle safely through traffic, without endangering anyone else on the road. A defensive driver, is aware of the blind spot of the vehicle in front of them. A good defensive driver will scan the road ahead, avoid being distracted, and maintain road discipline.
A careful, responsible driver that obeys the laws and regulations of the road will do more to lower the nation’s accident rate than any safety feature of a car.