

## 5 Fundamentals of Defensive Driving\*

Defensive driving is driving to minimize risk and prevent incidents in spite of conditions, other drivers and your own mood or personal issues. How do you do this?

<h3>1. Think and look ahead</h3>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keep eyes up</li><li>• Look ahead 12-15 seconds</li><li>• Take in the whole scene</li><li>• Move your eyes</li><li>• Track vehicles</li><li>• Use eye contact</li></ul>	<h3>2. Anticipate hazards</h3>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Near moving vehicles</li><li>• By parked vehicles</li><li>• By other road users</li><li>• On highways &amp; freeways</li><li>• On rural roads</li></ul>	<h3>3. Keep options open</h3>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Calculate following distance</li><li>• Add following distance</li><li>• Stop at controlled intersections correctly</li></ul>	<h3>4. Manage the risk</h3>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Choose safe speeds</li><li>• Pass safely</li><li>• Brake intelligently</li><li>• Scan for animals</li></ul>	<h3>5. Control with finesse</h3>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use the correct seat position</li><li>• Use total control steering</li><li>• Brake effectively</li></ul>
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**IT COUNTS:** To get a head start on your bus operator career, consider taking a defensive driving course as soon as you can. All employers are looking for this qualification.

\* Courtesy of Thinking Driver © 2010