
ACCESSING SAFETY KNOWLEDGE (ASK) SHEET:

TYPES OF DRIVERS ON THE ROAD – WHICH TYPE ARE YOU? (11-15)

There are a wide variety of drivers on the road. As wide as there are personalities. Do you recognize yourself in any of these?

11. **The Pensioner** – Whether or not the pensioner is old enough to receive a pension, this driver's hands are permanently in the 10 and 2 positions. This type of driver sits so close to the steering wheel they're practically eating it, and they signal turns miles in advance and tend to cause an unintentional disruption in traffic flows. We encourage careful and safe driving. However, there is such a thing as being "too careful."
12. **The Agitator** – This driver tends to be all over the place, feeling anxious about his drive, and trying hard to avoid stops in traffic. They are impatient and pushy by nature, though nobody knows where they are heading since they seem to always be driving against the clock. The agitators tend to keep a driving record that cannot let them get cheaper auto insurance because of their accidents, always not their fault.
13. **The Loud Honker** – In essence, these drivers blow their horn repeatedly to hurry others in front of them or make their presence on the road known. They are very easy to identify because they'll make sure you know who they are. If you are in front of a loud honker, you may be tempted to drive in reverse.
14. **The Novice Driver** – Watch out for this type of driver! They usually show poor driving skills and they are talented for dangerous mistakes. Always try to stay miles away from them because they are unpredictable by nature. They are constantly swerving, speeding, and braking abruptly. They may appear confused, which makes it easier to identify them.
15. **The Defensive Driver** – Defensive drivers are the ideal kind to have on the road with you, as they take a proactive approach to driving rather than a reactive one. These drivers are always cautious and vigilant, keeping a reasonable amount of space between cars while constantly watching for hazards. These traits give them time to react in the event of an emergency, reducing an accident's likelihood as a result. Defensive drivers understand that going too slow is also dangerous, so they try to keep up with traffic while maintaining the designated speed limit. Since their defensive nature makes them the safest drivers to drive with, it's encouraged that many drivers try to adopt some of their traits. Doing so can make it easier to safely change lanes, react when needed, and create the best possible experience for all involved.

Provided by the ASA – Houston Chapter Safety & Health Committee and ADAMS
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