



Are you
TRUCKSMART?
SAFE MOTORING AND RESPONSIBLE TRANSPORTATION

This material was developed by the Michigan Center for Truck Safety
and funded by the Michigan Truck Safety Commission.

NOT SO SMART:

Driving in a truck's blind spots



SMART: Knowing trucks have four large blind spots: in front, in back, and to the left and right; not hanging out in the “no zones” (if you can't see the driver in the mirror, the driver can't see you)



NOT SO SMART:

Following too closely (if the truck stops suddenly, it definitely will not be good for you)



SMART:

Keeping a safe distance between you and the large truck in front of you (once again, if you can't see the driver in the mirror, that driver can't see you behind the truck)



NOT SO SMART:
Passing a truck within
one mile of your exit



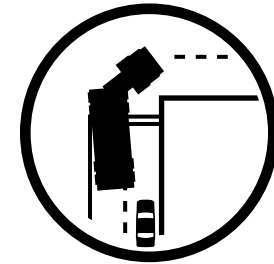
SMART:
Trucks can't slow down as
quickly as cars, so either
change lanes in front of the
truck at a safe distance or
hang back and wait.



NOT SO SMART:
Sneaking between a truck
and the curb while the
truck is making a right turn



SMART:
Avoid the "squeeze play."
Stay back, giving a truck
plenty of room to make a
right turn.



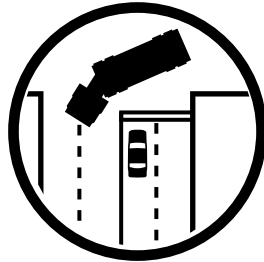
NOT SO SMART:

Stopping over the white stopping lines at intersections



SMART:

Stopping behind the white stopping lines, giving large vehicles plenty of room to make turns at intersections



NOT SO SMART:

Expecting a truck to move out of your way when merging onto the highway



SMART:

Knowing that merging traffic must yield when merging onto the highway; so pick your spot, adjust your speed appropriately and go with the flow





NOT SO SMART:

Thinking that fatigue is only a problem for “over-the-road” truck drivers

SMART:

Knowing that everyone gets fatigued; if you feel tired, you are fatigued

NOT SO SMART:

Thinking that safety is the responsibility of other drivers

SMART:

Practicing the 10 steps for responsible driving because safety is all about YOU:

1. YOU should plan your route
2. YOU should maintain your vehicle
3. YOU should focus your attention

4. YOU should minimize your distractions
5. YOU should know your surroundings
6. YOU should share your space
7. YOU should watch your speed
8. YOU should keep your distance
9. YOU should signal your intentions early
10. YOU should always wear your safety belt

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1935 PA59; 20,000 copies
@ \$.106 per copy, total \$2,127.90