



Proper Use of the “Eyes”

What does using your eyes properly mean when you are driving? It means that you are staying alert and using your eyes to focus on the driving situations all around you. If you take your focus off the road ahead of you, you have a high probability of getting involved in a rear-end collision. Rear-end Collisions are one of the leading causes of accidents on our highways. They usually result in major property damages to 2 or more vehicles and serious injuries to one or more persons.

SHOW & TELL FORMAT: (should be done in a parking lot)
SHOW each technique and **TELL** the group what the technique is.

Defensive driving techniques that will help reduce the likelihood of a rear-ending type accident:

1. Scanning from side to side. Your peripheral vision (what you see to the side, while you are looking forward) is greatly reduced as your speed increases.
2. Check your mirrors every 3-5 seconds to keep you aware of the location of other vehicles on either side of you and/or behind you.
3. Checking the horizon at least ¼ mile ahead in the country and 1 to 1 ½ blocks in the city.
4. Stay alert to what others are doing. The only vehicle you have total control over is your own but with effective use of your eyes you have an edge of detecting the inappropriate actions of others and moving your vehicle out of harms way.
5. Plan an escape route in the event of an emergency to the front and/or either direction to the sides of the vehicle. You can only do this if you have effectively mastered steps 1-4.

SHOW: (Choose a volunteer) Have one worker demonstrate each of the 5 techniques

For the best results have each employee sit in the vehicle behind the wheel (in the parking lot). Ask them to explain how they would do each step and what they see while doing them.

Employee’s Signature: _____ Date: / /

Presenter’s Signature _____ Date: / /

Driver Compliance Driver Education Series Tailgate session- Proper Use of the Eyes

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