

HIGHWAY DRIVING

The Territory has vast stretches of variable speed and surfaced highways. These networks connect communities from North to South, East to West.

To be as safe as possible on our highways always be aware of your driving/riding and vehicle capabilities and know the road conditions ahead.

Highways are classed in 2 main types:

- Sealed
- Unsealed

Sealed highways are accessible to all types of vehicles and are well signposted. Unsealed highway surfaces may vary from a gravel road to a graded natural surface.

While highway driving, it is likely you will encounter many types of road users travelling at different speeds and under different conditions. Any combination of vehicle, speed, road environment and highway type will have different characteristics and require a flexible safe approach.

It is vital to take such things into account when driving. Give space and time and have an awareness of other highway users.

Driving capability

We all have different driving capabilities. Some drivers will not be comfortable in conditions like wet weather or at night. Others may be uncomfortable driving at signposted highway speeds.

Driving to your own capability and in a predictable manner will allow you to be more comfortable on the road and will contribute to safer highway travel for all road users.

Vehicle capability

All vehicles have different driving and handling capabilities. A bus or a 4WD towing a caravan will have different turning, driving, speed and stopping abilities than a smaller vehicle like a sedan.

You should be aware of your vehicle's capabilities and drive within those. For instance at higher speeds some vehicles may feel lighter in the steering, while for other vehicles specific components like tyres may only be rated to a certain top speed.

Be aware of the vehicle limitations and drive within those.

Road Conditions

The conditions of the road environment can often change in short timeframes.

Fire can cause near zero visibility while heavy rain can cause damage to verges, create potholes or wash away road sections. Driving at dusk, dawn, at night or in glaring conditions will also affect your ability to read the road.

It's important to know the road you are travelling on is safe even if you have driven it before. Check the NT Road Report website for current road conditions.

Further Information

For further information contact Road Safety on:



1800 720 144



roadsafety@nt.gov.au

