

OCTOBER 8 / 2018



FOLLOWING DISTANCE



For CMV vehicles, at a speed below 40 mph, you need at least one second for every 10 feet of vehicle length. For a typical tractor-trailer, this results in 4 seconds between you and the leading vehicle. For speeds over 40 mph, you should leave at least one additional second. In addition, you must always adjust your following distance with the current weather conditions such as rain, ice, and snow, or debris, and depending on road surfaces, visibility, and traffic.

The average stopping distance for a loaded tractor-trailer traveling at 55 mph (in ideal conditions) is 196 feet, which is almost 3/4 the length of a football field.

Having an adequate following distance is one of the key truck driving safety tips that will allow you to react early to what is happening in front of you. If you use the visual search and ensure you have enough space between you and the vehicle in front of you, there will be ample time to slow down or change lanes to avoid a crash.

Safe following distances can vary depending on speed, weather conditions you are driving in, road surface and type of vehicle you are driving. Large trucks need additional space in order to perform safe braking and react under unexpected situations. When crashes occur statistics show that large trucks most often hit the vehicle in front of them because they didn't have enough following distance.

If you have any questions, please contact the Safety Department at ext. 1304 or email us at ssandri@nalogistics.com.

And remember..... Safety is not a choice is a must..... Drive safely!

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