

The Overall Stopping Distances are **DOUBLED** (x 2) for wet roads and multiplied by **TEN** (x 10) for snow and icy conditions.

Below is a chart showing a system for working out the **Overall Stopping Distance** in feet.

Example: 30mph x $2^{1/2} = 75$ ft

Thinking Distance in feet is the same as the speed travelling at.

Example: 30mph = 30ft think distance

To calculate the **Braking Distance** in feet just deduct the Thinking Distance from the Overall Stopping Distance

Example: 75ft - 30ft = 45ft

CALCULATION SYSTEM FOR STOPPING DISTANCES IN FEET

| MPH | THINKING DISTANCE | + | BRAKING | = | OVERALL STOPPING DISTANCE | = | MPH x ? |
|-----|-------------------|---|---------|---|---------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 20 | 20 | + | 20 | = | 40 | = | 20 x 2 |
| 30 | 30 | + | 45 | = | 75 | = | $30 \times 2^{1/2}$ |
| 40 | 40 | + | 80 | = | 120 | = | 40 x 3 |
| 50 | 50 | + | 125 | = | 175 | = | $50 \times 3^{1/2}$ |
| 60 | 60 | + | 180 | = | 240 | - | 60 x 4 |
| 70 | 70 | + | 245 | | 315 | = | $70 \times 4^{1/2}$ |

1m = 3.28 feet. For metres: divide measurement in feet by 3 and take the nearest answer.

SEPARATION DISTANCES

A reasonable rule to apply with good dry road conditions is a gap of 1 metre per mph of your speed. Example: 45mph = 45 metre gap.

To judge this gap a useful technique is the 'two second rule'. When the vehicle in front passes an object, say to yourself - 'only a fool breaks the two second rule' if you reach the object before you've finished saying it then your are too close.

If a vehicle travelling behind you has a gap of only 1 second, then increase the gap in front of you to 3 seconds.