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Tailgating

Contrary to the old saying, you don't have to be one to know one. The quicker you spot a tailgater and take defensive action, the more likely you'll prevent trouble. Here are some refresher tips on how to avoid one of driving's "pet peeves."

Recognizing a tailgater

If you can't see the entire vehicle in your rear view mirror, the vehicle is a tailgater.

If the vehicle is closing the gap rapidly, has no "out," and must continue forward, it's a tailgater.

Getting rid of a tailgater

- Move to the right and let the vehicle pass—if you can.
- Encourage passing by slowing down and waving the vehicle on.
- If the vehicle won't pass or drop back, pull off the road or turn—this individual may require so much of your attention that you will miss an important traffic cue up ahead.

How to neutralize a tailgater

- Slow down gradually as traffic permits.
- Flash brake lights several times.
- Use proper arm signal.

WATCH WHAT'S GOING ON UP AHEAD—
DON'T LET TAILGATERS HYPNOTIZE YOU.

How to deal with the special tailgater

- **The creeper**—keeps getting closer and closer and closer. This requires constant reference to your mirrors to spot this character.
- **The gangbuster**—in a hurry. If you see one coming in someone else's lane, watch out. After trying to push the other driver, you may be next.
- **If they want through**—help them. You can keep a better eye on them if they're out in front.

THE OTHER PERSON'S PROBLEMS ARE
YOURS TOO.

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