

# 16. Safety bubble

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For your own safety and the safety of other road users you must maintain an adequate space around your vehicle at all times - a safety bubble ...

By maintaining a safe space around your car you will have room to react when things take you by surprise. And you can be absolutely certain that things take even the best drivers by surprise from time-to-time!

When passing parked vehicles leave a minimum of one car door's width. This will help to prevent an accident when someone suddenly opens a door or steps out from behind a parked car. If there is not enough space to leave a door's width, slow down, or stop and give way.

Leave plenty of space when passing cyclists, pedestrians, or animals - these road users are very vulnerable.

Make sure that you understand the 'two-second' rule taught by your instructor, and use it whenever you are driving in free flowing traffic. Remember, you need at least twice as much space to stop in wet weather (this means a gap of four seconds).

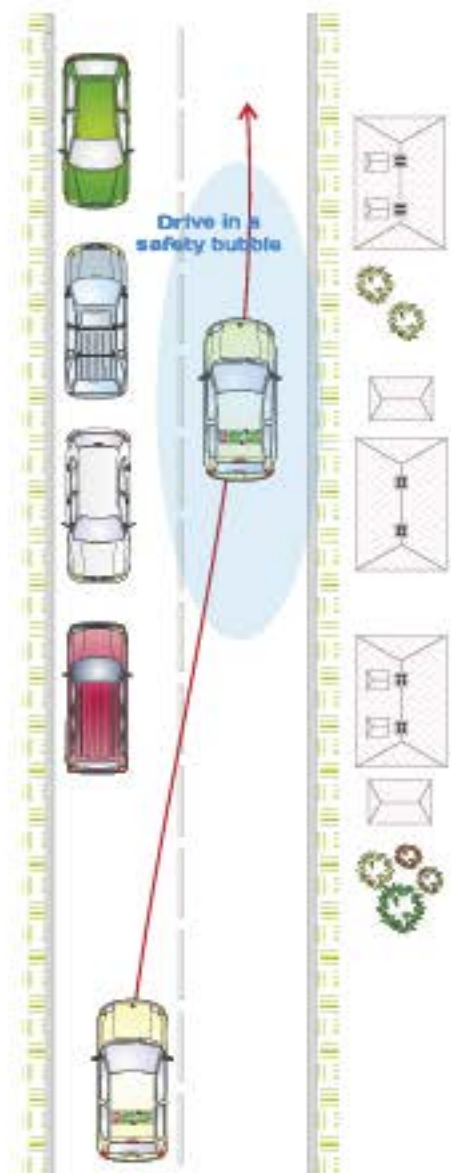
You can control the safety space behind your vehicle by adjusting your speed. If the driver behind is following too closely, gently reduce speed and increase your forward safety gap to allow extra stopping distance.

If closely following vehicles make you feel uncomfortable, simply allow them to overtake - this will make little or no difference to your journey time, but you will be much more likely to arrive safely ...

Be a 'space person' - keep a safe space, a safety bubble around your vehicle all the time.



**Less space ... Less speed!**



## Lesson Notes:

