



How To Be a Good Carpooler

Save time and money by sharing a ride. Besides splitting gas, tolls, or parking costs, more people carpooling means fewer cars on the road, so we'll all get where we're going faster.

Carpooling does not have to be limited to your work commute. You can do it any day of the week for any type of trip. If you are in a sports league or go to weekly religious services, you can set up regular carpools. And you can also form spontaneous carpools when running errands—ask a friend to come along!

Thanks to social media, it is now easier than ever to find somebody going your way. Online resources:

- MassRIDES—www.commute.com
- eRideShare—www.erideshare.com
- Zimride—www.zimride.com
- Ridester—www.ridester.com

Carpool etiquette

DO:

- Give plenty of notice if you'll be away on vacation; notify others immediately about sick days or emergencies.
- Call or text your fellow carpoolers if you're running late.
- Drive carefully. There's no excuse for speeding, drinking alcohol, or reckless driving.
- Exchange emergency contact information.
- Keep your car well-serviced and clean.
- Use seatbelts—It's the law, and the driver could get a ticket if passengers are not buckled up.
- Let the driver initiate conversation. Some drivers prefer to focus on the road rather than chat.
- Let music be the driver's choice. Drivers should keep the volume in check.

DON'T:

- Make a habit of being late.
- Ask your carpoolers to make extra stops along the way so you can take care of personal errands.
- Talk about controversial topics like religion or politics unless you know your fellow carpoolers well.
- Have lengthy cell phone conversations while you're in the carpool.
- Eat or drink in the car.
- Block driveways and side streets while waiting for passengers. Never stop in a bus zone.