

# HOW TO DRIVE IN HILLS?

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## — OVERTAKING —

As your sight of vision will be shorter while driving uphill and also the fall of the headlights would be limited, drive with utmost care because the traffic against you, is anyway moving faster coming down the hill.



Before overtaking, check traffic signs for bends, narrow bridges or any other information available. Also, watch the vehicle in front before overtaking for any signs of change in speed, an overtaking move or swerving. Remember he has a better view of the road ahead and might be taking remedial action before you can even see the obstruction ahead.

## — ESCAPE RAMPS —

On any uphill climb, gravity slows you down. The steeper the road, the more you will have to use lower gears to climb hills or mountains. In coming down a long steep downhill, gravity causes the speed of your vehicle to increase you must select an appropriate safe speed, then use a low gear, and use proper and judicious braking techniques.



Escape ramps normally have a long bed of loose soft material like gravel to slow a runaway vehicle. Keep your eyes peeled for escape ramp locations on your route and only stop on them to allow free flow of traffic and for your own safety. Signs often show drivers where ramps are located.

## — SPEED AND CURVES —

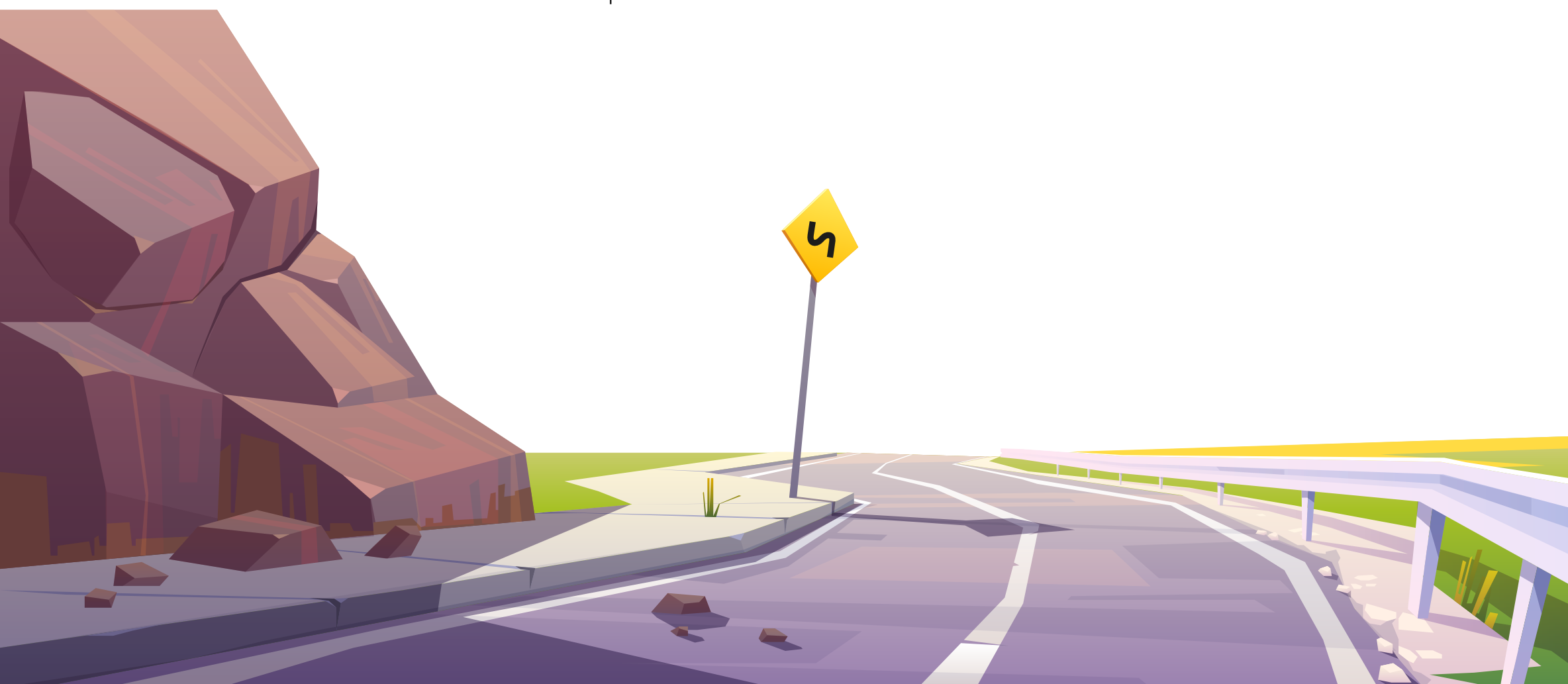
Slow down to a safe speed before you enter a curve as braking in a curve is dangerous as it can cause the vehicle to spin out of control thanks to weight shift. Don't ever exceed the posted speed limit for the curves, your speed should be normally just under what is posted.



Be in a gear that will allow slight acceleration through the curve as this will help maintain control. When entering a curve while going downhill, allow gravity to provide the slight acceleration.

## — LANE POSITION IN A CORNER —

Maintaining the right lane position around a bend will help avoid head-on collisions. Stay centered in the lane to keep a safe clearance on all sides of the vehicle.



Hugging the outside of a curve increases the chance of dropping a tyre off the paved portion of the road onto a soft shoulder and losing traction. Hugging the inside of a curve on the other hand, increases your chances of a head-on accident especially around right handers as you end up driving in the wrong lane and have little time to avoid an on coming vehicle or even rocks on the road.