

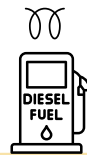
# CHAPTER 1:

## BUS DRIVING ESSENTIALS

- 01. PRACTICE FIRST**  
Find a low-traffic area (empty lot or country road). Practice turning and test the brakes to get a feel for the weight and response of the bus before hitting main roads.



- 02. DIESEL BUSES & GLOW PLUG LIGHT**  
**#83 & #52:** Diesel engines are louder and smell stronger. **Glow Plug Rule:** Turn the key to 'ON'. Look for the spring-shaped light. Wait for the light to go OFF before starting the engine, regardless of the weather.



- 03. PLAN YOUR ROUTE**  
Map your path in advance. Whenever possible, avoid narrow streets, crowded intersections, and tight residential corners.



- 04. DEFENSIVE DRIVING**  
A school bus weighs over 30,000 lbs. It takes much longer to stop than a car. Look far ahead to spot hazards early. If visibility is low, slow down immediately.



- 05. MIRRORS & BLIND SPOTS**  
Adjust all mirrors before every trip. Remember: Every mirror is an extra set of eyes. Be aware of the large blind spots surrounding the bus.



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06.

## RAILROAD CROSSINGS

**Must-Do Steps:** 1. Slow down & turn on Hazards. 2. Full stop before tracks. 3. Open the door, look, and listen. 4. Cross completely before turning off hazards. **Stop at ALL crossings!**



07.

## WIDE TURNS

Buses are twice as long as cars. Take turns wide to avoid clipping cars or hitting curbs. Note: Hitting curbs damages rims and causes air leaks.



08.

## HEIGHT CLEARANCE

Always check clearance signs for bridges and awnings. Watch for low-hanging tree branches that can damage the roof or mirrors.



09.

## PASSENGER MANAGEMENT

Enforce bus rules strictly. Use assigned seating, if needed, to maintain order and ensure your focus remains on the road.

