

## Convoy Rules and Etiquette

A car convoy is made up of four parts:

- \* Lead Car
- \* Middle Car (when required)
- \* Last Car
- \* Members' cars

### LEAD CAR

1. The Lead Car must adjust speed at all times, remembering that the rear of the convoy may be a long way back. Denote pace of convoy before hand.
2. Constantly view mirrors to ensure the convoy is not spacing out too far.
3. If a lot of traffic lights or crossroads are encountered, it may be necessary to pull over somewhere safely to reform.
4. A generous use of indicators when changing direction.
5. Inform the group prior to departure of the destination and any stops (supply directions and perhaps a map).

### LAST CAR

1. Keep visual contact with the Lead Car (if possible).

2. Use 2 way radios or mobiles to contact Lead Car if necessary.

3. When Lead Car indicates to pass, move over to prevent non-convoy cars interfering with the convoy. This also allows convoy to safely pass. (See General Items #9)

4. Contact Lead Car if the cars at the rear have to travel too fast to keep up.

## MIDDLE CAR

1. A Middle Car may be required if the convoy exceeds 12 cars.

2. Relay message's between Lead Car and Last Car using 2 way radio.

3. Aid the convoy in crossing junctions.

4. Help maintain convoy is in formation.

## MEMBERS' CARS

1. Do not pass, unless in the case of an emergency.

2. Watch the leader for passing (use indicators)

3. Maintain a safe distance from the car in front

4. Do not let the car in front or behind get out of sight.

5. Flash your lights if in trouble.

## General Items

1) Check your car prior to the convoy, ensure all fluids, pressure, etc... are in tip top condition.

Arrive at the starting point in plenty of time for the briefing on the route.

Be ready to depart on time with a full fuel tank.

If you are going to leave the group before the end of the trip, please tell the Lead Car, Last Car, and others.

This is so that the group does not either, wait for you to catch up, or follow you.

### 2) Headlights On

During daytime: Your headlights or running lights and/or fog lights on.

During nighttime: Your headlights and running/fog lights on.

This is how the rest of the world knows what is going on. Your lights on enable you to see your fellow members and know who is with you.

If someone pulls off the road in trouble they are easier to identify in the rear view mirror.

Best of all it really looks cool.

### 3) Don't follow too close.

When in a convoy keeping good distances is a must for safety as well as an act of kindness to the car you are following.

Your cars are special and worth a lot of money, so don't risk them.

If we are traveling slowly, i.e... 25mph or less, bumper to bumper is not an issue BUT do not tailgate the car in front at high speed.

Your braking reaction plus your braking distance will increase.

Keep a safe distance!

4) Allow other traffic to intermingle.

instinctively, people in a convoy don't want to allow other cars to merge into the line.

You must allow other drivers to move in and out of your convoy.

Other drivers usually are intimidated or in awe of the spectacle and need to be given extra consideration.

Be patient in letting them find their place and pass them if necessary when they settle in a bad spot.

You want other drivers to say, "Wow that was neat".

Be a friendly convoy.

5) Lead car should keep speed reasonable.

This is hard.

it is all too easy to let the speed creep up.

When you have a diverse group of drivers and car capability, there will be people who think it's too slow and others who say you are going too fast..

Try to stay with the flow of other traffic. This reduces the need for constant lane changes and passing, making the drive safer for the group.

It is each individual driver's responsibility to keep the vehicle in front and behind him or her in sight, insuring the group stays together.

f the car behind slows down, please slow down with it, keeping the car in front in view.

If each car does this the convoy will stay together.

Do not go faster than you feel comfortable driving!

If you feel that the cars in front are driving without consideration for you or for other road users, please do not try to keep up.

It is better that you fall back and form your own group.

6) In case of difficulties or problems.

If a car gets in trouble, nobody in the convoy stops

EXCEPT for the Last Car.

The Last car will ensure everything is all right and the convoy must proceed on until a suitable stopping place is found.

A whole line of cars along a busy road translates to a higher chance of accidents waiting to happen.

7) Take it easy.

Sometimes not everything goes as planned.

Participants in a convoy usually have pretty high expectations and are loaded with anticipation of the day's events.

It is important to stay focused on the trip at hand and be able to relax when things get hectic, people get lost, or traffic snarls throw you off schedule.

8) Entering/Exiting Highways/Toll Roads

Some of us use Easy Pass, while some other's may use cash.

Whatever your means of paying is, ALWAYS slow down after your transaction and park behind the Lead Car on the road shoulder with your hazard lights on.

Never get out of the car.

Wait until all the cars are re-assembled (the Last Car will ensure) then slowly signal out onto the slow lane.

9) Overtaking

Overtake only when legal and safe to do so

DO NOT overtake on double yellow lines, on bends or at any place where the way ahead is not clear.

If a member of the group or public wants to overtake you, please let them.

Don't close up the gap to the car in front of you and force

the overtaking car into a dangerous maneuver.  
When coming upon slower traffic Lead Car will inform the Last Car.  
When safe Last Car will signal and move to left lane allowing Lead and Member Car's to do the same.  
When clear of slower traffic each car will signal and move back into right lane.

On the highway:

We all want a smooth convoy.  
Staying in the right lane is always a priority.  
We must allow the other traffic which is faster than us to overtake.