

# Common types of car accidents

Many traffic accidents caused by foreign travelers are due to carelessness, misunderstanding of traffic rules or aggressive driving. This section introduces some examples of accidents that foreign travelers tend to cause. It will spoil your pleasant trip if you cause an accident. Drive carefully!



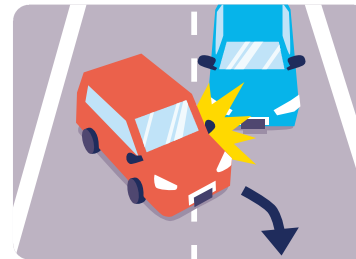
## Driving for a long period of time is dangerous!

Accidents can easily occur due to tiredness, sleepiness or lack of attention. During a long drive, make sure to take occasional breaks and refresh yourself.



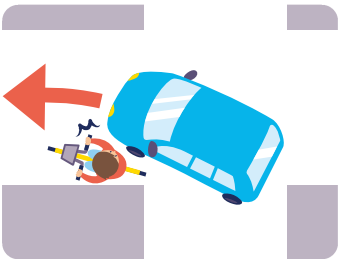
## Not watching where one is driving due to use of smartphones, car navigation systems etc.

Driving while looking at a smartphone or car navigation system can cause minor and major collision accidents. Do not use smartphones while driving. Also, pedestrians or bicycles may appear suddenly from places hidden from view or around street corners. Make sure to concentrate fully when driving.



## Hitting into other vehicles when changing lanes or overtaking

If you suddenly change lanes or overtake recklessly, there is a risk of causing serious accidents, including rear impact collisions and bumps with other vehicles. Never aggressively change lanes just before intersections. On roads with orange lines, both changing lanes and overtaking are prohibited. On roads where overtaking is permitted, the rule in Japan is that you should move into the right lane to overtake. However, never overtake on roads with poor visibility or on curves.



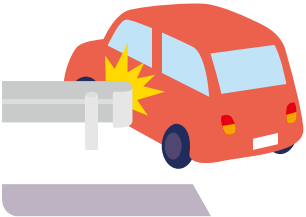
## Ramming into a bicycle or motorcycle when turning left

If you do not pay enough attention when turning left, there is a risk of ramming into a bicycle or motorcycle driving on the left side of the lane. When turning left, be sure to turn on the indicator to notify vehicles, bicycles and motorcycles traveling behind, and then check the left and rear of the vehicle by sight and using the side mirror before making the turn. If you notice bicycles or motorcycles, let them pass before turning left.



## Serious accidents caused by stop sign violations

If you fail to stop at intersections with poor visibility and no traffic lights, there is a danger of causing a serious accident such as a head-on collision. At such places, stop your car completely before the intersection and check in all directions carefully. Also make sure to temporarily stop at intersections with a flashing red light and at railway crossings.



## Hitting guard rails when turning left

There have been a number of accidents whereby those unaccustomed to right hand drive vehicles misjudge the vehicle width and hit guard rails when turning left. When turning left, confirm the position of objects such as guard rails, telegraph poles and other obstacles, and drive carefully. Even if you scrape the car against a guard rail and continue driving because it is just a little scrape, you will be liable to pay compensation. No matter how small, always report such incidents to your car rental company!

## Minor collisions often happen when parking. Drive carefully in parking lots!

In fact, accidents involving foreign travelers most often occur in parking lots. There are many cases where drivers are not paying enough attention when reversing into parking spaces, or misjudging their vehicle width and hitting the adjacent car or signboards. In parking lots, reduce your speed and constantly check the movement of surrounding cars and people, and park so that your vehicle is completely within the parking space. If you hit into something, do not leave the spot, even if it is a small collision, and contact your car rental company.



In case of emergency, call the police and your car rental company's accident assistance hotline.

It is illegal to continue driving without doing so, and you will no longer be covered by insurance.