

## SENIOR SAFETY TIPS

WITH SERGEANT BOB



Retired Police Sergeant Bob Paterson works closely with The McLennan Group Insurance Inc. to develop and share practical safety tips for Canadians 50-plus.

*"Don't gamble with your safety. The stakes are too high."*

## Avoid Intersection Related Collisions Caused by "A-Pillar" Blind Spots



**CHECK ONCE - CHECK TWICE!** Get in the habit of making a secondary check to ensure that anything crossing in front of you is not momentarily hidden by your own vehicle's A-Pillar.

An A-Pillar is the roof support structure on both sides of a windshield. They vary in size and angle, but all have the potential to obscure your sightlines. By checking once - checking twice, any object momentarily hidden in this blind spot is more likely to reveal itself before your vehicle accelerates forward. The list of objects that could be briefly hidden from view is long, especially in low light winter conditions:

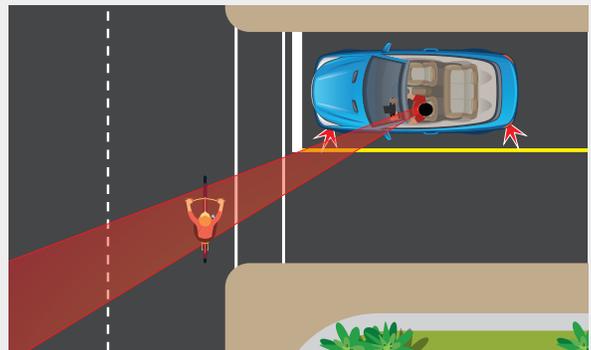
- Cars, trucks, transit vehicles and emergency vehicles.
- Rural horse and buggies, ATVs and farming equipment.
- Bicycles, motorcycles, scooters and e-bikes.
- Pedestrians, runners, and skate boarders.

As collision investigators piece together complex traffic events that seem to offer no other explanation, sightlines and visual obstructions are often considered. Being told that a driver "just didn't see them" is far too common and frequently linked to A-Pillar blind spots.

You will maximize your sightlines at intersections, roundabouts and cross walks by routinely checking once - checking twice.

### A-Pillar blind spots obstruct a driver's view

As vehicles have been designed to better protect their occupants, the A-Pillars have grown wider. And thicker, rollover-friendly A-Pillars create massive blind spots.



The A-Pillar blind spot can easily block a driver's view of pedestrians, cyclists, and other vehicles.



Check once - check twice so objects are less likely to "appear out of nowhere", right in front of your vehicle.

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Please visit online for additional safety tips and a list of seminars for Canadians 50-plus.

Find Sgt. Bob Online: [www.seniorsafetytips.ca](http://www.seniorsafetytips.ca)