Speed: Know your limits

20  30  40  50  20

THINK!
This leaflet explains the various speed limits on the roads and the road safety reasons for them.

Some thought-provoking figures:

- 20mph there is about a 1 in 40 chance of being killed
- 30mph there is about a 1 in 5 chance of being killed
- At 40mph there is about a 9 in 10 chance of being killed
- If struck at 35mph there is a 50/50 chance of being killed

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**Your Guide to Speed Limits**

**20mph Speed Limit**
The 20mph limit is used mainly in town centres, high streets, residential roads and near schools.

**30mph Speed Limit**
The 30mph limit is used mainly in urban areas and villages and wherever you see street lights unless otherwise stated.

**40mph and 50mph**
The 40 and 50mph limits are mainly used in non-built up areas and where the national speed limit is not appropriate.
National Speed Limit
For most vehicles the national speed limit is 60 mph on single carriageway roads and 70 mph on dual carriageways.

The Dual Carriageway
A dual carriageway is a road that is separated by a central reservation.

For the majority of vehicles the speed limit on a dual carriageway is 70 mph.

The Motorway
For most vehicles the speed limit on motorways is 70 mph.

It is important to note that for goods vehicles that weigh more than 7.5 tonnes maximum the limit on motorways reduces to 60 mph.

For further information on limits for different vehicles please see the table at the back of this leaflet.

For further information on speed and other road safety issues you can visit the THINK! website at: www.thinkroadsafety.gov.uk or for information about the Department for Transport visit www.dft.gov.uk
### Vehicle Speed Limits

This speed limit table explains the different speed limits that apply to different vehicles.

This can also be found in the Highway Code [www.highwaycode.gov.uk](http://www.highwaycode.gov.uk)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Vehicle</th>
<th>Built up area (street lit)</th>
<th>Single Carriageways</th>
<th>Dual Carriageways</th>
<th>Motorways</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cars &amp; motorcycles</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cars towing caravans or trailers</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>buses and coaches (not exceeding 12 metres in overall length)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goods vehicles (not exceeding 7.5 tonnes maximum laden weight)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goods vehicles (exceeding 7.5 tonnes maximum laden weight)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*60 if articulated or towing a trailer*