



SEMI TRUCKS CAN'T STOP LIKE CARS

Give Big Rigs Plenty of Room



An 80,000-pound, fully-loaded semi can weigh 20 times more than an average car or truck. Even with terrific braking systems, trucks simply can't stop as quickly as passenger vehicles.

DO THE MATH

Total stopping distance for a car or truck can be calculated as follows:

Perception

How far you travel before you understand what's happening



Reaction

How far you travel before your foot hits the brake



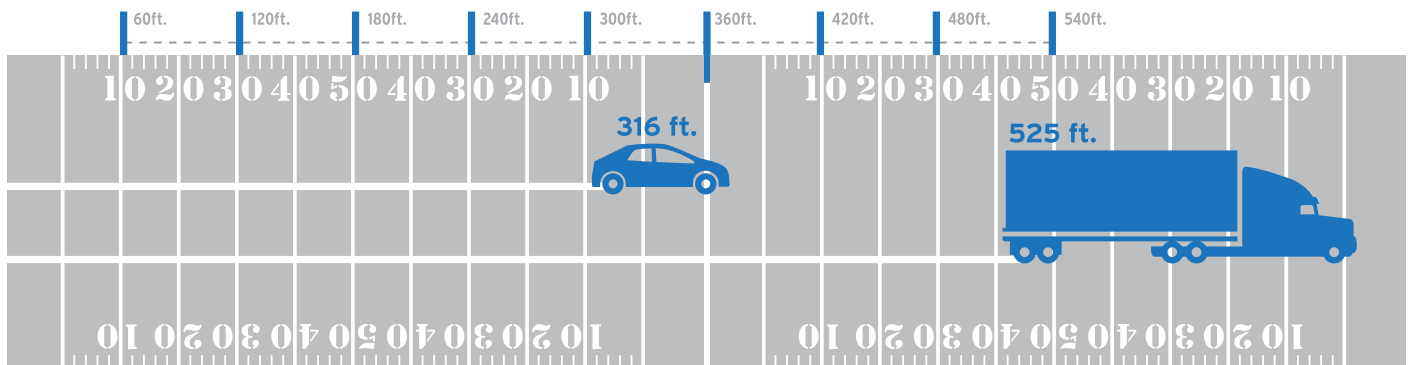
Braking

How far your car travels once the brakes engage before the car stops

Semis also have to factor **brake lag**, or the time it takes for all the brakes on a truck to fully engage.

TOTAL STOPPING DISTANCES

Comparison of Stopping Distances at 65 mph



Stopping distance can be greatly affected by road surfaces, weather conditions or debris. Give yourself even more room when driving around big rigs.

For further information on how to drive Truck Smart visit the following sites or email TruckSmart@utah.gov:

