



## **Tips for Effectiveness**

- **Use the proper AutoSock size for your tires for best performance. Always test fit before using.**
- **Don't spin the tires, use a "light foot" on the accelerator.**
- **AutoSock is designed to increase traction on snow and ice. Driving on dry or damp roads significantly increases wear. Unlike chains, AutoSocks are quiet so don't forget that they are on!**
- **Do not leave AutoSock on the tires while parked overnight or parked for long periods when it will freeze.**
- **Avoid excessive speed as it increases wear. Cars should not exceed 30 mph and trucks should not exceed 20 mph.**

**For demonstration videos and product information  
check out [www.AutoSock.us](http://www.AutoSock.us)**

## **AutoSock and Snow chains, State Guidelines**

**All 50 states have approved the use of AutoSock as an alternative to traditional snow chains.  
Do note that California, Colorado, and Montana have specific regulations pertaining to  
AutoSock use as shown below.**

# California

California has approved the AutoSock as an alternative traction device to chains except if/when DOT determines that chains are required and no other traction device will suffice.

## TYPES OF CHAIN CONTROLS:

During the winter months, motorists may encounter traction chain controls in the mountain areas within California. When chain controls are established, signs will be posted along the road indicating the type of requirement.

There are three requirements in California.

Requirement One (R1): Chains, traction devices or snow tires are required on the drive axle of all vehicles except four wheel/ all wheel drive vehicles.

Requirement Two (R2): Chains or traction devices are required on all vehicles except four wheel/ all wheel drive vehicles with snow-tread tires on all four wheels.

(NOTE: Four wheel/all wheel drive vehicles must carry traction devices in chain control areas.)

Requirement Three (R3): Chains or traction devices are required on all vehicles, no exceptions.

## SNOW-TREAD TIRES:

The California vehicle code section 558 defines a snow-tread tire as follows, "A 'Snow-tread tire' is a tire which has a relatively deep and aggressive tread pattern compared with conventional passenger tread pattern". Snow-tread tires can be identified by examining the sidewall of the tire where the letters MS, M/S, M+S or the words MUD AND SNOW have been stamped into the sidewall.

## Tire Traction Devices:

The California vehicle code section 605 defines tire traction devices as follows: "Tire Traction Devices are devices or mechanisms having a composition and design capable of improving vehicle traction, braking and cornering ability upon snow or ice-covered surfaces. Tire traction devices shall be constructed and assembled to provide sufficient structural integrity and to prevent accidental detachment from vehicles. Tire traction devices shall, at the time of manufacture or final assembly, bear a permanent impression indicating the name, initials or trademark of the assembling company or primary manufacturer, and the country in which the devices were manufactured or assembled in final form."

The Department of Transportation does not sell nor recommend specific brands of tire chains. It is best to check your vehicle manufacturer's specifications for use of tire chains/traction devices.

# Colorado

Colorado's chain law was enacted in 1996.  
It applies to all interstate, federal and state highways.  
It includes two levels for commercial vehicles:

## Chain Law Level 1

requires all single drive axle combinations commercial vehicles to chain up. All four drive wheels must be chained; cables are not permitted as an alternate traction device.

All other commercial vehicles must have snow tires or chains.

Level 1 may be implemented any time there is snow covering any part of the traveled portion of pavement on an ascending grade.

## Chain Law Level 2

requires all commercial vehicles to chain up. Auto transports must comply to the extent possible without causing damage to hydraulic lines. Buses must chain two drive wheels to comply. Level 2 may be implemented any time there is snow covering the entire traveled portion of pavement on an ascending grade or when driving conditions dictate this level is necessary to protect safety and minimize closures.

The alternate traction control device known as the AutoSock™ remains an approved device in Colorado. Commercial vehicles (both single and double-axle) exceeding 26,000 Gross Vehicle Weight or vehicles carrying 16 passengers or more have the option of using AutoSock™ rather than chains. This traction control device is a fabric that slips over a vehicle's outer driving wheels, providing extra traction on snowy and icy roads. It also can be installed over the tire in less time than traditional chains.

# Montana

Montana has approved the AutoSock as an alternative traction device to chains except if/when DOT determines that chains are required and no other traction device will suffice.

Information presented is a summary only,  
compiled on 07/13/2016.  
Consult you state's DOT for more information on  
snow chain alternatives and their use