

## Could This Collision Have Been Prevented?

### No Left Turn

It was a left turn off a busy road onto a narrow driveway, so Amie began slowing and signaling well ahead of time. She was just beginning her turn when she heard the screaming of tires braking at high speed, followed by a sickening, crunching jolt that spun her car in a half circle before it came to a stop. The other vehicle had just managed to swerve to the right to avoid hitting her directly, but the damage was still substantial. In a daze, Amie tried to understand what had gone wrong. Later she found out that her turn signal had not been working.



1. Amie showed safe and conscientious driving skills. But she forgot one thing that could have prevented this collision.

What was that? \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. What could the other motorist have done to prevent this collision? \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. What else could Amie have done to prevent this collision? \_\_\_\_\_  
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#### Answers:

1. Amie forgot the pre-trip inspection. Before getting in your car, check your tires and lights. Check under the vehicle for fluid leaks. Preventive maintenance is an important part of defensive driving.
2. The other motorist should have been scanning ahead, alert to the fact that Amie was slowing down. He or she should have been driving at a speed that made it possible to evade any hazard that might occur on the road ahead.
3. Amie needed to check one of her mirrors every 5 seconds, or to go around the block to make a right hand turn from such a busy street.

