

# DRIVER ALERT

15-passenger vans are far more likely than most other vehicles to roll over during emergency procedures. Serious injury or death is likely to occur in a rollover. Before each trip:

***If you feel uncomfortable driving this vehicle, please do not drive it.*** 15-passenger vans handle much differently than family cars and minivans. Only mature, experienced drivers should operate this vehicle.

***Inspect the vehicle from front to back and pay close attention to the tires.*** Make sure the tires are properly inflated — neither over nor under inflated. Also, look at the tread wear. The Tire Industry Safety Council recommends that tires be replaced when the tread is worn down to one-sixteenth of an inch. Put a penny into a tread groove (where tread is lowest) with Lincoln's head upside down. If you can see the top of Lincoln's head, it's time to replace the tire.

***Do not overload the van.*** The vehicle might be too heavy to maneuver properly during emergencies when fully loaded with passengers and luggage. Loaded luggage racks on top of the van make controlling the van more difficult. Also, an overloaded vehicle is more likely to cause a tire blowout. Always fill the front rows of seats first, leaving any open seats in the rear row(s).

***The driver and all passengers should wear seat belts.*** Those who don't are far more likely to be ejected from the van during a rollover, and those ejected tend to suffer the most serious injuries and fatalities.

***Take frequent breaks.*** To avoid fatigue on longer trips, have two experienced drivers and take frequent breaks.

***Obey posted speed limits.***