

Dubai drivers warned over tailgating

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SAFE DISTANCE: Dubai police advise drivers to keep seven car lengths space when driving at 40kmph. (Getty Images)

Motorists who do not keep a safe distance from other cars face getting a AED400 fine and four black points on their licence.

As part of a 10-day awareness campaign, Dubai Police will be issuing instant fines to any drivers they see tailgating or driving too closely behind other vehicles.

"On a clear-sky day and during normal traffic flow the motorists should follow the three seconds rules or otherwise risk hitting a car. During a rainy day the rule should be tripled to become a nine seconds rule," Lieutenant Colonel Ali Ganim, director of Bur Dubai Police Station, told Gulf News.

He said cars driving at 40 kmph should give a distance of 35m – equivalent to seven cars - while 120kmph should be 104m.

"Not maintaining enough distance between vehicles is considered one of the highest causes of minor and severe accidents in Dubai. We have especially launched the awareness campaign during the winter season due to the increase in such accidents," he told the paper.

Dubai Police figures show that more than 43,200 accidents for not keeping a safe distance between vehicles have been recorded so far this year.