



# The Steering Wheel

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**David Ball**  
Local Guide · 75 reviews



8 hours ago

NEW

A nice little 5 star review for our Adelaide depot.

## TRUCK AWARENESS

Recently Jim Henderson visited the Australian Farming Services team to deliver an informative session on truck awareness.

Specifically focusing on the importance of understanding the risks when turning onto highways.

A few key tips from the DON'T #UCK WITH A TRUCK! campaign to keep in mind when interacting with trucks on the road:

### LEAVE TWO LANES FOR TRUCKS WHEN TURNING

Truck drivers often need to take up more than one lane to turn at corners, intersections and roundabouts, so keep both lanes beside a truck free when it is turning. Truck drivers might not be able to see you next to them and you could collide with a truck as it turns.

### PULLING IN FRONT OF A TRUCK CAN CAUSE A CRASH

When pulling in front of a truck, give them 3 to 4 times more space than you would give a car. Trucks take a lot longer to slow down and stop than cars. If truck drivers need to brake hard behind you, you may cause them to swerve, lose control or crash.



A bit of dock action happening in the PTG Melbourne depot last month.

### PATIENCE IS CRITICAL WHEN OVERTAKING A TRUCK

It can be frustrating to be 'stuck' behind a truck but be patient if you're going to overtake. Wait for a dedicated overtaking lane or long stretch of road where you have a clear view ahead, then indicate and overtake quickly to reduce the time you're in a truck's blind spot. Only pull back in when you can see a truck's headlights in your rear-view mirror.

The Australian Farming Services team were particularly grateful for the opportunity to engage with the Jim and raise awareness on these important safety issues. Providing great feedback on the visit

# Blind spots

Blind spots are areas around a vehicle that are not directly or indirectly visible to the driver, and are mostly located down the sides of vehicle, and at the front and the back.

Direct vision is defined as 'viewing stimuli directly through windows', while indirect vision as 'viewing stimuli indirectly through mirrors or cameras'.<sup>[1]</sup>

Mirrors (indirect vision) help drivers see areas around the vehicle they would not be able to scan otherwise, yet objects can be distorted, and their location can easily be misinterpreted. Additionally, compared to direct vision, indirect vision has been found to cause an increased mental overload to the driver due to the higher visual processing it requires.<sup>[2]</sup>

