



## Avoiding Intersection Collisions Caused by “A-Pillar” Blind Spots



**CHECK ONCE - CHECK TWICE!** Get in the habit of making a secondary check to ensure that anything crossing in front of you is not momentarily hidden by your own vehicle’s A-Pillar.

An *A-Pillar* is the roof support structure on both sides of a car’s windshield. They vary in both size and angle, but all have the potential to obscure your sightlines. By checking once, then checking twice, any object momentarily hidden in this blind spot is more likely to reveal itself before your vehicle accelerates forward. The list of objects that could be briefly hidden from view is long, especially in low light winter conditions:

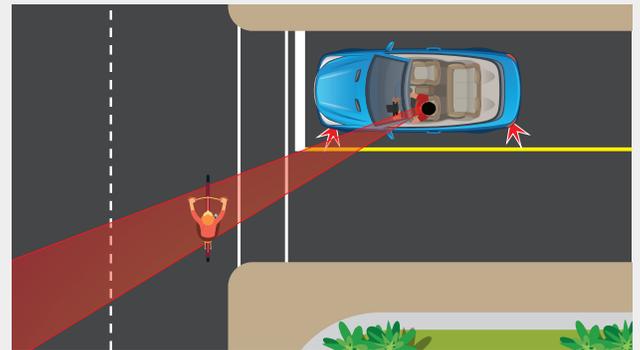
- Cars, trucks, transit vehicles and emergency vehicles.
- Rural horse and buggies, ATVs and farming equipment.
- Bicycles, motorcycles, scooters and e-bikes.
- Pedestrians, runners, and skate boarders.

As collision investigators piece together complex traffic events that seem to offer no other explanation, sightlines and visual obstructions are often considered. Being told that a driver “just didn’t see them” is far too common and frequently linked to *A-Pillar* blind spots.

You will maximize your sightlines at intersections, roundabouts and cross walks by routinely checking once - checking twice.

### A-Pillar blind spots obstruct a driver’s view

As vehicles have been designed to better protect their occupants, the *A-Pillars* have grown wider. And thicker, rollover-friendly *A-Pillars* create massive blind spots.



The *A-Pillar* blind spot can easily block a driver’s view of pedestrians, cyclists, and other vehicles.



Check once - check twice so objects are less likely to “appear out of nowhere”, right in front of your vehicle.

