

Carpool Today!

Pinal County
Travel Reduction



What is a carpool?

A carpool is an arrangement in which two to six people traveling in the same direction ride together in a car. The driver picks up fellow carpoolers at their homes or other locations for the final trip to work. Participants generally agree in advance on schedules, routes, and carpool days. Depending on the type of arrangement, employees may carpool full-time, part-time, depending on their individual needs.

Carpools may have members who work at the same worksite, at different locations or for different employers. Arrangements vary, but could include the following:

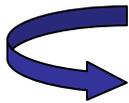
- ✦ One person who drives using their own car, with costs divided among the passengers.
- ✦ Participants that rotate driving responsibility using their own cars
- ✦ A designated driver operating a company-owned car

Employee Benefits

- ✦ Saves money on commute costs
- ✦ Lower car insurance rates & maintenance costs if personal car is not used as often
- ✦ Save time & bypass traffic congestion by using carpool lanes
- ✦ Reduces stress--arrive more refreshed, relaxed, and ready to work
- ✦ Encourages new friendships with co-workers through ridesharing
- ✦ Personal car available more often for other uses
- ✦ Employer may offer preferred parking or subsidies
- ✦ Regular carpooling may even qualify you for certain commuter tax benefits

Employer Benefits

- ✦ Reduces capital cost of building additional parking facilities
- ✦ Reduces congestion within existing parking area
- ✦ Increases productivity & reduces absenteeism & tardiness
- ✦ Provides an effective & low-cost recruitment tool
- ✦ Improves community relations by reducing neighborhood traffic & parking problems



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Why should I
carpool?

The real question is "why not carpool?" You'll save money on gas by splitting driving costs among two or more commuters and zip past traffic in carpool lanes if they are available along your route.

Do I have to
carpool every
day?

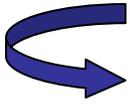
No. You can carpool anywhere from one day a week to every day--as often as your schedule permits.

What if I don't
have a car?

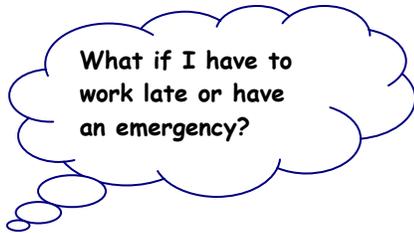
No problem. You can join a carpool that doesn't need a driver and pay your share of the gas expense.

Who does the
driving?

In most carpools, each person takes turns driving his/her own car. Some carpools have one person who drives every day. This is something you and your fellow passengers will want to address right away.



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On the days you drive, you'll have your car to get home, but be sure to let fellow passengers know about your situation as soon as possible, so they can make alternate arrangements. Otherwise, check with your employer to see if they offer a *Guaranteed Ride Home* program. This program ensures that if you need to get home for an emergency on a day that you use a commute alternative such as carpooling, your employer will offer assistance.

Carpool Tips

In making your carpool arrangements, be sure to get answers to some key questions:

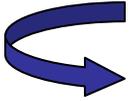
- ✚ How often will you carpool? If everyone carpooled just once a week, there'd be fewer cars on the road.
- ✚ Who has a vehicle? If all passengers have a car, who will do the driving?
- ✚ Do all the drivers have full insurance coverage?
- ✚ Where will you meet? Carpoolers can pick each other up at home, or meet at a mutually convenient location.
- ✚ When will you meet? People's work schedules are often more flexible than you think.

What is Preferential Parking?

Preferential parking is reserving "premium parking locations" for carpools and vanpools. Preferential parking is intended to make high occupancy vehicle (HOV) parking spaces highly valued among employees over single occupant vehicle (SOV) spaces.

How do companies monitor carpools and vanpools?

Carpools and vanpools can register their license numbers with the worksite's Employer Transportation Coordinator. In some cases, the responsibility is assigned to a facilities manager. Another option is to have HOV commuters display permit tags in vehicles when parking in preferential



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parking space. Monitoring is then done by checking license plate numbers or permit tags. Parking violations can be avoided with clear communication of the company's preferential parking policy.

Decide the dollars: If commuters rotate the driving equally, money doesn't need to change hands, but if only one person drives, passengers generally chip in to cover the costs of gas.

Establish "Rules of the Road": Each carpool is unique, but in all successful carpools, each have agreed on:

- ✚ food, coffee, smoking & perfume/cologne usage
- ✚ radio choices
- ✚ how long drivers will wait for delays
- ✚ who is notified if someone is sick

Give it a trial run. Many commuters start carpooling on a trial basis, say for a month or two. Once you try it, you'll see how much you like it!

