



How to shovel your driveway

without picking up a shovel...

By Daniel Savickas

Winter means snow, and snow means shoveling. I don't know about you, but there are not many things in the world I despise more than shoveling my driveway. If you're not a big fan of shoveling either, fear not! The LowDown is here to provide you with a few easy techniques that should help keep your driveway clear without your back muscles going into spasms.

1. The Lazy-ass technique: Although it's called the lazy-technique, the object is to appear anything but lazy.

To successfully pull off this technique, you need at least one roommate, but the more the merrier.

The concept is simple, have your roommate, or roommates, shovel the driveway while you're getting some shut-eye somewhere warm.

How to do it: Well there are only a few reliable ways to pull this off.

- **Park them in:** if you park in your roommate's car they will be forced to dig out your car in order to dig theirs out. This works great on powder days that you don't have to work. When they wake you up to help shovel, just claim you're not going to ride. Say you have other things to do that day. They'll try to talk you out of it, but don't give in.

Once they've dug out your car and taken off to work, you'll step outside to a shoveled driveway and you'll be fresh for an entire day of riding.

- **You're sick:** If you're going to pull this one out it's best to go right for the gold. Claim diarrhea right off the bat. A really good way to pull this one off is to wake up early and put your sleeping bag and sleeping pad in the bathroom and go back to sleep on the floor. When

tell them you've been up for an hour and you've got really bad diarrhea.

By the time they're done shoveling and they're on their way to work or ride, claim the pepto finally kicked in and you're ready to roll. Remember to act really distraught.

2. The Flamethrower technique: This technique costs \$149.95 on www.gotflames.net. With a quick modification to your car, truck, SUV, or van, you can turn your exhaust pipe, or pipes, into a flamethrower or flamethrowers.

How to do it: Well, log on to the site, have a credit card ready, and make your purchase. You might want to be mechanically inclined to try this one.

- Once you have your flamethrowers installed, simply turn on your car and let the flames do all of the work. You should be able to back right out of your driveway with ease. Remember not to go too quickly or the flamethrowers won't have enough time to melt the snow.

3. The Red-neck technique: Buy the biggest truck you can find, four to five feet of clearance would be ideal.

How to do it: Again, being mechanically inclined might help to pull off this technique.

- A truck with four or five feet of clearance should be tall enough so that you can blast through any snow-burm or pull into any driveway without picking up a shovel. Of course, paying a local company for snow removal would probably be cheaper, but this is a one-time investment. Gas is expensive, and this will undoubtedly be a gas-guzzler to end all gas-guzzlers, but this is America. It's patriotic to drive SUVs; we fight wars over the right to drive SUVs. Besides, you'll be a hero to every NASCAR fan in the area.

