

How to Prepare for a Driving Test



Driver Safety Checklist

Before Starting the Vehicle

- ✓ Adjust the mirrors and your seat
- ✓ Fasten your seat belt
- ✓ Know where the vehicle controls are located and how to use them (headlights, windshield wipers, turn signals, etc.)

During the Driving Test

- ✓ Use the turn signals when appropriate
- ✓ Look in the mirrors regularly and over your shoulder when necessary
- ✓ Keep both hands on the steering wheel unless you are backing up

Stopping

- ✓ Check traffic
- ✓ Stop completely behind crosswalk or limit line
- ✓ Stop smoothly without the vehicle jerking

Turning or Changing Lanes

- ✓ Signal 100 feet before starting maneuver
- ✓ Adjust speed for safety
- ✓ Check mirrors
- ✓ Look over your shoulder for the blind spot
- ✓ Begin and end maneuver in correct lane
- ✓ Yield or accept right-of-way as appropriate

Always

- ✓ Check mirrors at regular intervals
- ✓ Look both ways at all intersections
- ✓ Look for and obey all traffic lights and signs
- ✓ See and react appropriately to hazards
- ✓ Follow at a safe distance (adjust for weather)

Safety Tips

Please follow these general safety tips when operating a vehicle:

- ✓ Always drive defensively. Try to anticipate errors another driver might make.
- ✓ Be aware of your surroundings. Check your mirrors, look both ways at intersections, and look over the proper shoulder before making a lane change or merging with traffic.
- ✓ Steer smoothly and avoid sudden turns.
- ✓ Accelerate and stop smoothly. Slow down or speed up gradually to avoid sudden jerks.
- ✓ Be aware of where you must stop when approaching an intersection. If your view is blocked, stop; then move forward carefully. Look both ways before continuing into the intersection. Do not roll through stop signs or red lights.
- ✓ Always obey posted speed limits. When poor weather, road, or traffic conditions are present, reduce speed accordingly.
- ✓ Use the two-second rule to ensure you are following at a safe distance. Increase the following distance for poor weather, road, or traffic conditions.
- ✓ Know what all traffic signs and signals mean, and obey them at all times.
- ✓ Use the correct lane. Signal and turn from the improper lane into the proper lane.
- ✓ **Put your signal on 100 feet before turning or changing lanes**

Becoming a safe driver is an ongoing process.