



MARYLAND

Rookie Driver Manual

A Practice Guide for Coaches & Drivers

MDOT MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION



For more information, visit:

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MVA Administrator
6601 Ritchie Highway N.E.
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Welcome to Driving in Maryland

For the Rookie Driver:

Congratulations on getting your Learner's Instructional Permit! You have just completed the first step to get your Maryland Driver's License. To make sure that you are prepared for the responsibility of driving, Maryland has a three-step process that includes a learner's instructional permit, a provisional license, and a driver's license.

This manual is designed to help you move from your learner's instructional permit to your provisional license. The sections in this manual will help you and your driving coach move forward safely:

- Tips on how to be a good driving coach.
- Suggested routes and skills you and your coach need to master before you plan to take the skills test at the MVA.
- A Rookie Driver - Coach agreement that you and your coach should complete before starting to drive.
- A log to track your practice hours to make sure you reach the 60 hours required by law. If you are 25 years or older, you must practice at least 14 hours.
- A certification page that you must bring to the MVA when you come to take your skills test. This page certifies that you have completed the required practice time.
- A chart with laws and regulations you and your coach must follow.

A key part of the Maryland Graduated Licensing System and a way to become a safe driver is to practice driving. You must practice with an experienced, licensed driver **over the age of 21 who has held a license for at least three years.** To complete the required practice hours, you and your coach should start right away. Plan to practice on a wide variety of roads in a wide variety of conditions. When it comes to driving and new drivers, consistent practice leads to safer decisions and lasting habits.

For the coach:

Even after your new driver gets his/her provisional license, please remember that driving safely is a decision that Maryland drivers face every day. Do not forget to complete the **Rookie Driver - Coach Driving Agreement**. This agreement will help you and your new driver develop a contract to encourage safe driving during the most vulnerable first years of driving.

The best coach is a good role model. Responsible driving is one of the best things you can do to keep your new driver safe. We hope you will find this guide valuable.

For the Driving Coach: Teaching Tips

Are you helping a Rookie Driver complete their required practice time? If so, you are a coach, helping to guide a new driver through this experience. Here are some tips for you to make learning to drive a better experience for you and your Rookie Driver.

As a coach, make sure the Rookie Driver is comfortable before going on to the next set of skills in more challenging environments. The Rookie Driver needs to be aware of his/her surroundings and drive safely. This is more important than being able to complete a specific driving task. At the end of each lesson is a checklist to make sure the Rookie Driver is able to complete all the skills before moving to the next lesson.

Be serious about learning to drive, but try to have fun.

- Search for information to find the best driving school for you and your new driver.
- Attend the Orientation session for Driver Education (Unit One) to show your new driver how important driver education is.
- Talk about what your new driver is learning in each class as they go through the course.
- Set up driving times and routes before beginning to practice with your new driver.

Know updated laws and processes.

As the coach, it may have been a while since you passed the knowledge test. You should review the Maryland Driver's Manual for the latest laws about:

- Texting and cell phone use for both you and your new driver;
- Seatbelt use;
- Moving over for stopped, standing, or parked vehicles;
- Sharing the road.

Talk with your Rookie Driver.

- Define what safe driving is for you and your new driver.
- Discuss what skills you will be working on before you and your new driver start to drive.
- Make sure your instructions are simple and direct.
- Give feedback that focuses on improvement and how to learn from mistakes.
- Remain calm with your new driver at all times.
- Yelling doesn't help.

Set a good example with your safe driving.

- Never drive impaired.
- Follow all traffic laws.
- Avoid distractions.
- Always wear your seat belt.

How do I choose a driving school for my Rookie Driver?

- Make sure that the school is licensed by the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration.
- A complete listing of driving schools in your area can be found at mymva.maryland.gov/go/web/SearchDriverEducation.
- Ask other parents about their experiences with driving schools.
- Check with several schools to see which ones have the right location and schedule for you and your new driver.
- Remember your new driver must attend 30 hours of classroom and 6 hours of behind the wheel training.
- Check with the driving school about their costs, schedule, and policies.

What can I do if my Rookie Driver does not obey my rules or Maryland law?

When your new driver received a learner's permit or a provisional license, you were required to "co-sign." This means you can "cancel" the license. The new driver may not be able to obtain a new license until turning 18.

For the Student Driver: The Graduated Licensing System

You have just earned your Learner's Instructional Permit, the first step to becoming a fully licensed driver. Here are some things you must do before moving to the next step.

You must have your learner's permit for the period of time listed in the chart below before you can get a provisional license. If you are convicted of a moving violation or granted probation before judgment (PBJ), the time you must have a learner's permit will restart and be extended to nine months. This chart outlines all the requirements that must be met before taking the skills test for a provisional license.

Note:

- Supervising drivers must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and must have had a driver's license for at least three (3) years.
- Nighttime practice hours are 30 minutes before sunset until 30 minutes after sunrise.
- A practice driving skills log must be signed by an individual certifying the practice driving requirements were met. New drivers must also present the completed skills practice log and completed certification page along with their valid Maryland learner's permit.
- You must complete the Maryland Certified Driver Education Program, consisting of a minimum of thirty (30) hours classroom instruction and six (6) hours behind the wheel training.
- Your Maryland learner's permit is good for 2 years (24 months) from the date it is issued.
- **Your Learner's Permit can not be renewed. Applicants must reapply and retake the knowledge test if it expires.**

What if I am 25 years of age or older?

- You still need to complete a Maryland MVA approved driver education course.
- You still need a supervising driver or coach to help you practice.
- You only need 14 hours of supervised practice with a minimum of three practice hours at night.
- You only need to wait 45 days before you can take the skills test and receive a driver's license.
- If you do receive a moving violation citation or a PBJ, you will be required to have your learner's instructional permit for 9 months before being allowed to take the tests to become a fully licensed driver.
- If you are over 25 and have additional questions, please go to mva.maryland.gov.

Do I need a learner's permit to start practicing?

Before you start driving, you must have a learner's instructional permit. You must also have your learner's permit with you every time you drive, even in an empty parking lot.

Learner's Permit Holders Requirements				
Requirement Category	For age 18 or under (without HS diploma or equivalent)	For age 18 years old (with HS diploma or equivalent)	For ages 19-24	For age 25 & older
Minimum holding period before provisional license can be issued	9 months	3 months	3 months	45 days
Minimum holding period before provisional can be issued, if individual was convicted of, or granted probation before judgement for, a moving violation	9 months	9 months	9 months	9 months
Supervised practice driving hours	60 hours of practice driver with supervising driver including 10 hours at night.	60 hours of practice driver with supervising driver including 10 hours at night.	60 hours of practice driver with supervising driver including 10 hours at night.	14 hours of practice with supervising driver with 3 hours at night.
Maryland Certified Driver Education	30 classroom hours and 6 hours behind the wheel.	30 classroom hours and 6 hours behind the wheel.	30 classroom hours and 6 hours behind the wheel.	30 classroom hours and 6 hours behind the wheel.

My family is going on vacation. What if I want to drive in another state?

You should check with the Motor Vehicle Administration in those states before driving there. If the other state does not accept a Maryland learner's permit, you can not drive there even if you are with a supervising driver over 21 with three years of driving experience.

I just got my receipt from the MVA for my learner's permit. What if I want to start driving?

You can drive but you must keep your receipt with you.

What if my learner's permit expires before I get my provisional license?

You will need to RETAKE the law test and get a new learner's permit before you will be allowed to take the driving skills test. You do not need to redo Driver Education and practice hours completed before your permit expired.

Can I use parking assist, back up cameras and other technologies when I take my skills test?

You may use your backup camera and other vehicle safety technology, but you may not use the parking assist feature.

Practice Lessons: Beginning to Drive

While your new driver is driving, have them describe what they are seeing, doing, and even thinking. As the coach, this will help you correct mistakes before they happen. It is also helpful to explain to your new driver what you are doing and why you are doing it while you drive.

This lesson should be completed in a driveway, parking lot, or a lightly traveled residential road. It would be best to complete this lesson with few distractions and few vehicles around.

Before you get into the car

Have the driver check all around the vehicle for the following:

- Broken glass on or around the vehicle
- Body damage to the vehicle
- Condition of tires and lights
- Fluid leaks under the vehicle
- Potential hazards

Getting ready to drive

Help your new driver adjust the seat, safety belts, and mirrors. Put away all electronic devices. Be sure the new driver knows where all the controls are, such as:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Headlights | • Windshield wipers |
| • Turn signal | • Door locks |
| • Hazard lights | • Gear shift |
| • Horn | • Gas pedal/accelerator |
| • Heater, defroster and A/C | • Brake pedal |
| • Parking brake | |

Moving the vehicle

- Make sure the new driver knows where the brake and gas pedals are.
- Have the new driver start the vehicle with their foot on the brake pedal.
- Have the new driver shift the vehicle into Drive and slowly release the brake.
- Have the new driver gently press the brake and gas pedals several times to get the feel of accelerating and stopping the vehicle before moving onto actual driving.

Steering

- Have the new driver turn the wheel slightly to the right and to the left to develop a feel for how the vehicle will move when the wheel turns.
- Make sure the new driver is comfortable with the steering wheel.
- Tell the new driver that hand-over-hand turning provides more control, especially for sharp turns, while palming is dangerous because your palm can slip off the wheel.

Seatbelts

Everybody seated in the vehicle must wear a seatbelt. Seatbelts are your best protection in a crash. You can be ticketed if everyone in the vehicle is not in a seatbelt.

- Buckle up every time you drive or ride, even on short trips.
- Wear your lap belt low on your hips, under your stomach.
- Buckle up correctly (never put the shoulder belt behind your back or under your arm), to prevent serious injury and to avoid a ticket.
- If your car is equipped with a seat belt adjuster (photo to the right), move it up or down to adjust the height of the shoulder belt so the belt rests across the middle of your shoulder.



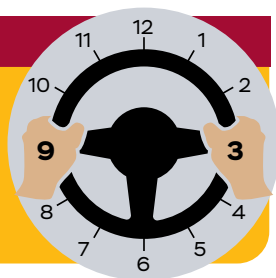
Turns

Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- Right and left turns
- Check in all directions for traffic
- Use of mirrors
- Use of turn signals
- Smooth steering
- Turn into the closest lane for your direction
- Smooth acceleration

What is the best position for my hands on the steering wheel?

The best hand position on the steering wheel is to have your hands on the wheel in a balanced position so that you are in full control of the vehicle at all times. One of the preferred positions is left hand at 9:00 and the right hand at 3:00, keeping your hands in from the airbag in a crash.



Backing up

Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- If the vehicle has a backup camera, you can use it but should not rely on it.
- Do not start to back up until you are sure there are no pedestrians, bicyclists, or vehicles coming.
- Press on the brake, shift to reverse.
- While backing in a straight line, using one hand is permitted. However, if turning is needed, the driver should face forward and use two hands to control the wheel safely.
- Look all around the vehicle to make sure the way is clear.
- Take your foot off the brake pedal.
- Do not accelerate using the gas pedal. Allow the vehicle to move slowly as you watch for pedestrians, bicyclists, other vehicles, or animals.

Common errors with backing up

- Incorrect body position
- Moving too fast
- Failing to check to see what is behind you
- Failing to look behind you during the whole maneuver
- Only using the mirrors while backing up
- Not steering in the direction you want to go in

Position within the lane

Have your new driver practice driving in each lane position:

- Center position (1) - Most commonly used. Keep the vehicle in the center of the lane.
- Left position (2) - Keep the vehicle to the left side of the lane. Best used when approaching a hill, curve, or driving next to parked cars.
- Right position (3) - Keep the vehicle to the right side of the lane, used to prepare to make a right turn.





Coach’s Checklist	Yes	No
Does your new driver know where all the controls for the vehicle are?		
Does your new driver know how to complete a check around the vehicle before moving?		
Does your new driver know how to brake smoothly and come to a complete stop?		
Can your new driver back up using the correct procedure?		
If you don’t answer yes to all of the questions, STOP and practice more.		

Practice Lessons: Driving in Neighborhoods

Before starting, the coach should review where all the controls are. The coach should also review backing up, turning, and accelerating. Be sure to check all around the vehicle before getting in. The following lesson should be completed in a neighborhood with light traffic to make sure the Rookie Driver is comfortable on the road.

Entering traffic from the side of the road

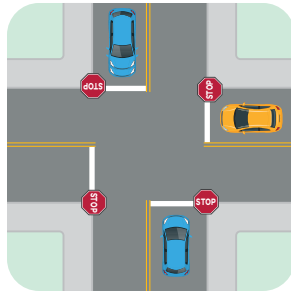
Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- Check the rear, sides, and front of the vehicle.
- Use your turn signals.
- Select a safe gap in traffic.
- When clear, drive into the appropriate lane.
- Turn your signal off.
- Accelerate to appropriate speed.

Intersections

Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- As you approach an intersection, check for vehicles, pedestrians, signs, and traffic control devices.
- Adjust speed to prepare to stop if necessary.
- Bring the vehicle to a complete stop at all stop signs and red traffic lights.
- Make sure the intersection is clear before proceeding when the traffic light turns green.

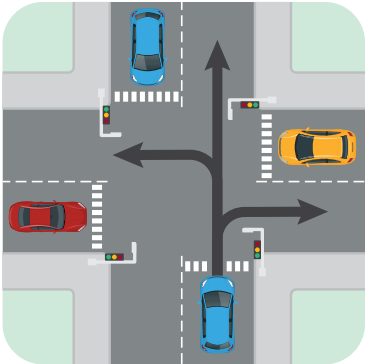


What do you do when you see a school bus?

If there is no physical median barrier (such as grass, dirt, or a guardrail) between your vehicle and a school bus, you must **STOP AND WAIT** if the school bus has its stop sign and flashing red lights activated.

Turning at an intersection

- Check for vehicles, pedestrians, signs, and traffic control devices.
- Before turning, check your blind spots.
- Use your turn signal at least 3–4 seconds before the turn.
- Choose the correct lane position.
- Adjust your speed for the turn or stop if required. (Remember you must stop completely before making a right turn on red.)
- Select a safe gap to make the turn.
- Check mirrors and look for any hazards.
- Steer into the proper lane.
- Adjust speed as necessary.



Leaving traffic

- Search ahead for a safe and legal place to park.
- Check mirrors.
- Use your turn signal.
- Slow down.
- Steer within 12 inches of the curb if parking on a public road.



Coach’s Checklist

	Yes	No
Does your new driver stop completely at red lights and stop signs?		
Does your new driver understand giving right of way?		
Does your new driver always signal before turning?		
Does your new driver complete a traffic check before moving onto the road or through an intersection?		
Does your new driver enter and exit intersections safely?		
Does your new driver select the correct lane position at all times?		

If you don’t answer yes to all of the questions, STOP and practice more.

Practice Lessons: Driving on Busy Roads

After your Rookie Driver has gotten the feel of accelerating, braking, using turn signals, and watching for all of the risks on neighborhood roads, you should plan to go out onto a larger road. The average speed on the road should be between 35-50 mph. You and your Rookie Driver should focus on practicing driving skills and looking ahead to watch for hazards on the road.

Changing lanes

Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- Maintain proper following distance.
- Check traffic in all directions.
- Select a safe gap.
- Use turn signals.
- Recheck in the direction of the lane change.
- Adjust speed and steer smoothly into lane.
- Cancel turn signal after the lane change.



Using shared left turn lane to enter a driveway or parking lot

Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- Check traffic, signaling left turn.
- Check for drivers entering from left and right sides of the road.
- Signal for 3-4 seconds before the turn.
- Adjust speed and move into shared turn lane.
- Wait for a safe gap in oncoming traffic and complete turn.

Using shared left turn lane to enter traffic

Help your new driver practice each of the following:

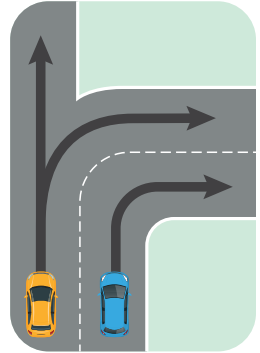
- Signal left turn, stop at edge of road.
- Check for drivers on the opposite side of the road who are signaling left turn.
- Check for safe gap to the left.
- If traffic is clear in both directions, enter closest lane going your way.
- If there is traffic going your way, move into shared turn lane.
- Stop and turn on right signal.
- Check for traffic.
- When traffic clears, accelerate and steer into closest lane.

Using multiple turn lanes

Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- Adjust speed and position to avoid danger.
- Identify the turn lane ahead of time.
- Use your turn signal.
- Complete a traffic check.
- When it's safe, steer into the appropriate lane.

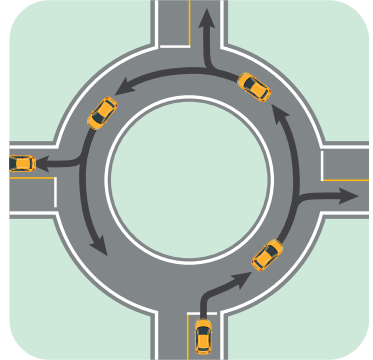
Stay alert for pedestrians crossing the street and for oncoming vehicles. Remember, trucks and buses needed more room to turn.



Roundabouts

A roundabout, which is sometimes called a traffic circle, allows for a better traffic flow than a traffic light does. Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- Slow down.
- Obey all traffic signs and road markings.
- Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists when entering and exiting the roundabout.
- Yield to traffic already in the roundabout.
- Keep your speed low.
- Use turn signal to exit the roundabout.



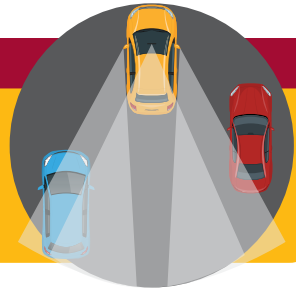
Driving with bicycles

In Maryland you are required to stay at least three feet away when passing a bicyclist. Bicyclists are allowed to use an entire traffic lane since they are considered vehicles. Help keep Maryland roads safe for all who use them.



How do I check blindspots?

A driver should turn their head to the right and to the left to see blind spots before changing lanes. The center car's driver sees the left car through his mirrors, but can't see the right car without turning to check his blind spot.



When should I stop, move over, or slow down?

Action	Description
STOP	Stop for school buses with their lights and signals on if there is no physical median barrier (such as grass, dirt, or a guardrail) between you and the school bus.
MOVE OVER	Move over into the next lane, if possible, for ANY stopped, standing, or parked vehicle displaying warning signals. This includes hazard warning lights, road flares, and other caution signals including traffic cones, caution signs, and non-vehicular warning signs.
SLOW DOWN	If it is not safe or possible to move over, slow down to a reasonable and cautious speed that is safe for the current weather, road, and vehicular or pedestrian traffic conditions.



Coach's Checklist

Does your new driver safely go through a difficult intersection?

Yes

No

Does your new driver properly use a shared left turn lane to enter and exit traffic?

Does your new driver change lanes safely?

Does your new driver obey ALL traffic signs and signals?

Does your new driver obey all posted speed limits when driving?

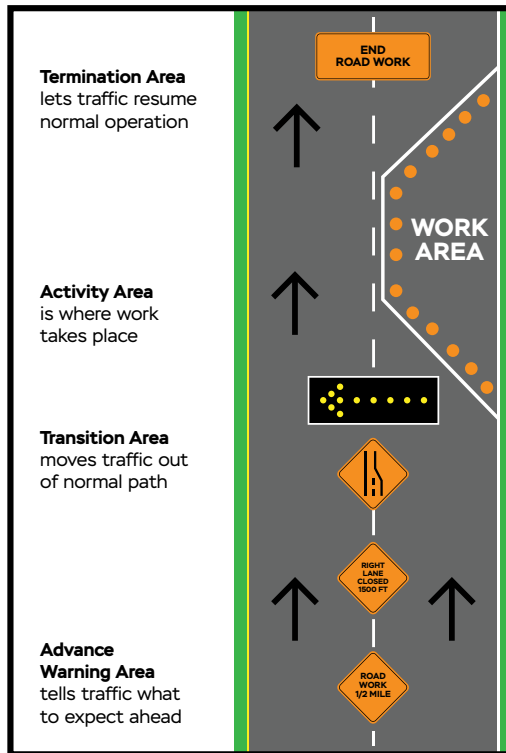
Does your new driver feel comfortable driving on a large, busy road?

If you don't answer yes to all of the questions, STOP and practice more.

Practice Lessons: Driving in Work Zones

You must always drive at or below the posted speed limit in a work zone, even when no workers are present. The reduced speed is set to account for ongoing hazards such as lane shifts, uneven pavement, and narrower lanes.

In Maryland, speed cameras may be active in work zones, regardless of whether workers are on site. However, if workers are present, any fines for speeding are doubled.



How can I learn to manage risk?

Risk is the danger that something unexpected can happen on the road. A child may run into traffic. A driver in front of you may stop suddenly. Someone next to you may swerve into your lane. Experienced drivers think about what can happen on the road and change their driving when they see dangerous situations happening. New drivers are more likely to get into crashes because they don't usually recognize risky situations ahead of time. Learning to recognize and react to risk is important for safe driving.

Practice Lessons: Expressway Driving

Start practicing with your Rookie Driver on highways when there is light traffic and the weather conditions are good. A good time to practice is on weekend mornings. Practice for several hours before trying to drive in heavy traffic or in bad weather. Be sure to discuss previous skills that you and your Rookie Driver have mastered before beginning highway driving.

Expressway driving

Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- Identify the highway entrance ramp.
- Accelerate to highway speed and use your turn signal.
- Select a safe gap and merge into the closest lane.
- Select the proper driving lane.
- Keep a minimum of 3-4 seconds of following distance.
- Change lanes after signaling and completing traffic checks.
- Identify your exit in enough time to change lanes safely.
- Use turn signals, traffic checks, and the deceleration lane to exit the highway.
- Adjust your speed to exit the highway.

High speed, multiple lane divided highway with cross streets

Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- Before entering the highway from a cross street, stop completely unless there's a green signal.
- Use your turn signal.
- Carefully select a large gap to merge into traffic.
- Accelerate into proper lane.
- Keep a 3-4 second following distance.
- Only change lanes after completing traffic checks.
- To exit the highway, use your turn signal and decelerate safely.

Looking Ahead or I.P.D.E.	
Action	Description
Identify	potential risks like oncoming vehicles.
Predict	when or where there may be a problem.
Decide	on the best course of action.
Execute	that action.

Passing another vehicle

Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- Keep a proper distance between you and the vehicle you will pass.
- Select a proper gap in oncoming traffic.
- Use your turn signal.
- Complete a traffic check before changing lanes.
- Steer smoothly into the passing lane and accelerate.

Even when passing, you are not allowed to exceed the speed limit. When the entire front of the vehicle can be seen in your rear view mirror, signal and steer smoothly into the original lane.



Being passed

Help your new driver practice each of the following:

- Maintain speed and lane position.
- Check for oncoming traffic.
- Slow down if necessary to allow the passing vehicle to reenter the lane.

What is the proper following distance and how do I measure it?

The proper following distance under ideal conditions is 3-4 seconds. To measure, start counting when the vehicle in front of you passes a stationary object such as a lamp post or a road marker. Stop counting when you reach the same object. You should increase the distance in bad weather or at night.



Coach's Checklist	Yes	No
Does your new driver safely enter and exit the highway using turn signals and checking the road for potential hazards?		
Does your new driver yield safely when entering the highway?		
Does your new driver maintain a safe distance from other drivers on the highway?		
Does your new driver maintain the appropriate speed on the highway?		
Does your new driver stay focused while driving on the highway?		
If you don't answer yes to all of the questions, STOP and practice more.		

Practice Lessons: Night Driving

After practicing with your Rookie Driver on different types of roads, you should take him/her driving at night. According to the Graduated Licensing System, you must practice with your Rookie Driver for at least 10 hours at night. Many teen crashes occur at night because new drivers fail to make necessary adjustments to their driving, like slowing down or allowing for greater following distance. You may want to practice on a familiar neighborhood road and work up to busier roads. Make sure your Rookie Driver follows these rules:

Low Beam Headlights vs High Beam Headlights	
Type	Description & Applications
Low Beams	• Beams stay lower and more faint • Use in foggy weather and when other cars are driving on the road
High Beams	• Beams are higher and brighter • Do not use in foggy weather - high beams make it harder for you to see • When you see an oncoming vehicle, switch to low beams. Look for flashes of light at the top of hills, road bends, and intersections - they might be the headlights of other cars.

- Before you drive, check that all lights work properly (front and rear lights, brake lights, turn signals, low and high beams).
- Make sure your windows and headlights are clean (inside and outside). Dirty windows can add to glare and make it hard to see; dirty headlights don't shine so bright.
- Adjust your rear-view mirror to avoid the reflection of other vehicles' headlights. Most cars have rear-view mirrors that can be tilted easily to reduce the glare.
- Do not use the interior light while driving. If you need to check for something, safely pull over to the side of the road first.
- Keep your eyes moving. Increase your following distance to make sure you have time to adjust your speed or brake as needed.
- Night driving requires lots of concentration and can be tiring. On long trips, take breaks to give your eyes and mind a rest.



Coach's Checklist		Yes	No
Does your new driver use high beams and low beams correctly when driving at night?			
Does your new driver adjust following distance and speed when driving at night?			
If you don't answer yes to all of the questions, STOP and practice more.			

Practice Lessons: Bad Weather Conditions

You may not get to practice all of these skills before your new driver gets a provisional license, but Maryland weather often changes and we experience different weather conditions across the state. When this happens, you should practice with your new driver and remind them of some basic rules.

Wet roads

- Turn on your headlights, even in light rain, to help you see and be seen.
- Turn on your front and rear defogger to keep your windows clear.
- It takes longer to stop on wet roads, so increase your following distance and drive a little slower.
- Start braking earlier than you normally would to allow more time to stop. This will also let the driver behind you know that you're slowing down.
- Watch for pedestrians.
- If you can't see the road or the car in front of you, pull over to a safe spot.

Hydroplaning

- Usually occurs because of water on the road that is deeper than the tire tread.
- Reduces the grip the tires have on the road and can cause you to lose control of the vehicle.
- To avoid hydroplaning, avoid deep puddles in the road.
- If you can't avoid the puddle, slow down so you won't lose control.

Fog

- Slow down. You can't know where you are going if you can't see.
- Turn on low beams. High beams make it more difficult to see.
- If your vehicle has fog lights, you should use them.

Snow

- Make sure you clear all the snow and ice from your vehicle before driving.
- Steer smoothly, travel slowly, and brake gently.
- Stay alert. Stopping can take much longer in the snow.
- Watch for icy conditions in shaded areas and on bridges and overpasses.

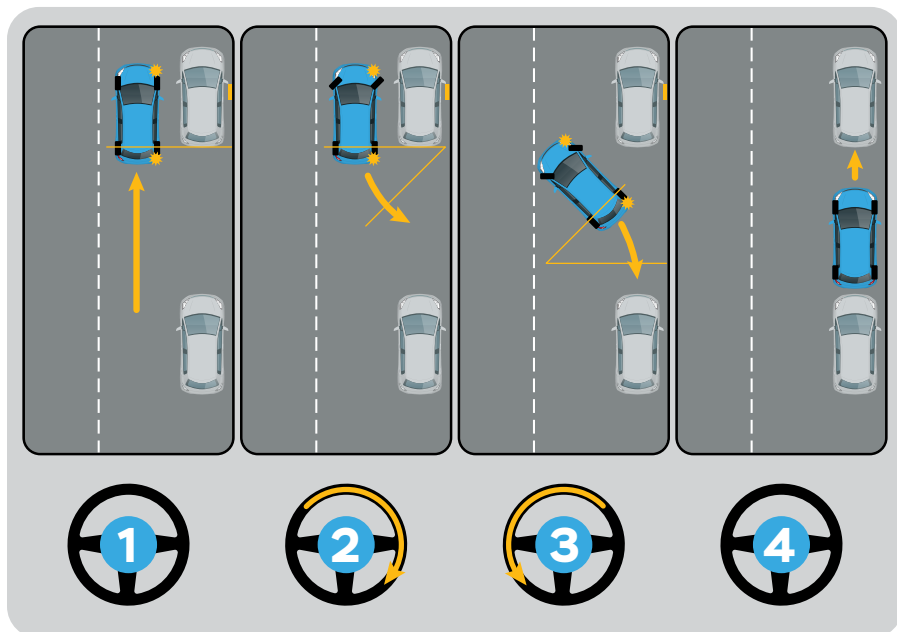


Practice Lessons: Parking

Parking is a difficult skill for any Rookie Driver. Make sure your Rookie Driver practices each of these steps carefully:

Entering a parallel parking space

- Use your turn signal.
- Stop your vehicle parallel to the vehicle you are parking behind.
- Shift to reverse.
- Check traffic in all directions and yield to any vehicles or pedestrians.
- Back slowly and turn wheel sharply in appropriate direction.
- Continue backing until the driver is in line with the rear bumper of the vehicle you are parking behind.
- Look to the rear while backing slowly. Turn the steering wheel in the opposite direction and stop before touching the bumper of the vehicle to the rear.
- Shift to drive and adjust vehicle in parking space.
- Make sure your vehicle is no more than 12 inches from the curb.



Exiting a parallel parking space

- Check for traffic and use your turn signal.
- Shift to reverse, and back close to the vehicle behind your car without hitting it.
- Shift to drive and turn the steering wheel to exit the space.
- Continue to check your front bumper so you do not hit the car parked in front of you.
- Steer into a safe gap in traffic.

Entering an angle parking space

- Choose a space and use your turn signal.
- Carefully turn into the space.
- Center the vehicle in the space.

Exiting an angle parking space

- Check for traffic in all directions
- Back up carefully.
- Turn the steering wheel in direction you want to drive.
- When car clears parking space, stop and shift to drive.



Coach's Checklist		Yes	No
Can your new driver enter and exit an angled parking space?			
Does your new driver check mirrors and perform traffic checks before exiting a parking space?			
Can your new driver enter and exit a parallel parking space without hitting the curbs or any vehicle?			
If you don't answer yes to all of the questions, STOP and practice more.			

What happens if you are pulled over by a police officer?

- Pull off to the side of the road as far away from traffic as possible.
- Turn off the engine, radio, and any other device.
- Stay in your vehicle and keep your seatbelt fastened.
- Keep your hands visible at all times, preferably on the steering wheel.
- Show your driver's license, registration and proof of insurance when the officer asks.
- If the officer issues you a citation, sign it and do not argue with the officer.
- Signing the citation does not mean you're guilty.
- All drivers must have a valid insurance card with them at all times. This card may be in electronic format and must be presented on request of a law enforcement officer.

What happens when you get a citation?

- If you receive a moving violation conviction or a probation before judgment (PBJ) with a learner's permit, you are ineligible to take the driving skills test for nine (9) months from the date of your conviction or PBJ disposition. This also restarts your eighteen (18) month waiting period to be fully licensed.
- You must attend the Driver Improvement Program to review the things taught in driver education and the reasons why driving safely is important. If you do not attend Driver Improvement, your permit/license will be suspended.
- For additional information about citations and penalties while holding a learner's permit or provisional license, please visit mva.maryland.gov.

You must always contact law enforcement if:

- Someone has been injured in a crash.
- A vehicle cannot be moved.
- A driver appears to be under the influence.
- A driver does not have a license.
- A driver tries to leave the scene without giving proper information.
- Public property has been damaged.

If you are in a crash where someone has been injured:

- Immediately contact 911 and stay at the scene until help arrives.
- Do not move vehicles.

If you are in a crash and no one is injured but you cannot move your vehicle:

- Contact 911 and seek assistance.
- Move to a safe location away from traffic.
- Use emergency flashers or flares to warn other motorists.

If you are in a crash and there are no injuries, move your vehicle off the road and be sure to get the following information from the other driver:

- Name
- Address
- Phone number(s)
- Insurance information
- Vehicle license plate number and make, model and year, if possible
- Name(s) and contact phone numbers and statements of any witnesses to the crash.

If you injure a domestic animal, you must notify law enforcement.

If you hit a parked car or property, you must:

- Try to find the owner of the vehicle or property and provide your contact information.
- Leave your contact information in a safe place if you are unable to find the vehicle or property owner. Notify your insurance company.

Driving while impaired by drugs or alcohol

- Driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol is a very serious charge and your license may be suspended for an extended period.
- If you plan to drink alcohol or use drugs, do not drive.
- Under 21: zero tolerance for alcohol. You can receive a citation for drinking and driving. You are not legally old enough to drink.
- By signing and accepting your Learner's Instructional Permit, Provisional License or full Driver's License, you also agree to be tested for drugs/alcohol when requested by a police officer. This is called Implied Consent. If you refuse to test, your license can be suspended.
- DUI, DWI, and Refusal to Test cannot be expunged from your driving record.
- To learn more about Maryland impaired driving prevention and laws, visit ZeroDeathsMD.gov/Impaired.

How can I help prevent crashes and citations?

Each year in Maryland, more than 50 people are killed and more than 6,800 people are injured in crashes involving young drivers. New Maryland drivers of all ages are much more likely to be involved in crashes than experienced drivers. New drivers are also more likely to receive a citation in their first year of driving. Studies show that parents can be a positive influence by being good drivers themselves, and by being actively engaged with their new drivers.

Practice Log

Please use this chart to log your new driver’s practice driving time. **REMEMBER THAT 60 HOURS IS A REQUIRED MINIMUM.** If the new driver is under 25, he/she will need to practice at least 60 hours. At least ten of those hours should be at night. Plan to allow your new driver to practice in bad weather. If the new driver is 25 or older, it is necessary to complete 14 hours of practice driving. At least 3 of those hours should be at night. You may always practice more, and more practice leads to safer driving.

The RoadReady App can also be used to record driving hours, using one convenient platform to track on-the-road lessons. The app is available at roadreadyapp.com.

Date	Start Time	Skill/ Activity	End Time	Total Number of Hours Completed

Certification for Rookie Drivers

I hereby certify that _____, who is under 25 years of age, has had a minimum of 60 hours behind the wheel driving practice, has demonstrated that they can safely operate a motor vehicle, and has been under the supervision of a valid license holder 21 years of age or older, who has been licensed for at least three years. The 60 hours includes 10 hours of nighttime driving and are in addition to the 6 hours of behind the wheel instruction received during the required driver education course.

OR

I hereby certify that _____, who is 25 years of age or older, has had a minimum of 14 hours behind the wheel driving practice, has demonstrated that they can safely operate a motor vehicle, and has been under the supervision of a valid license holder 21 years of age or older who has been licensed for at least three years. The 14 hours includes 3 hours of nighttime driving and are in addition to the 6 hours of behind the wheel instruction received during the required driver education course.

It is illegal for anyone to give false information for a driver’s license. This certification is considered part of the license application, and anyone who certifies to a false statement may be prosecuted and/or have their license canceled. I certify, under penalty of perjury, that the statements made and the information submitted by me regarding this certification are true and correct.

Signature of parent, guardian, mentor, or coach

Date

Driver’s License Number

Rookie Driver-Coach Agreement

This agreement gives you and your new driver an opportunity to set down some ground rules for both of you. These can be rules for your driver while learning to drive and can be updated after receiving a provisional license. The more involved you are as a coach, the safer your new driver will be.

Rookie Driver:

I can drive from _____ (times) to _____ (times) with _____ and _____ but may have no more than _____ passengers in the vehicle at any time.

- I may drive on the following roads: _____
- I will focus on driving when driving.
- I may not text at any time while driving or use a phone for any reason while driving.
- I will always wear my safety belt and make sure that all my passengers are also wearing their safety belts even if we are just driving around a parking lot.
- I will not drink alcohol and drive for any reason.
- I will not use any drug illegally and drive.
- I will obey the restrictions of my provisional license.

If I violate these rules, I will face the following consequences.

- First offense: _____
- Second offense: _____
- Third offense: _____

Signature of Rookie Driver

Date

Coach:

- I agree to supervise the completion of 60 hours of supervised driving.
- I agree to be a model driver and follow all Maryland driving laws.
- I agree to be supportive and provide CONSTRUCTIVE, HELPFUL comments to my new driver.
- I agree to set limits to ensure safe driving and to enforce the Maryland driving law with my new driver.

Signature of Coach

Date

Rookie Driver Quick Reference Guide

Regulation	For Learner's Permit	For Provisional License	For Driver's License
Minimum Age	15 years , 9 months	16 years, 6 months	18 Years
Cosigner?	Must have cosigner who can request MVA cancel permit for any reason.	If under 18, must have cosigner who can request MVA cancel license for any reason.	None
Seat Belt Use	Driver and all passengers must wear seat belts or be in age appropriate car seats/ boosters.	Driver and all passengers must wear seat belts or be in age appropriate car seats/ boosters.	Driver and all passengers must wear seat belts or be in age appropriate car seats/ boosters.
Cell Phone Use	No cell phone use except for emergency 911 calls.	No cell phone use under the age of 18 except for emergency 911 calls.	May use a hands free device if over 18.
Texting	No texting except for emergency 911 texts.	No texting except for emergency 911 texts.	No texting except for emergency 911 texts.
Nighttime Restrictions	No driving without coach	If under18, may not drive between12:00 am and 5:00 am unless for school, sports, job, or volunteer work.	None
Passenger Restrictions	Coach only	If under 18, for first 151 days, may not carry passengers other than immediate family members.	None
Alcohol Restrictions	Zero tolerance	Zero tolerance	Under 21: Zero tolerance. 21 and over: .07 BAC is DWI, and .08 BAC and higher is DUI.
Consequences	First Offense: DIP Class Second Offense: 30 days of license suspension and 90 days of work/school restriction Third Offense: 180 days suspension or revocation & 180 days of work/ restriction. Must attend Young Driver Improvement Program Fourth Offense: 180 day revocation	First Offense: DIP Class Second Offense: 30 days of license suspension and 90 days of work/school restriction Third Offense: 180 days suspension or revocation & 180 days of work/ restriction. Must attend Young Driver Improvement Program Fourth Offense: 180 day revocation	5 – 7 points: DIP class 8 points: Suspension of Driver's License with possible additional penalties 12 points: Revocation of Driver's License with possible additional penalties

Congratulations!

For the Rookie Driver:

You have completed your required hours of practice time and driver education. You are ready to take your skills test. Remember to practice and stay calm on the day of the test. For more information about the driving test, please go to mva.maryland.gov/test-prep.

For the Coach:

The Motor Vehicle Administration and all the drivers on Maryland roads thank you for helping your new driver learn to drive safely and legally – but we want to remind you that the first year of independent driving is the most hazardous for any new driver. Even careful, cautious new drivers can get into serious crashes. On average, more than 500 people are killed annually on Maryland roads.

Just because your new driver has passed the driving test and has obtained a provisional license doesn't mean that your job as coach is over. You should continue to monitor your new driver and follow the limitations set out in the Maryland Graduated Licensing System.

It is recommended that you continue to ride with your new driver from time to time to see how they are progressing and offer any comments or suggestions. Hold your new driver to the contract you made in the Coach-New Driver Agreement. You may even want to update the agreement as your new driver gains experience and skill. Safe driving doesn't end when your new driver gets a provisional license; it is a commitment for life for both you and your new driver.

