



Driving Skills Checklist

MOTOSafety has created this checklist to help you cover a wide variety of skills your teen will need to prepare for the driving test. You should also consult your local DMV for any additional guides.

When your teen takes the driving test, there will be a pre-drive checklist followed by a driving test on the road.

PRE-DRIVE CHECKLIST

It is important to practice the pre-drive checklist every session so that your teen is comfortable on the day of the test. Have your student locate and operate the following:

- headlights
- windshield wipers
- turn signals
- hazard lights
- horn
- parking brake

You should also make sure your teen knows how to:

- turn on the car without starting it
- defrost the front and rear windows
- use and understand hand signals

DRIVING SKILLS CHECKLIST

Once your teen passes the pre-drive checklist, she will be allowed to enter the road for the driving test. Although there are many skills that will be evaluated, there are some common reasons that student drivers fail the road test. Make sure your teen is familiar with all of them.

Yielding the right of way

Does your teen know when to yield? Review the following situations:

- left turn across traffic
- 4-way stops
- crosswalks
- driving in merging lanes of traffic
- driving 2 cars length behind the next vehicle (no tailgating)

Stopping completely in the right place

Failure to make a correct stop is one of the most common critical errors that testing drivers make. Your teen should know:

- where the limit line is
- how to stop at the limit line completely before creeping forward

Scanning for possible hazards

Another common error is driving with "tunnel vision." Your teen should be able to see the big picture and react to:

- children at play
- vehicles that are preparing to back up, turn, or stop
- vehicles that may be turning into the driving lane
- pedestrians crossing the road

Making turns correctly

Your teen might have to exhibit the following turning skills:

- left turns
- right turns
- u-turns
- 3 point turns

Parking in multiple situations

Your teen should also be prepared for:

- parallel parking
- angle parking
- perpendicular parking

Backing up the vehicle

Make sure your teen is comfortable backing up and knows how to:

- check behind the vehicle and look in the mirrors
- back up around a curve without over-steering