

Is your driving road-worthy?

Licensing authorities have identified important driving skills and common road maneuvers that need to be mastered before a driver can be judged safe enough to be licensed. These skills and maneuvers are incorporated into BC's road tests.

Use this tool to help structure your teenager's driving practice sessions, help your teenager prepare for the road tests, and help you brush up on your own driving skills.

Suggestions for use

- Make photocopies of *Test Each Other* so that it can be used over and over.
- Make the "Safety" and "Driver Attitudes and Behaviours" sections part of each driving practice session. Pick one additional section to concentrate on for your current practice session.
- Practice naming hazards out loud (see the "Hazard Perception" section). This will help your teenager with this part of the road test and help him or her observe hazards and take appropriate action.
- Take turns evaluating each other's driving – parents can learn from their teenagers, too.
- Check the column under the response that best applies to what is being observed.
- Hold any discussion until you return home. Try to make your comments positive and non-judgmental.
- Note that the best response, in every case, is "Always" (and "Yes" in the "Safety" section).
- Repeat sections where improvement is needed.

Driver: _____ **Date:** _____

Safety	Yes	No
Does a pre-trip vehicle check before driving		
Checks behind and in front of vehicle before getting in		
Checks head rest height before driving; adjusts if necessary		
Checks side and rear-view mirrors before driving; adjusts if necessary		
Ensures that the windshield, rear and side windows are clean and offer good visibility		
Buckles up seat belt before starting car		
Sits at least 10 in. (25 cm) from air bag unit in steering wheel		
Wears glasses or lenses as prescribed by eye doctor		
Safety comments:		

Driver Attitudes and Behaviours	Always	Sometimes	Never
Follows all traffic laws, road markings			
Maneuvers through complex intersections and busy traffic without unnecessary hesitation (e.g., left turns at busy intersections, roundabouts, traffic circles, rush hour traffic, etc.)			
Concentrates on driving (e.g., does not eat, use cell phone, talk to passengers, etc.)			
Remains calm and confident when driving			
Hears and reacts appropriately to horns, emergency sirens and communication from other drivers.			
Driver Attitudes and Behaviours comments:			

Space Margins	Always	Sometimes	Never
Leaves safe gap between car and vehicle ahead (at least 2 - 4 seconds, depending on road and driving conditions)			
Slows down slightly if driver behind is tailgating			
Drives in centre of lane			
Leaves at least one metre on each side of car			
Avoids driving in other drivers' blind spots			
Stops so that the wheels of car in front are visible			
Stops just before the stop line or crosswalk			
Uses proper procedures at different types of intersections (e.g., four-way stops, traffic circles, controlled and uncontrolled intersections, etc.)			
Parks within 12 in. (30 cm) of curb			
On a hill, parks with wheels turned so car will roll into the curb and applies parking brake			
Space Margins comments:			

Speed Control	Always	Sometimes	Never
Keeps a steady speed, using brake and accelerator smoothly			
Avoids jerky starts and stops			
Can easily move foot from the gas to the brake and can easily press the pedals			
Maintains legal speed limit or appropriate speed, depending on conditions (i.e., does not exceed the speed limit and does not drive consistently below the speed limit unless conditions warrant)			
Slows down going into a curve and accelerates coming out of it			
Fully stops at all stop signs and red lights			
Stops at amber lights unless it is unsafe to do so			
Speed Control comments:			

Observation	Always	Sometimes	Never
Turns head and does a full shoulder check at every turn			
Turns head and does a full shoulder check at every lane change			
Scans rear-view and side mirrors every few seconds			
Scans rear-view mirror before and after slowing down or stopping			
Scans to left and right at all intersections, even if driving through			
Scans side mirrors when changing lanes			
Scans well ahead for hazards (up to ½ km on highways and two blocks in city)			
Does 360° check before backing up (looks all around vehicle, using shoulder and mirror checks)			
Turns around and looks out back window when backing up			
Stops for pedestrians in crosswalk			
Observation comments:			

Steering	Always	Sometimes	Never
Keeps both hands on the wheel			
Keeps hands on the outside of the wheel			
Positions hands correctly on the steering wheel (clock hand positions 9 and 3 or 10 and 2, but if there is an air bag, 9 and 3 or 8 and 4)			
Steers straight down the road without weaving from side to side			
Steering comments:			

Communication	Always	Sometimes	Never
Uses turn signals before turning			
Uses turn signals before changing lanes			
Signals well ahead of turn			
After the turn, ensures that signals are off			
Makes eye contact with pedestrians in a cross walk			
Makes eye contact with other drivers at a four-way stop			
Uses the horn appropriately (i.e., only to signal a warning to other road users)			
Communication comments:			

Hazard Perception	Always	Sometimes	Never
Scans ahead for people in parked cars, opening car doors, children by the roadside, etc.			
Slows down or increases the gap when vision blocked (e.g., when there is a large truck ahead)			
Drives at speed appropriate for conditions (e.g., slows speed in bad weather)			
Slows speed on a hill or sharp curve when visibility is limited			
Slows speed in poor road conditions (e.g., gravel, puddles or ruts)			
Practices naming hazards out loud (should be done in all practice sessions)			
Hazard Perception comments:			