SERVICE OKLAHOMA



OKLAHOMA DRIVER MANUAL



FOREWORD

This handbook is written to help you qualify for an Oklahoma Driver License and become a safe driver. It is not an official legal reference to Oklahoma traffic laws. Still, it explains in everyday language the knowledge and skills you will need to drive safely and legally on Oklahoma's roads and highways.

Good drivers know, understand and respect the law and safe-driving practices. They drive defensively and courteously, always seeking to improve their driving skills and habits.

If you are an Oklahoma resident, you must have an Oklahoma Driver License to operate a car, truck or motorcycle.

You must pass the required tests for the type of vehicle you want to drive. The tests will be given and evaluated by a professional driver examiner from Service Oklahoma, according to state and national standards.

Your license to operate a motor vehicle on Oklahoma's streets and highways is a privilege the state grants under certain conditions. This privilege is granted only to people who can show they have the knowledge and the ability to operate their vehicles safely. Abuse of the privilege may result in the loss of your Oklahoma Driver License.

The Oklahoma Driver Manual presents instructions and general information relating to the operation of motor vehicles in the state of Oklahoma. It is based on the laws and regulations in effect at the time of publication.

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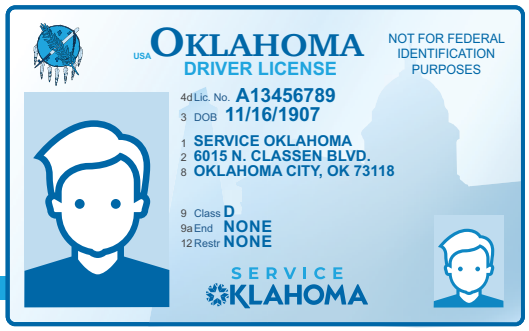
How to Apply for Your Oklahoma Driver License



WHO HAS TO HAVE AN OKLAHOMA DRIVER LICENSE?

All residents who operate a motor vehicle on any Oklahoma street or highway.

- **Drivers with an out-of-state license must apply for an Oklahoma Driver License when they establish residency.**

Upon establishing residency, your vehicles must be registered in Oklahoma. (Find your local Service Oklahoma or licensed operator location on our website*.) This may not apply to military personnel and their spouses.

An Oklahoma License is NOT required for:

- 1. Nonresidents at least 16 years old who are properly licensed to drive in their home state or country.
- 2. Nonresidents on active duty with the Armed Forces and their spouses and children with valid licenses from their home states.
- 3. Nonresident students enrolled at an Oklahoma college or university and their spouses and children with valid licenses from their home states.
- 4. Anyone operating a farm tractor or implement solely for farm/ranch activities

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

You must apply for your license in person at a Driver Testing Facility operated by Service Oklahoma (Find your local Service Oklahoma or licensed operator location on our website*.) Use this checklist for items to bring with you:

☐ **1. Your full legal name will be used on your license.** A name change resulting from marriage, court order or divorce shall appear on the driver license or identification card exactly as stated on the marriage certificate, court order or divorce decree.

☐ **2. Bring proper identification**. You are required to present primary identification. Notarized documents or photocopies are not acceptable.

For your primary ID, you must show an original or certified document such as:

- Certified U.S. birth certificate.
- A valid, unexpired U.S. Passport
- A valid Oklahoma Driver License, originally issued after November 1, 2007.
- A valid Oklahoma Identification Card, originally issued after November 1, 2007.
- Naturalization/Citizenship Certificate
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad.
- Unexpired Permanent Resident Card.
- Unexpired Employment Authorization Card.
- Valid, unexpired foreign passport with a valid U.S. visa and valid I-94 issued by DHS. Other USCIS documents may be required depending on your status (DS-2019, I-20, etc.).

For Replacement Licenses – Applicants requesting replacement of a lost, stolen or mutilated Oklahoma Driver License or ID card must furnish, at a minimum, a primary form of identification.

Applicants for renewals with an expired Oklahoma license or Oklahoma ID card expired more than 1 year must provide a document from primary identification list.

Name Change – Documentation required. If a customer wishes to establish a name other than the name that appears on a source document, the customer must provide evidence of the name change through the presentation of documents issued by a court, governmental body or other entity as determined by Service Oklahoma. Service Oklahoma will maintain copies of the documentation presented and maintain a record of both the recorded name and the name on the source documents as determined by the Department.

Required documents include:

- Unexpired U.S. Passport
- Certified Divorce Decree, only if it states you were granted a name change
- Certified Adoption decree
- Certified Name Change Decree or
- Certified Birth Certificate, pursuant to 63 OS., 1-315
- Certified Marriage License or
- For a common law marriage, "Affidavit of Common Law Marriage" containing the notarized signatures of the husband and wife, with another primary source.
- If USCIS document is the primary ID (including 1-551), applicant must provide proof of name change from USCIS before any change will be made.



* https://oklahoma.gov/service/locations/driving-auto-locations.html

Name Change – A name change resulting from marriage, court order or divorce shall appear on the driver license or identification card exactly as stated on the marriage certificate, court order or divorce decree. Legal name changes should be reported to the Social Security Administration before changes are made on your license or identification card.

Titles or ecclesiastical names will not be placed on a driver license or an identification card.

- If you are not a United States citizen, you must present valid identification and documentation that you are in the United States legally. If you are a U.S. citizen but born outside of the United States, including military bases, you must provide proof of citizenship pursuant to the laws of the United States. **No license shall be issued to any immigrant whose documentation indicates the immigrant is a visitor or is not eligible to establish residency. A receipt for an application for presence in the U.S. is NOT proof of legal presence.**

☐ **3. Bring valid proof of auto liability insurance if you're taking the driving test.**

☐ **4. If you have health or physical conditions that might impair your driving ability, you may be required to have a doctor's statement about your condition.**

☐ **5. Provide your Social Security Number. This number will not appear on your license.**

☐ **6. Bring public school driver's education completion certificate or a certificate of completion of driver's education from a commercial school or a parent-taught driver's education course approved by Service Oklahoma.** If proof of driver's education completion is not presented, additional restrictions may be imposed.

REAL ID



REAL ID is a federal security credential added to State-Issued Driver Licenses and Identification Cards that establishes a minimum security standard required for specific activities.

Beginning May 7, 2025, a REAL ID License or Identification Card or valid federal identification document (i.e., U.S. Passport) will be required to:

- Board a domestic flight
- Visit military bases or specific federal buildings
- Enter nuclear power plants

Our REAL ID checklist will provide you with the documents required for your visit.

Visit our web page for more information.
https://oklahoma.gov/service/sokonline/online-real-id-checklist.html

TABLE 1—TYPES OF LICENSES

You must show proper identification each time you apply for a test, retest, replacement license or ID card.

TYPE MINIMUM AGE	TYPE OF VEHICLE AND REQUIREMENTS
Class A, B or C Commercial License 18	Single or combination vehicle with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 26,001 lbs. or more (does not include farm vehicles); a vehicle transporting hazardous materials in amounts requiring a placard; or a vehicle designed to transport 16 or more passengers, including the driver. **REQUIREMENTS:** If you will be driving any one of these vehicles, you must study the Commercial Driver Manual to prepare for the driving test. The new Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) regulations require that all entry-level drivers of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) receive training from a provider listed on FMCSA's Training Provider Registry. Visit this FMCSA web page for more details. https://tpr.fmcsa.dot.gov/content/Resources/ELDT-Applicability-Factsheet_rev_508.pdf
Class A, B or C Commercial Learner Permit 18	**REQUIREMENTS:** You must pass all the required examinations for an Oklahoma Class D license and have passed all parts of the tests for a Class A, B or C license except the Skills Tests. The applicant must be able to read and understand English. You must be accompanied by a licensed driver 21 or older, who is licensed for the classes of vehicles being driven, including all required endorsements. It is valid for 180 days and may be renewed for an additional 180 days. You will be eligible for Skills Tests 14 days after obtaining the permit. You can take the test only three times after date of eligibility. After that, you can take the test only once every 30 days.
Class D 18+ 18	Cars, vans, trucks under 26,001 lbs. (GVWR), recreational vehicles, fire trucks. Driver education not required. **REQUIREMENTS:** A Learner Permit is valid only while a licensed driver, 21 or older, sits beside the driver. The driving test can be taken 30 days after the permit is issued. You can only take the driving test three times after the date of eligibility. After three times, you can take the test once every 30 days. If you choose to go from the written test to a Class D license, you can take the driving test as early as the next business day. You can only take the driving test three times. After three times, you must possess a valid Oklahoma Learner permit for 30 days before you are eligible to re-test. You can take the test once every 30 days.
Class D Intermediate License 16 16 ½	**16** – Cars, vans, trucks under 26,001 lbs. (GVWR), recreational vehicles, fire trucks. Must show completion certificate from an approved driver education course. **16 1/2** – Driver education completion not required. **REQUIREMENTS:** Must have held learner permit for at least 180-days. Must present Work Zone Safe completion certificate. Can have intermediate restriction removed after 6months if you completed driver education and 1 year if no driver education. If you are transferring a license from another state, see Table 2, page 10.
Class D Learner Permit 15	You must be taking or have passed an approved driver education course and show a completed driver education certificate, a contract with a commercial driver education school or the notarized driver education form from a public school. If participating in the Parent-Taught Driver Education Program, you must bring the SOK-approved Parent-Taught Affidavit and a purchase receipt for the course.
Class D Learner Permit 16	You must qualify for a regular Class D license, except for the driving test. Driver education completion not required. **REQUIREMENTS:** A Learner Permit is valid only while a licensed driver, 21 or older, sits beside the driver. The driving test can be taken 180 days after the permit is issued. The "Licensed Driver in the Front Seat" restriction will be removed when you pass the driving test. You can take the test only three times after the date of eligibility. After that, you can take the test only once every 30 days.

TYPE MINIMUM AGE	TYPE OF VEHICLE AND REQUIREMENTS
Motorcycle Endorsement	Added to Class A, B, C or D license. **REQUIREMENTS:** SOK may waive the knowledge and skills for a motorcycle endorsement if an approved course from the Motorcycle Safety Foundation.
Motorcycle License Only 14	**Study the MOTORCYCLE LICENSE MANUAL in addition to this manual.** https://msf-usa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/motorcycle-operator-manual.pdf **REQUIREMENTS:** You must meet the vision, written and skills test requirements. On the driving test, you must prove your ability to operate a cycle safely. This license is restricted to a motor scooter or motorcycle with a piston displacement of no more than 300 cc (cubic centimeters). You may ride only between the hours of 4:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. You cannot carry a passenger. If your motorcycle is over 150cc but not larger than 300cc, you may drive the posted speed limit, with the exception you may not drive on a highway with a posted minimum speed limit, such as an interstate or turnpike. These restrictions are lifted at age 16 once the "motorcycle only" restriction is removed. **Effective August 26, 2016, those under 18 must complete a certified state-approved motorcycle basic rider course.**
Motorcycle License Permit 14	SOK may waive the knowledge and skills test for a motorcycle if applicant shows proof that they have successfully completed a Motorcycle Safety Foundation Rider Course. A helmet is required for anyone under 18 years of age. **Study the MOTORCYCLE LICENSE MANUAL in addition to this manual.** https://msf-usa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/motorcycle-operator-manual.pdf **You must see a driver license examiner to have a #9 restriction added to your motorcycle driver license at the age of 16 years. (15 if receiving instruction in an approved driver education course).** **REQUIREMENTS:** You must be receiving instruction from a parent, legal guardian or any person 21 or older who has a valid Oklahoma Driver License **with a motorcycle endorsement added** and who has visual contact with the operator. You must meet the requirements for a regular driver license. The learner restriction can be removed 30 days after the permit is issued. **Effective August 26, 2016, under 18 must also complete a certified state approved motorcycle basic rider course.** **14-15 year olds:** Learner Restriction is required. Your application must be signed by a custodial parent or legal guardian who must agree that the conditions imposed upon the license will be complied with and who must also be willing to assume financial and legal responsibility if you violate the law, damage property or cause personal injury while riding your cycle.
Identification Card None	Card is to be used for identification only. **REQUIREMENTS:** You must be an Oklahoma resident and provide the same type of identification required for a driver license. You must complete the application in person at a Driver License Exam location. You must have a custodial parent or legal guardian sign the consent form if you are under 18.

For more information regarding the types of Class D driver licenses and ID cards and their requirements, visit our web page.
https://oklahoma.gov/service/popular-services/new-dl.html

Information regarding the different types of commercial driver licenses (CDL) and their requirements is available on the web page.
https://oklahoma.gov/service/all-pages/cdl-first-time-applicants.html

CHAPTER 1

PARENT-TAUGHT DRIVER EDUCATION

On November 1, 2001, Oklahoma enacted Parent-Taught Driver Education. The program is designed to provide driver education to students who are unable to receive it in school or through a commercial driving school. Oklahoma has enjoyed the benefits of driver education in conventional school settings for years and now offers alternative sources of education to target more young drivers.

Listed below are some questions and answers about Oklahoma's Parent-Taught Driver Education.

Q What is Parent-Taught Driver Education?
A Parent-Taught is an alternative to conventional driver education that is recognized by Service Oklahoma. It is offered as a correspondence study through approved Parent-Taught Driver Education Providers.

Q Is this type of driver education free?
A No. Approved Vendors charge a fee for the curriculum.

Q Is Parent-Taught Driver Education a faster way to complete driver education?
A While Parent-Taught Driver Education is designed for students to work at their own pace, it is not designed to be a fast-track way to complete driver education. Students are required to complete 30 hours of classroom training and 55 hours of actual behind-the-wheel training, which is all programmed into the curriculum of approved providers.

Q Should I take Parent-Taught Driver Ed or go through a Commercial School?
A Parent-Taught Driver Education is the newest of three forms of driver education in Oklahoma. If you do not attend a public school or there are no commercial driving schools in your area, Parent-Taught Education may be right for you.

NEW GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSE (GDL)

House Bill 1599 requires teens to apply for the license which restricts their driving time to the hours of 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. with the exceptions for driving to work, school, church or related activities or if a licensed driver over 21 years of age is seated next to the teenager. The bill also prevents teenage drivers from chauffeuring their friends around town, limiting teens with a restricted license to one passenger unless all passengers live in the same household, unless a licensed driver over 21 years of age is seated next to the teenager. For more information regarding Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL), visit our web page. https://oklahoma.gov/service/popular-services/teen-driving.html

Listed below are some questions and answers about Oklahoma's Graduated Driver License law and how it will affect young people under the age of 17.

Q What is GDL?
A GDL stands for Graduated Driver License. The GDL program gradually phases in driving privileges for new teen drivers as they gain experience behind the wheel.

Q Why do we need GDL?
A Because Oklahoma's teenage drivers have more crashes than any other age group. This is one reason insurance premiums are so high for teen drivers. During their first year of driving, 25 percent of 16-year olds either receive a traffic ticket or are involved in a crash.

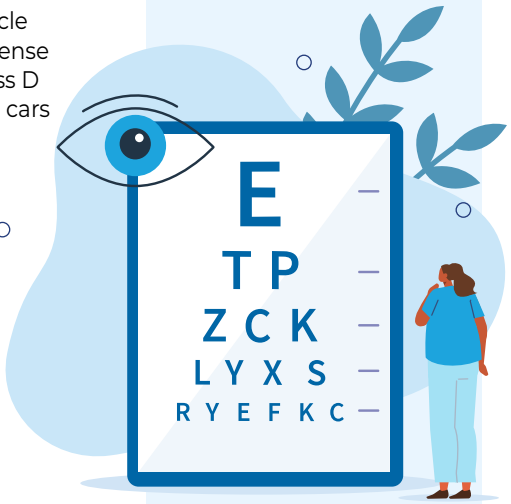
Q Are other states passing GDL too?
A Yes. All 50 states have some version of Graduated Driver License as established by their laws.

Q What happens if you break the rules and are convicted of a moving violation?
A You will remain at your current GDL level (learner or intermediate) until 6 months from the date of conviction has elapsed.

Q Does the driver education course I take have to be given by a high school?
A No. You may take any driver education course that has been certified by Service Oklahoma, including parent-taught driver education and commercial driving schools.

WHAT TO EXPECT

The law says that you must pass certain tests to show that you can drive a car or motorcycle legally and safely before you can get your Oklahoma Driver License. You apply for your license and take your tests at a Driver Testing Facility operated by Service Oklahoma. For the Class D license, there are three tests: the vision screening, the written test and the driving test for cars and motorcycles. You may not be required to take all three. See Table 2, page 10.



You are not required to pay any money to take the tests. When you successfully meet all the requirements, the driver examiner will collect the fees and issue your temporary paper license or identification card. The plastic card will arrive in the mail at the address you provided. If you have been issued a Social Security Number, you must know your number when you apply for an Oklahoma Driver License or ID card. This number will not appear on your license or ID card.

VISION SCREENING—Your vision will be checked. You may be required to wear glasses or contact lenses to drive safely.

WRITTEN TEST—The questions for a Class D license test will be taken from this manual. **You will be asked questions about Oklahoma traffic laws, safe driving practices and drug and alcohol laws/effects. You should also know local traffic laws for your city or town (check with your local police department). For a Class A, B, C license or a Motorcycle Endorsement, also study the proper supplemental manual. An oral test will be given on request (an appointment may be required).**



If you fail the written test, by law you must wait at least one day before retesting.

DRIVING TEST—You must show that you can drive legally and safely on streets and highways. It's very important to have proper training and learn safe driving skills before you try to take the driving test. To qualify for the test:

- You must pass the vision screening and the written test.
- The car you are using must have a valid tag and you must show the security verification form. The car must be in proper mechanical condition.
- No pets or additional people can be in the car with you and the examiner.
- Effective November 1, 2012, any certified Driver Education instructor, who is currently employed by any school district or commercial driver training school, can apply to Service Oklahoma to become a designated examiner to administer the skills portion of the driving test. Anyone who has a valid Oklahoma Learner Permit may choose to take their driving skills test from one of these designated examiners for a fee, or you may still take your test from Service Oklahoma at no charge. For a list of approved designated examiners, please visit our Driver License Services web page. https://oklahoma.gov/service/all-pages/drive-schools.html



The examiner will tell you where to drive and what driving maneuvers to perform. You must show that you can:

- Control the car or motorcycle.
- Properly perform basic maneuvers such as turning right and left, backing, parking on a hill, parallel parking, etc.
- Use signals and drive in the proper lane.
- Understand and obey traffic signs, markings and signals.
- Properly apply the rules of right-of-way.
- Carefully observe and correctly respond to other vehicles and pedestrians.

Skills tests will not be conducted when roads are considered by the examiner to be slick or hazardous. 260:135-5-42 (c)(2).

TABLE 2—TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS D LICENSES

R=Required | D=At the discretion of the examiner | N=None

APPLICANT	VISION	WRITTEN	DRIVING	COMMENTS
New driver, age 16 and up	R	R	R	A license issued to a person under 18 is considered probationary. See page 13.
Learning Permit, age 15 and up	R	R	→	Must be 16 years old and have had your permit for at least 6 months to take the driving test.
Motorcycle, age 16 and up	R	R	R	
Motorcycle, age 14-15	R	R	→	Must have had your permit for at least 30 days to take the driving test.
Renewal, expired less than 3 years – more than 30 days	N	N	N	Take your expired Oklahoma license and proof of legal presence to an authorized licensed operator or examiner.
Renewal, expired more than 3 years	R	R	R	
Out-of-State Transfer of a valid Class D license	R	D	D	If you have a valid license in your possession or on file, the written and driving test may be waived if department standards are met.
Identification Card	N	N	N	Requires same proof of ID as a license.

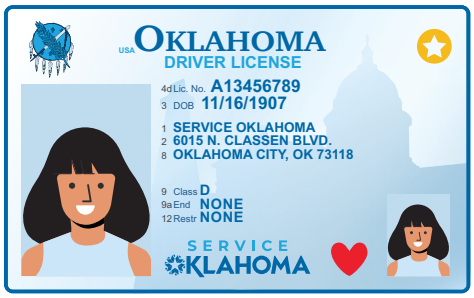
Reasons for Failing the Driving Test—You can fail the driving test for too many errors, dangerous driving, law violations, traffic collisions or refusing to perform a maneuver.

After the test, the examiner will explain any driving errors you made. If you failed the test, the examiner will tell you when you can retake the test.

WHERE TO GET YOUR LICENSE

Driver license tests are available in many cities throughout Oklahoma.- To locate a Service Oklahoma or licensed operator location near you, please visit https://oklahoma.gov/service/locations/driving-auto-locations.html

ORGAN DONOR OPTION



There is a critical shortage of organs and tissues for those who need organ and/ or tissue transplants. When you are issued your Oklahoma Driver License or Identification Card, you will be given the opportunity to become an organ/tissue donor. If you wish to become a donor, you will need to check the YES box on the signature pad. If you do not want to be added to the donor registry, you will need to check the NO box. For additional information, you many contact LifeShare of Oklahoma at www.lifeshareok.org or 1-888.580.5680.

Checking the YES box will cause a red heart ♥ to be printed on the face of the Driver License or Identification Card. This is a legal document and can be the only document required to authorize the recovery and transplantation of your organs and/or tissue if you should become an eligible donor. You are encouraged to inform your family of your decision to be a donor if you checked the YES box, although it is not required.

VETERAN LOGO OPTION



As a way to honor and recognize the veterans who have served our country, SB138 authorized the creation of a logo that serves as a notation of veteran's status on a driver license or identification card. The logo is an American flag with the word "Veteran" underneath it. Anyone requesting the logo must show proof of present or past military service by presenting one of the following documents to any licensed operator:

- A valid Uniformed Services Identity card;
- A United States Department of Defense Form (DD)214, (DD)215 or a World War II discharge document WD AGO Form or NavPers Form that shows a discharge status of "honorable" or "general under honorable conditions";
- A United States Department of Veterans Affairs photo identification card; or
- An Oklahoma Army or Air National Guard NGB Form 22.

There is no cost for the logo but you will have to pay the cost of an original, replacement or renewal license or ID card.

LICENSE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Write down your driver license number and memorize it.
- Always carry your license with you when you drive.
- You are required by law to show it to a trooper, police officer, sheriff or judge when asked.
- You must show your license to anyone with whom you are involved in a collision.

SEX AND VIOLENT CRIME OFFENDER REGISTRATION

State Law requires persons convicted of sex offenses or violent crimes relocating in this state to register with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections within 10 days and local law enforcement within 3 days. Failure to register is punishable by fine and/or imprisonment.

TABLE 3 – FOR A FOUR-YEAR LICENSE APPLICATION AND LICENSE FEES (EFFECTIVE 6-01-2025)

TYPE OF LICENSE	APPLICATION FEE	LICENSE FEE	TOTAL FEES	RETEST FEE	REPLACEMENT FEE
Class A License	$25	$56.50	$81.50	$4	$25
Learner Permit	$25	$56.50	$81.50	$4	$25
Class B License	$15	$56.50	$71.50	$4	$25
Learner Permit	$15	$56.50	$71.50	$4	$25
Class C License	$15	$46.50	$61.50	$4	$25
Learner Permit	$15	$46.50	$61.50	$4	$25
Class D License	$ 4	$38.50	$42.50	$4	$25
Learner Permit	$ 4	$38.50	$42.50	$4	$25
Class D License 65+	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Motorcycle Endorsement	$ 4	$25	$29	$4	$25
Motorcycle Endorsement 65+	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Motorcycle License	$ 4	$38.50	$42.50	$4	$25
Motorcycle Learner Permit	$ 4	$38.50	$42.50	$4	$25
OK State ID Card	-0-	$25	$25	-0-	$25
OK State ID Card 65+	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

FEES

The examiner will advise you of the fees due when you have passed all required tests. The schedule on the left will help you determine what the fees will be. All fees can be paid at Service Oklahoma or at a licensed operator when the license is issued.

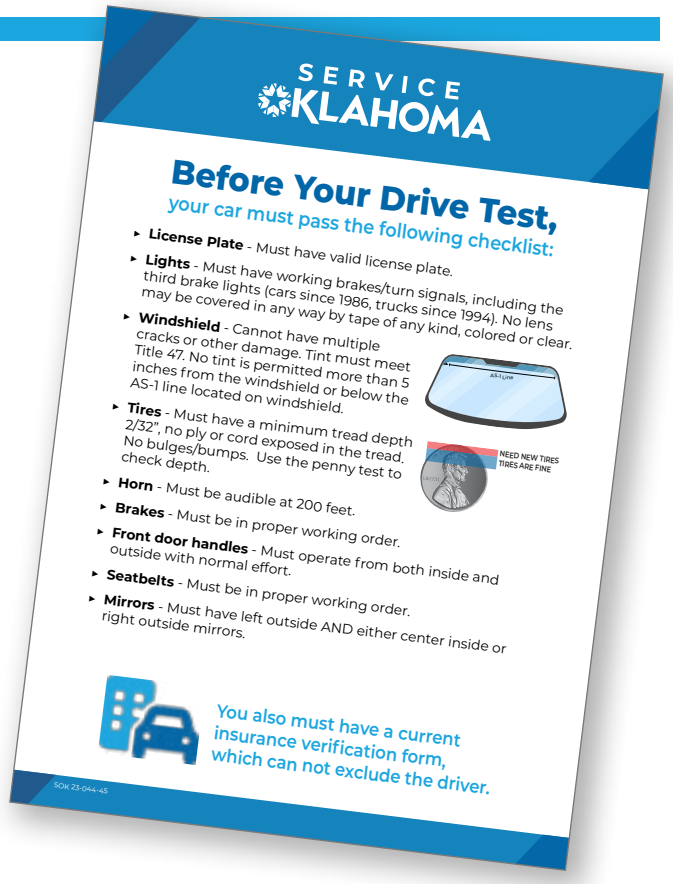
You must show primary identification to apply for an original Oklahoma Driver License or for retesting, license renewal, identification card or replacement license.

VEHICLE INSPECTION

All vehicles must be equipped as required by Chapter 12 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma State Statutes. Officers may inspect a vehicle and its equipment according to 47 O.S. §13-102.

The following items will be inspected and must be in good working order:

- **Lights:** headlights, taillights, brake lights, turn signals, parking lights, plate lights, reflectors
- **Valid Oklahoma license plate**
- **Rearview mirror**
- If your vehicle is required by federal law to have the third brake light, it must be in working order at the time of testing.
- **Brakes**
- **Horn**
- **Exhaust system**
- **Windshield and glass:** Must be free of major cracks, chips, or obstructions in the driver's line of sight, especially within the wiper blade area. Damage such as star breaks or impact points that can be felt by touch will not pass.
- **Windshield wiper**
- **Insurance verification form**
- **Tires**
- **Seat belts** (vehicles after 1965)


SERVICE OKLAHOMA

Before Your Drive Test,

your car must pass the following checklist:

- **License Plate** - Must have valid license plate.
- **Lights** - Must have working brakes/turn signals, including the third brake lights (cars since 1986, trucks since 1994). No lens may be covered in any way by tape of any kind, colored or clear.
- **Windshield** - Cannot have multiple cracks or other damage. Tint must meet Title 47. No tint is permitted more than 5 inches from the windshield or below the AS-1 line located on windshield.
- **Tires** - Must have a minimum tread depth 2/32", no ply or cord exposed in the tread. No bulges/bumps. Use the penny test to check depth.
- **Horn** - Must be audible at 200 feet.
- **Brakes** - Must be in proper working order.
- **Front door handles** - Must operate from both inside and outside with normal effort.
- **Seatbelts** - Must be in proper working order.
- **Mirrors** - Must have left outside AND either center inside or right outside mirrors.

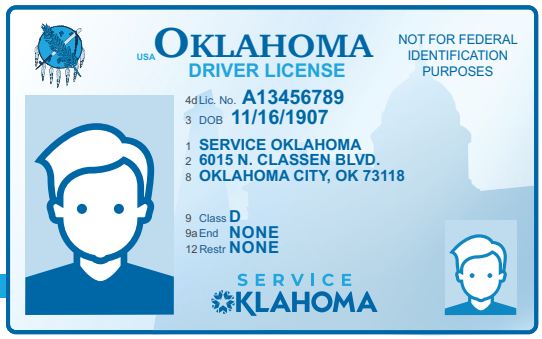
NEED NEW TIRES
TIRES ARE FINE

You also must have a current insurance verification form, which can not exclude the driver.

SOK 23-044-45

Notes

Your Driver License Restrictions and Renewals



YOUR OKLAHOMA DRIVING PRIVILEGE

You do not own your license. It is the property of the State of Oklahoma and can be denied, canceled, suspended or revoked if you do not abide by the laws of the State of Oklahoma. Driving is a privilege you have earned by passing the required tests and paying the application fees. Your driver license is your legal permission to drive a car or motorcycle on streets and highways in Oklahoma, the United States and many places throughout the world. Take good care of your license and always carry it with you when you drive.

IF YOU LOSE YOUR LICENSE

If your license is lost, destroyed or so damaged that the information is not readable, contact a licensed operator, your local driver examiner or apply online for a replacement license. *Only a valid Oklahoma license can be replaced.*

LICENSE EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL

Your license can be issued for either 4 or 8 years from the month in which you paid your fee for your license. It expires on the last day of the month. You can renew it up to 1 year before the expiration date.

Non-citizens visit a Service Oklahoma Driver License Examiner for an original, renewal or replacement driver license. They must show all immigration documents each time they appear. The license's expiration will coincide with the dates of the immigration documents. Exception: legal permanent residents are allowed to renew or replace a license and must present a valid permanent resident card with any SOK location or licensed operator.

You can renew online. Military personnel stationed outside Oklahoma do not have to renew until 60 days after they return to Oklahoma, but they may renew by mail if they wish.

If your license is expired over 1 year, you must visit a Service Oklahoma location or a licensed operator location who is approved to accept a certified birth certificate or United States passport.

CHANGING YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS

Your correct name and address on your driver license and on file with Service Oklahoma ensures the state can reach your family if you are in a collision. It also ensures that the state can reach you by mail if needed.

If legal notification cannot be delivered to you because your correct address is not on file, you could lose your license.

Required by Law—When you move, you must notify Service Oklahoma within 10 days, either by reporting to your local licensed operator, online at our website or by writing to:

Service Oklahoma
P.O. Box 11415
Oklahoma City, OK 73136

When you change your name, you must present a certified document, such as a marriage license or court order, proving the change.

PROBATIONARY PERIOD

Until you are 18, your license is probationary (you are in a trial period to show you can drive safely and legally). Service Oklahoma may cancel or suspend your license for any unlawful act, negligence or misconduct while driving.

UNAUTHORIZED DRIVING

- It is illegal to drive without a license.
- Even if you have a licensed driver with you, you are breaking the law if you don't have a license or Learner Permit. Both you and the person who lets you drive the car can be arrested.
- It is illegal for parents to allow their children to drive without a Learner Permit or driver license.
- It is illegal to let another person drive your vehicle or a vehicle that you are responsible for unless that person has a valid driver license.

THE LAW SAYS

As required by law, legal notice is served to you by first-class mail at the address of record.

Failure to notify Service Oklahoma when you change your name or address can result in the suspension of your license without your receiving notice of the suspension.

CHAPTER 2

RESTRICTIONS AND ENDORSEMENTS PLACED ON YOUR LICENSE

Restrictions or endorsements are meant to improve the safety of your driving and help you be a better driver. They are not meant to interfere with your driving.

An "A" usually means you are qualified to use a certain type of vehicle, such as a motorcycle or a truck carrying hazardous materials.

A restriction refers to conditions that affect your safety as a driver. Restrictions are listed as a code on your license and explained on the back of the license.



RESTRICTION CODES

B = Corrective lenses. For people who must wear glasses or contacts to meet the vision requirements.

F = Left outside rear vision mirror. For people with limited vision in the left eye or with limited hearing.

2 = Restriction B or F.

4 = Automatic transmission. For people whose physical condition requires an automatic transmission to handle the vehicle safely.

5 = Turn indicators and power steering or steering knob. For people with limited use of either hand.

6 = Food, fruit or candy within reach of the driver. For people with insulin-dependent diabetes.

7 = Adequate artificial limbs.

8 = Detailed restrictions on license. Refers to any other special conditions that might be required.

9 = Accompanied by licensed driver 21 years of age or older in the front seat. For people learning to drive.

0 = Motorcycle only. Riders under 16 are restricted to a motor scooter or motorcycle with piston displacement of no more than 300cc, to ride only between 4:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. You cannot carry a passenger. If the motor scooter or motorcycle is less than 150cc, there is an additional restriction that you may not exceed 35 mph and cannot ride on a highway where a minimum speed limit is established and posted. These restrictions are automatically lifted at 16. However, a helmet is required for anyone under 18 years of age. (Also see the **MOTORCYCLE LICENSE MANUAL** https://msf-usa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/motorcycle-operator-manual.pdf)

Restriction "A" = Motorcycle learner. For people receiving instruction from a parent, legal guardian or any person 21 or older, who has a valid Oklahoma Driver License with a motorcycle endorsement added and who has visual contact with the operator.

Restriction "T" = Graduated driver license Driving allowed from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Unless for activities related to school, church or work or any time accompanied by licensed driver at least 21 years old. One passenger or only people who live in the driver's home or any passenger if accompanied by licensed driver at least 21 years old in the front passenger seat. No "T" restriction for ages 18 or older.

Other endorsements and restrictions apply to commercial licenses.

Removing restrictions or adding endorsements. When a restriction is no longer needed, such as a learner or physical restriction or if it is in error, contact a driver license examiner at a Service Oklahoma location.

To add an endorsement, you must see a driver license examiner and pass the required tests.



PENALTIES FOR DRIVING WITHOUT A VALID LICENSE

On conviction, a fine of up to $500 or 6 months in jail or both.

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATING A RESTRICTION

On conviction, a fine of up to $500, 6 months in jail or both.



Notes

Requirements for Oklahoma Drivers



REGISTRATION, TAG AND TITLE

The car you are driving must have a current license tag, registration and title. When you register your vehicle at a designated Service Oklahoma location or a SOK licensed operator, which means you have paid the required taxes and fees, you will get a new license tag or a current-year sticker to put on you present tag. If you buy or sell a vehicle, you must go to a designated Service Oklahoma location or a SOK licensed operator to transfer the title in order to show the proper ownership. Registration and title transfer fees depend on the age, type and value of the vehicle.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND COMPULSORY LIABILITY INSURANCE—YOU MUST BE PROPERLY INSURED

Oklahoma has strict laws about having valid auto liability insurance. "Liability" means that as a driver, you are legally and financially responsible for injury, death or property damages caused by you or your vehicle in a collision. All Oklahoma drivers and/or vehicle owners are required by law to carry the minimum limits of liability for this state:

- $25,000 for injury or death of two or more persons.
- $50,000 for injury or death of two or more persons
- $25,000 of property damage
- All the minimum liability limits are per accident.

At the time of a collision or a traffic stop, the driver must show a current security verification form (proof of liability insurance) to the law enforcement officer. The vehicle owner's insurance company or an individual's non-owner insurance policy will provide the proper security verification form.

Collisions—Service Oklahoma will suspend the driver license of the uninsured driver and/or owner of a vehicle involved in a collision where there is any injury or property damage of $500 or more.

Compulsory Liability Insurance—If you receive a ticket for failing to have proof of liability insurance, the courts will notify Service Oklahoma. Your driver license and your vehicle tags will be suspended.

Carry your proof of liability insurance (security verification form) in your car—By law; you must show it to a law enforcement officer or Service Oklahoma representative when asked. If you are in a collision, you must show your proof of liability insurance to the other driver and the other people involved. You should write down the information from the other driver's security verification form and the driver's complete name, driver license number and date of birth for driver and owner for your own protection.

Counterfeit or Fraudulent Security Verification—To fraudulently create, manufacture or counterfeit a security verification form may result in a felony conviction which carries severe penalties in the form of both fines and/or imprisonment.

Simple possession of a fraudulent or counterfeit security verification form may result in a misdemeanor charge being filed against you. A conviction on this charge may result in a fine of up to $250.00 and a mandatory suspension of your driving privilege and vehicle registration. You may only present a security verification form for proof of insurance which has been issued by an insurance company or agent.

TIP: It is wise to verify that a current insurance verification form is in any vehicle you drive, regardless of who owns it, because you may be arrested and have your driving privileges suspended if you are operating it without insurance.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY—PENALTY FOR NOT HAVING LIABILITY INSURANCE

A conviction of failure to comply with the Compulsory Insurance Law or failure to produce proof of insurance to a law enforcement officer or Service Oklahoma representative upon request can result in—A fine of up to $250.00, 30 days in jail or both · Suspension of license and registration.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE FROM SERVICE OKLAHOMA IS SENT TO YOU AT THE ADDRESS WE HAVE ON FILE.

Service Oklahoma must have your current address on file. Failure to keep an updated address could result in a suspension without your knowledge. Keep your license—keep in touch!

MANDATORY SAFETY REQUIREMENTS— SEAT BELTS AND CHILD PASSENGER RESTRAINTS

Every driver and front-seat passenger must wear a properly adjusted and fastened safety seat belt system. The seat belt must be factory-installed and meet federal safety standards.

In a collision:

- Seat belts reduce the force of impact against the vehicle's interior.
- You can be thrown out of the vehicle. Seat belts keep you inside the vehicle and safer.
- Seat belts can keep fender benders from becoming major collisions because you are still in a position to control your vehicle.
- If all passengers are buckled in, there is much less danger of being thrown forward or from the vehicle.
- Small children are especially prone to injury or death and must be protected: Sit them in the back seat with seat belts fastened or strapped into a child passenger restraint system.

CHILD PASSENGER RESTRAINT SYSTEM

Every driver, when transporting a child under 8 years of age in a motor vehicle operated on the roadways, streets or highways of this state, must provide for the protection of said child by properly using a child passenger restraint system.

A child, at least four 4 years of age, shall be properly secured in a child passenger restraint system. The child passenger restraint system must be rear-facing until the child reaches 2 years of age or until the child reaches the weight or height limit of the system as allowed by the manufacturer.

The infant or child safety restraint system must meet federal standards for crash-tested restraint systems as set by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

A child at least four 4 years of age but younger than 8 years of age, if not taller than 4 feet 9 inches in height, shall be properly secured by use of a child passenger restraint system or a seat belt.

Small children are especially at risk in a collision—even in sudden stops. No child should be allowed to ride without being restrained, to stand on the car seat or on the floor in front of the instrument panel where the head can be hit during a sudden stop or crushed in a collision.

Studies show that an adult in the front seat holding an infant CANNOT prevent the baby from going through the windshield on impact.

Passenger Air Bags—The explosive power of an airbag has killed children and elderly adults under 5 feet tall. If your car is equipped with an airbag on the passenger side, the Highway Safety Administration recommends putting children under 12 in the back seat.

Even without airbags, the back seat is at least 26 percent safer than the front seat because most serious crashes involve the front of the vehicle.



BUCKLE UP! IT'S THE LAW.





HELPFUL HINT!

Before driving, we suggest a friendly family meeting at home where you explain to children why the back seat is always reserved for them and why we all buckle up for safety. This will avoid arguments when getting into the family car.



Notes

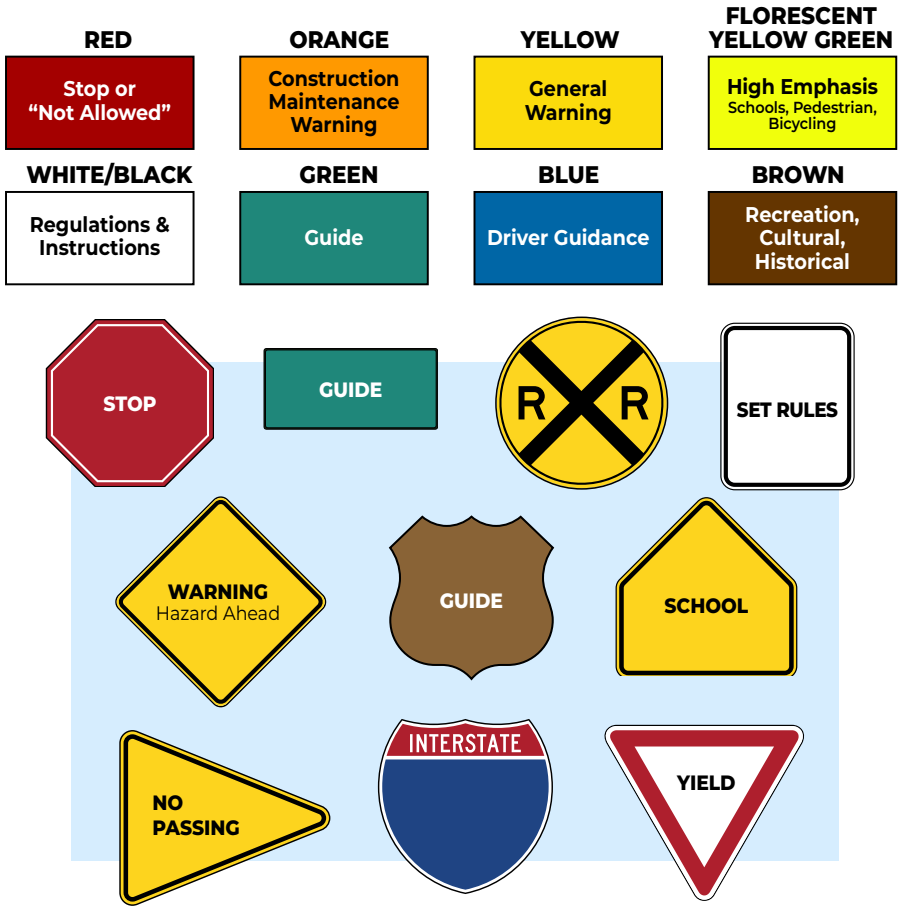
Signs, Signals and Markings

TRAFFIC SIGNS give you information about the road, the highway system, traffic flow and the local regulations and laws. They warn you about hazards, identify your route and direct the speed and movement of traffic. They provide directions and let you know about places of interest, from the huge overhead green interstate signs to the little blue rectangles that direct you to a library or hospital.

The shapes and colors of traffic signs have specific meanings and you should be able to recognize them immediately. Even if a stop sign is damaged or blocked by dirt or snow, you know by the octagonal shape and red color that you must stop.

Learn the standard colors and shapes, so you know what a sign means, even at a distance. For example, a rectangle is always a regulatory sign, telling you about laws and regulations or giving you instructions. Speed limit signs are regulatory.

In accordance with 47 O.S. §11-207, obstructing or damaging roads, defacing, damaging, destroying or removing any traffic control device, road sign board, guide sign or signpost is a misdemeanor. If the action results in personal injury to or death of any person, the person or persons responsible for such action shall be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 2 years and a fine of $1,000.00 or both such fine and imprisonment.





STOP: RED OCTAGON—Come to a complete stop at the intersection. You must stop before the pedestrian crosswalk, even if it isn't marked. Stay stopped until the way is clear in all directions.



4-WAY or ALL-WAY: RED RECTANGLE—Added below a stop sign, means all traffic approaching this intersection must stop.



YIELD: RED AND WHITE TRIANGLE—Slow down and be ready to stop if needed. Let oncoming vehicles pass before crossing or entering the flow of traffic.

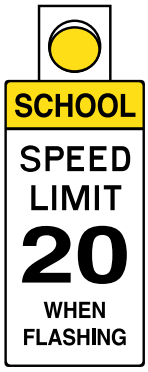


"NO": RED CIRCLE WITH A LINE THROUGH IT—Means "DO NOT" or "NOT ALLOWED."

REGULATORY SIGNS— BLACK AND WHITE RECTANGLES

REGULATORY SIGNS tell you what you must do and what you must not do. They direct and control or "regulate" traffic for everyone's safety. You are required to obey them just like other traffic laws. When you see the "School Zone" sign, you must reduce your speed to the limit shown when the yellow light is flashing. Watch carefully for children and be ready to stop.

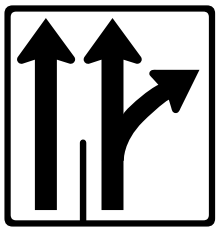
The signs shown here are the most common regulatory signs. There are many more and they can be found on all roadways, from turnpikes to unpaved county roads. When you see rectangular signs, always obey them for your own safety and the safety of others.





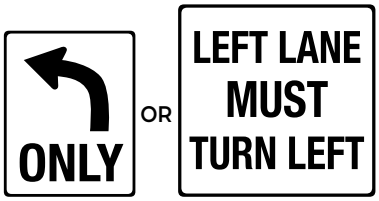
Lane 1 **Lane 2**

Lane 1 must go left. Lane 2 is optional, either left or straight ahead.



Lane 1 **Lane 2**

Lane 1 must go straight ahead. Lane 2 is optional, either right or straight ahead.



Must turn left.



No turns from this lane.



Enter this lane only to make a left turn. You must not pass in this lane.





Keep right of an object or center divider.



Speed limit sign. This is the highest speed you can travel under ideal conditions.



The roadway ahead is for one-way traffic coming toward you. Do not drive into it.





Do not pass. Do not cross yellow lines. You can't see far enough ahead to pass safely.



No right turn.



No U-turn. Don't turn around in the street or intersection.



No trucks.



No bicycles.

International Symbols for the Disabled

Practice driving courtesy and obey the law. Do not park or stop your vehicle in a parking space reserved for disabled people unless you have a disabled license plate or disability placard.

See page 48 for instructions on how to apply for a permit, license or ID card.









WARNING SIGNS— BLACK ON A YELLOW BACKGROUND

WARNING SIGNS are diamond-shaped, with a yellow background and black letters. They signal conditions immediately ahead, such as road hazards, changes in direction or other situations. When you see a warning sign, be prepared to use extra caution or to make changes as you drive.



Traffic control signal ahead. Be prepared to stop.



Divided highway ends ahead. Be careful as you approach the point where two-way begins again.



Vehicles or loads higher than the clearance shown can't go through the underpass.



Road ahead makes a gentle curve (to the right). Slow down, keep right, don't pass.



Divided highway ahead with a center strip (median). Keep to the right.



Two-way traffic ahead. Drive in the right-hand lane and expect oncoming traffic in the left-hand lane.



Two roadways come together ahead with a new lane added. You do not have to merge (form one line), but watch for traffic in the new lane.



Merge. Other traffic may be moving into your lane. Be ready to change your speed and lane so other drivers can merge safely.



Right lane ends ahead. Prepare to merge.



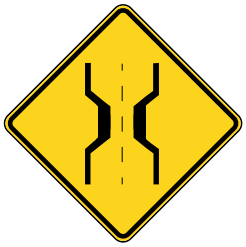
Steep hill ahead. All drivers approach with caution. You may want to use a lower gear to slow your vehicle.



Deer Crossing



Stop sign ahead. Be prepared to stop.



Two-lane narrow bridge or culvert ahead. Approach with caution.



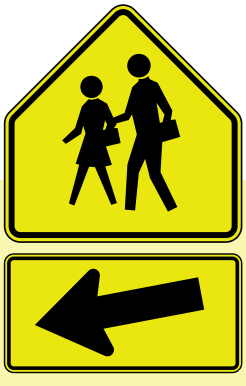
Pedestrian Crossing. Slow down and prepare to stop. Watch both sides of the street. You must yield.

There are many other signs similar to these warning of activities and potential hazards on or near the roadway. Watch both sides of the road. Be prepared to slow down and/or stop.

SCHOOL SIGNS

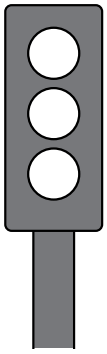


School Zone

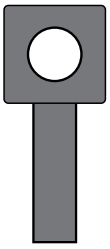


School Crossing

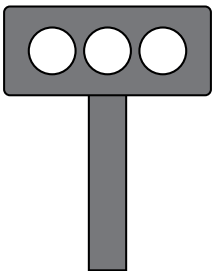
WARNING SIGNS— BLACK ON A YELLOW BACKGROUND



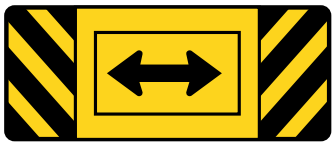
Reflector placed in front of objects close to the edge of the road, such as culverts or center piers on divided highways.



Night-time reflector that shows where the road lies (road alignment).



Reflector placed in front of an obstruction and at short changes in road alignment.



"T" intersection ahead. You must turn right or left. Be prepared to yield.



Reflector placed on the end-rails on narrow bridges or on other obstructions to make them stand out.



Two-way traffic ahead. Drive in the right-hand lane and expect oncoming traffic in the left-hand lane.



Pass to the left



Pass to the left



Pass to the right



Pass to the right

Stripes sloping downward to the right mean bear to the right. Stripes sloping downward to the left mean bear to the left. The diagonal stripes on a warning sign or barricade show the direction in which the traffic is to pass.

RAILROAD WARNING SIGNS— ROUND YELLOW & BLACK SIGN OR BLACK & WHITE CROSSBUCKS



This advance warning sign lets you know you are approaching railroad tracks. Slow down and be prepared to stop within 15-50 feet of the first track. If your view is blocked in either direction, drive very slowly until you can see down the track. If you see a train coming—STOP!

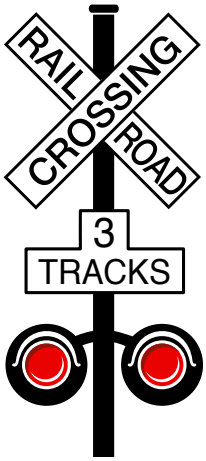
SCHOOL BUSES, CHURCH BUSES, MOTOR COACHES and any vehicles hauling explosives or flammable liquids are required by law to stop. Do not pass a vehicle that is required to stop at a railroad crossing except when driving on a multi-lane highway.

RAILROAD CROSSBUCKS. Crossbuck signs are posted at most crossings. Always slow down, look, listen and be prepared to yield the right-of-way to an oncoming train.

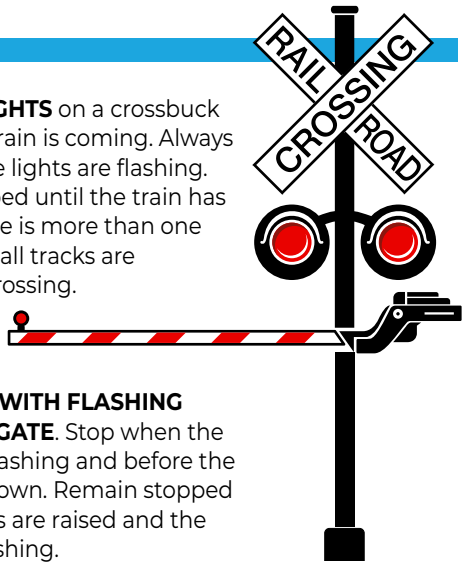
If there is more than one track, a sign will show the number of tracks at that crossing.







FLASHING LIGHTS on a crossbuck mean that a train is coming. Always stop when the lights are flashing. Remain stopped until the train has passed. If there is more than one track, be sure all tracks are clear before crossing.



CROSSBUCK WITH FLASHING LIGHTS AND GATE. Stop when the lights begin flashing and before the gate comes down. Remain stopped until the gates are raised and the lights stop flashing.

See pages 54 through 56 for important information about sharing the road with trains.

QUIET ZONES



Quiet Zones are areas where trains do not blow their horn during normal operation. Crossings within a Quiet Zone may be equipped with supplemental safety measures, funded by local governments seeking to decrease noise levels resulting from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Train Horn Rule.

The quickest way to recognize an active Quiet Zone is to identify a 'No Train Horn' sign adjacent to the crossing. Train engineers still reserve the right to blow the horn when appropriate.

In a Quiet Zone:

- Trains will not sound horns during normal operation
- Horn may still be sounded for emergency situations or for other safety reasons
- Crossings within a Quiet Zone may have supplemental safety features

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE SIGNS—ORANGE = WORK ZONE = DANGER



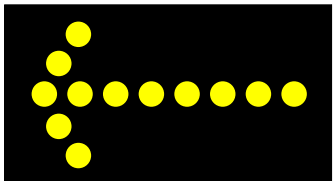
THE COLOR ORANGE tells you that you are nearing or in a work zone. Signs, barricades and lane-channeling devices—such as cones and barrels—are placed to direct you through the work zone safely and protect workers and flagpersons. Most signs are diamond-shaped, but some are rectangular.



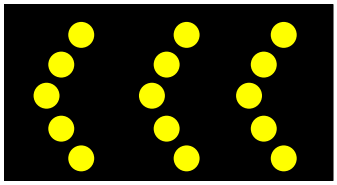
CONSTRUCTION SITES can be hazardous. You must slow down to the posted speed. **Speeding fines are doubled in a construction or maintenance zone when workers or equipment are present.**

Pay attention. Be prepared to:

- Slow or stop
- Change lanes
- Follow instructions
- React quickly



Move left

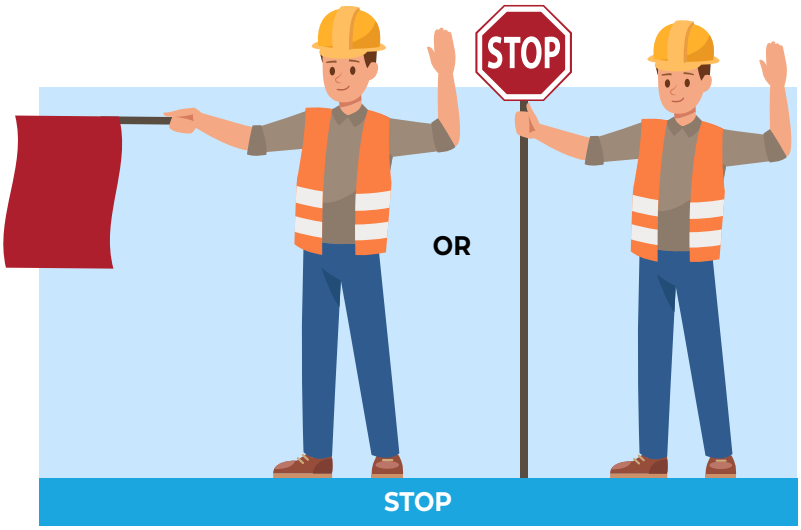


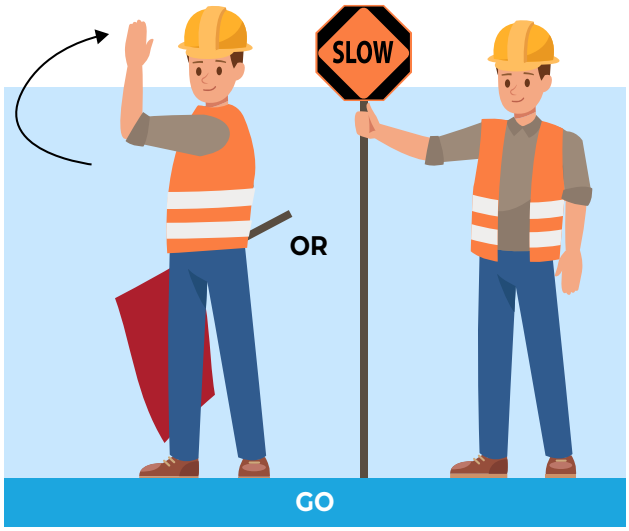
Lane closed

FLASHING ARROW PANELS guide you into the proper traffic lane.



FLAGPERSONS are used in cases of extreme hazards. They stand in the road and wear orange hats and orange vests, shirts or jackets. They hold red signs or flags to direct traffic. The law demands that you obey them.



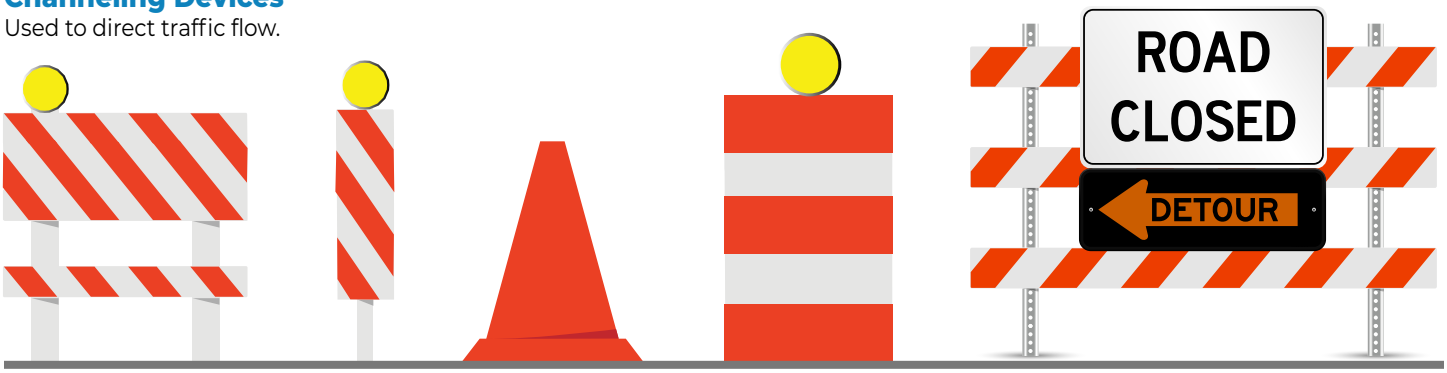


When instructed to stop, stop in your lane. Don't veer right or left.

- Do not attempt to move forward until the flagperson signals you to go.
- Proceed with caution. Expect workers and machinery, be prepared to slow or stop.
- Always be on the lookout for oncoming cars and trucks in your lane.

Channeling Devices

Used to direct traffic flow.

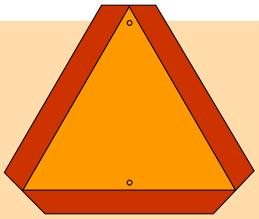


PENALTY FOR FAILING TO OBEY CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE SIGNS, SIGNALS AND MARKINGS

On conviction—misdemeanor punishable by a fine between $100.00 to $1,000.00 and/or up to 30 days in jail plus liability for damage to property and injury or death of another person.

Speeding fines are doubled in construction and maintenance zones when workers or equipment are present.

Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem



This emblem is used on Slow Moving Vehicles (SMVs) such as agricultural equipment, highway and roadside construction equipment and highway maintenance equipment traveling on public highways at speeds of 25 MPH or less.

GUIDE SIGNS— GREEN, WHITE OR BROWN

GUIDE SIGNS give you travel information. They identify highways, show distances, mark exits, point to parks and recreation areas and more.



BUSINESS ROUTE GUIDES SIGNS indicates an officially designated highway that branches off the regularly numbered highway and goes through the business portion of the city.

MILEPOSTS provide a means of identifying the location of accidents, breakdowns or other emergencies. Mileposts mark every mile on interstate highways starting at the state line. Numbering on north-south highways starts at the southern line and on east-west highways at the western line.

GREEN INTERSTATE GUIDE SIGNS are usually mounted overhead. The arrows show the lane or lanes to be used to follow a certain highway.













SERVICE SIGNS— BLUE

SERVICE SIGNS give information and directions about facilities. They show where service stations, restaurants and motels are available.

Watch for the litter barrel sign. It's the only lawful place on the highway where you can throw trash. Litter barrels are located at all rest and picnic areas and all turnpike toll stations.





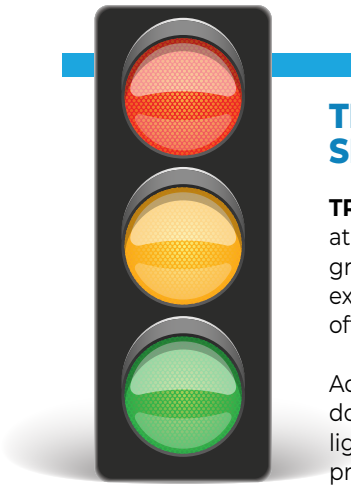






OKLAHOMA KEEP OUR LAND GRAND!

LITTER HOTLINE NUMBER
1-888-5-LITTER
WEBSITE

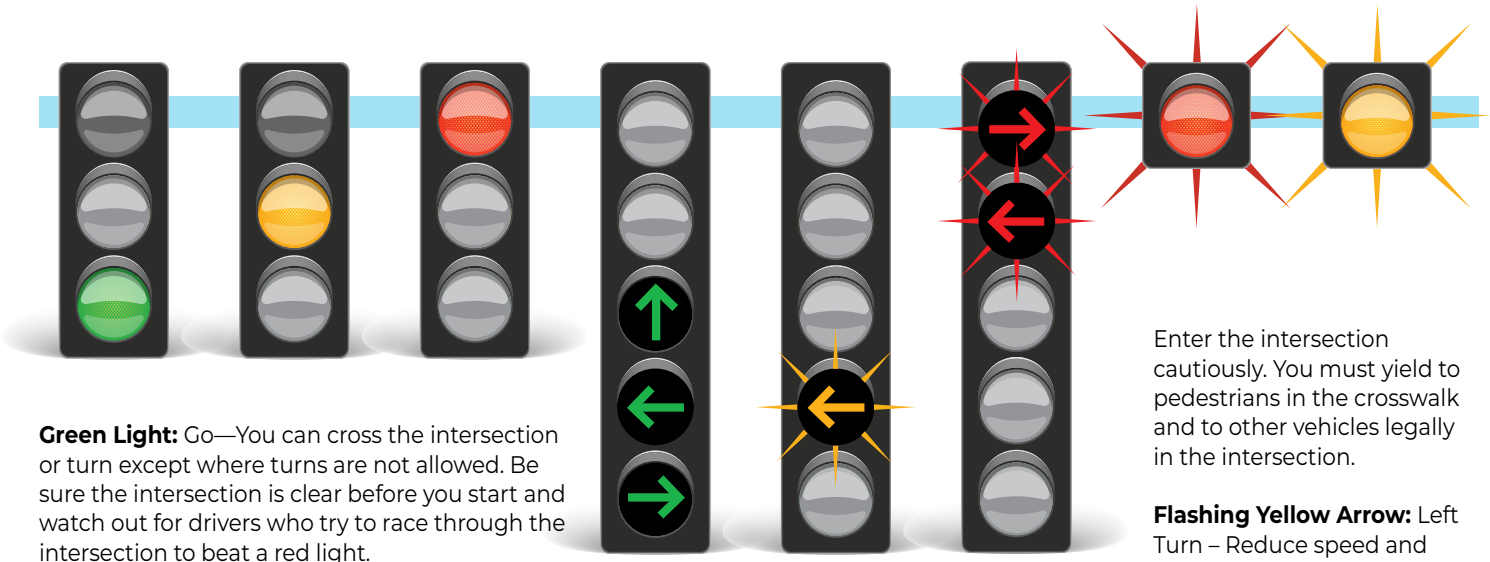


TRAFFIC SIGNALS

TRAFFIC SIGNALS control the movement of vehicles and pedestrians at intersections. They eliminate the guesswork about who goes next by granting the right-of-way in each direction. You must obey traffic signals, except when an officer is directing traffic. Then you must obey the traffic officer at all times.

Adjust your speed as you approach an intersection so that you can slow down or stop if the light changes. Even though you may have the green light, always put safety first and yield the right-of-way if yielding will prevent a collision, even if the other person is wrong.

DID YOU KNOW?
Color-blind people know the color by the position of the lights: Red on top—Yellow in the middle—Green on the bottom.



Green Light: Go—You can cross the intersection or turn except where turns are not allowed. Be sure the intersection is clear before you start and watch out for drivers who try to race through the intersection to beat a red light.

Yellow Light: Steady—Warning! The light is about to turn red! You must stop if you can stop safely before entering the crosswalk at the intersection. Adjust your speed as you approach so that you can come to a smooth stop if needed. Don't speed up to beat the light. Enter the intersection carefully. Collisions often happen here.

Red Light: Stop!—Come to a complete stop before entering the crosswalk or intersection. You must remain stopped until the light turns green.

After coming to a complete stop, you may turn right on red and you may turn left from a one-way street into a one-way street unless there are signs forbidding the turn. When you turn, you must yield to all pedestrians and vehicles using the intersection, including bicycles.

Green Arrows: Turn—When the green arrow is lit, you may turn in the direction of the arrow, even when the red light is still on. If you are in a turning-only lane, you must wait for the arrow. You can only make the turn indicated by the arrow unless there are signs with other information. If there are turning lanes, you must be in the proper lane to make the turn.

Enter the intersection cautiously. You must yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk and to other vehicles legally in the intersection.

Flashing Yellow Arrow: Left Turn – Reduce speed and cautiously proceed with left turn after yielding to oncoming traffic and pedestrians. Oncoming traffic has the right-of-way.

Flashing Red Light: Stop!—Used at dangerous intersections where the crossing traffic may or may not stop. A flashing red light means the same as a stop sign: You may go when it's safe to cross the intersection.

Flashing Red Arrow: Stop! – In general, the red arrow means that all turns in the direction of the arrow are prohibited. You must wait for a green signal before turning.

Flashing Yellow Light: Caution!—Slow down, look in both directions and drive slowly and carefully through the intersection. Be prepared to stop.



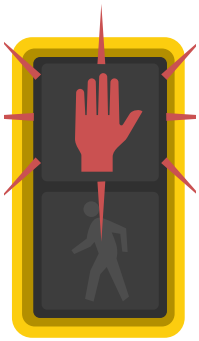
Watch out for drivers who try to beat the light and race through the intersection!

PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS

"Walk" and "Don't Walk" signs are used only to direct and protect the safety of people crossing the intersection on foot or in wheelchairs. Pedestrians should obey these signs, if present, instead of the traffic signal.



Leave the curb to cross the street.



"Flashing"—Don't leave the curb, but continue if already in the intersection.



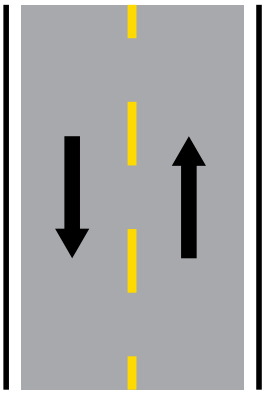
Do not leave the curb.

PAVEMENT MARKINGS

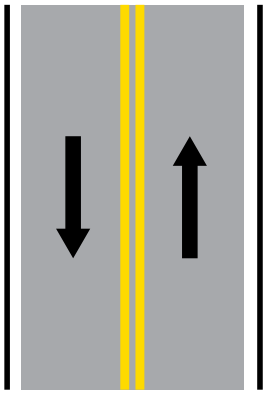
Pavement markings regulate traffic.

Yellow and white pavement markings show you:

- Which lane you should be using.
- Where visibility is limited and passing is dangerous.
- Where traffic is traveling toward you in the next lane.
- Where you may safely wait for an opportunity to make a left turn.

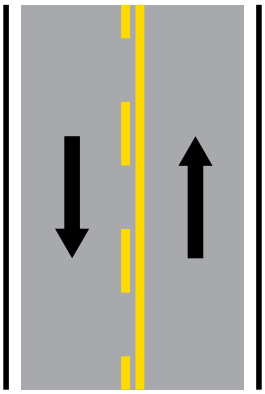


Yellow broken line: Two-lane, two-way traffic, passing permitted.



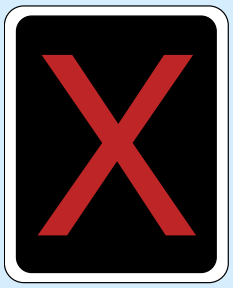
YELLOW SOLID LINE IN YOUR LANE: DO NOT PASS

Two-lane, two-way traffic. No passing in either direction. Cross the center line only to turn left.



Two-lane, two-way traffic. No passing for traffic in the right lane (solid line in that lane).

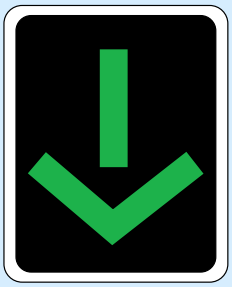
LANE CONTROL SIGNALS



Red
Don't use lane.



Yellow
Clear the lane. If flashing, left turn permitted.



Green
Lane open for traffic.



See pages 31 through 32 for more important information about lane markings on multi-lane roadways.



Right-of-Way — When to Yield

"Right-of-way" laws help create a safe, smooth traffic flow. In intersections and other places where vehicles and pedestrians can't all cross at the same time, right-of-way laws control who can go forward and who must yield or wait. These laws also help establish legal fault in a collision or if a pedestrian is hurt. The right-of-way laws apply to all people and all vehicles, including bicyclists. Always put safety first. When other people don't follow the rules of right-of-way, you should yield—even if the right-of-way belongs to you—when there is a possibility of damage or injury.

Right-of-way should be determined by each driver before entering an intersection. If you have the right-of-way and another driver yields it to you, proceed immediately.

Make sure the other driver sees you. Make eye contact.

YOU MUST YIELD TO CHILDREN PLAYING IN THE STREETS

In crowded downtown areas and in suburban neighborhoods, children play in the streets because there may not be parks or playgrounds nearby. Even though they have been told not to run into the street, children won't always put safety ahead of a runaway puppy or a bouncing ball. Children on bicycles can easily forget to slow down before entering an intersection or to signal and look behind before they turn.

You are responsible for driving with extreme caution when children are present. Slow down near schools and playgrounds and in residential areas. The cost of hitting a child is very high—in dollars, grief and guilt.

YOU MUST YIELD TO BLIND PERSONS

Drivers must give the right-of-way to any blind person crossing the street. Blind pedestrians will normally have a guide dog or will be using a cane. The cane may be all white, white with a red tip or chrome. The person will tap it on the pavement ahead. The law says you should:

- Stop immediately and let the person pass.
- Stop outside the crosswalk, not in the crosswalk.
- A vehicle must stop 15 feet from a blind person in the roadway or at an intersection.

YOU MUST YIELD TO A FUNERAL PROCESSION

Motorists must yield the right-of-way to a funeral procession. When the funeral lead vehicle enters an intersection, the remaining vehicles in the procession may follow through the intersection regardless of any traffic control devices. All vehicles in the procession should have their headlights on as a signal to other drivers not to drive between or interfere with the funeral procession.



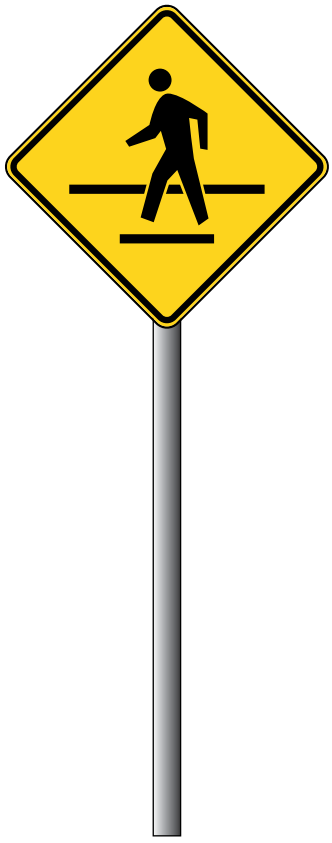
RIGHT-OF-WAY

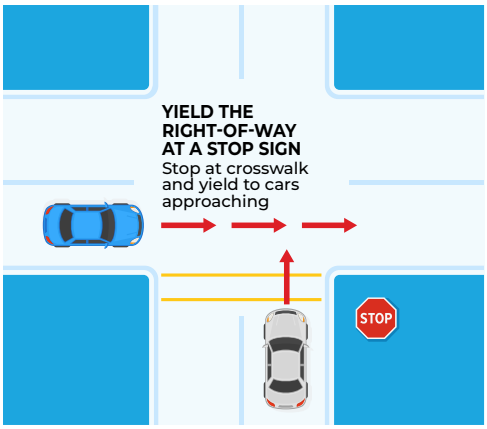
Drive cautiously and defensively. Drive friendly.

Think of the right-of-way as something to be given, not taken.



See page 49 for important information on sharing the road with pedestrians.



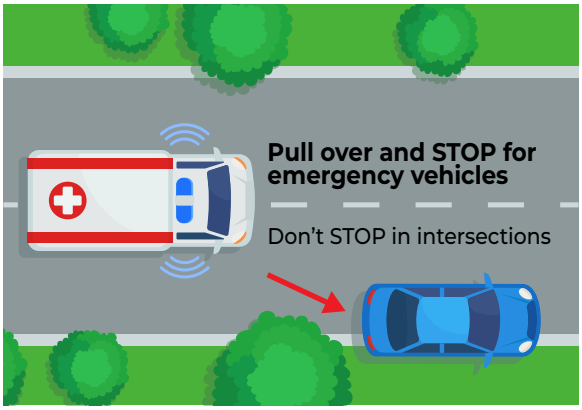


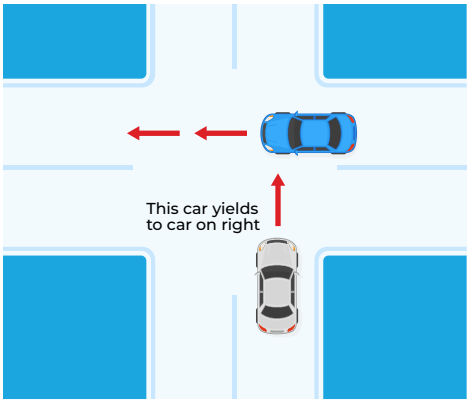
YOU MUST ALWAYS YIELD:

- **When entering or crossing highways without traffic signs or signals**—Stop and yield to approaching traffic and go only when it's safe to do so.
- **When you have a stop sign**—Stop before the crosswalk. Yield to pedestrians and to vehicles in or approaching the intersection. Cross or turn when it's safe to do so.
- **At intersections with yield signs**—Slow down to a reasonable speed and be ready to stop if other vehicles or pedestrians are approaching the intersection. Cross or enter the flow of traffic when it's safe to do so.
- **To pedestrians**—Yield to people crossing the roadway, whether the crosswalk is marked or unmarked. Be especially alert in school zones and high-traffic pedestrian areas.
- **When making a left turn**—Yield to all oncoming traffic. Slow down and stop if you have to. Go only when there is enough clear distance for you to turn without interfering with oncoming traffic.
- **When entering or crossing a public road from a private road, alley, driveway or building**—stop before the sidewalk or crosswalk, then go when it's safe to do so.
- **To emergency vehicles**—Yield to police cars, fire engines and ambulances when they are sounding a siren and/or flashing warning lights. Pull over to the right edge of the roadway, clear of intersections and stop until the emergency vehicle has passed. In heavy traffic, when you can't pull over, clear a path for the vehicle.
- If an officer signals you to stop while you're driving in the left lane, you must still pull over to the right shoulder, even if that means crossing several lanes of traffic. (See "Changing Lanes," page 32, to learn how to change lanes safely.)
- You don't have to yield for emergency vehicles without warning lights or sirens.
- You must move to the left lane or slow down for any vehicle on the side of the highway. This includes emergency vehicles, law enforcement, maintenance workers or cars with their hazard lights flashing.

RIGHT-OF-WAY

Most drivers are polite, cooperative and safety conscious. The few who drive with an aggressive, selfish attitude can make driving dangerous for the rest of us. Many collisions at intersections could have been avoided if one of the drivers had been more cautious and willing to yield the right-of-way.





RIGHT-OF-WAY AT INTERSECTIONS

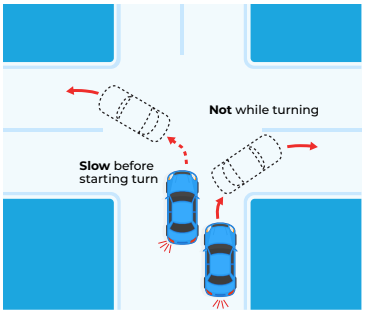
At four-way-stop intersections and at intersections without stop signs or signals, the car or truck that entered the intersection first has the right-of-way. When two vehicles approach at the same time, the driver on the left yields to the driver on the right, as shown.

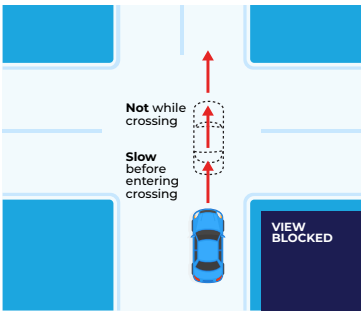
CROSSING AN INTERSECTION

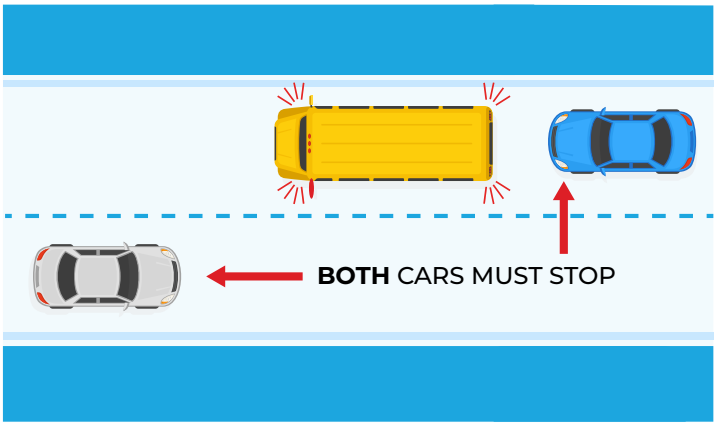
More collisions and injuries occur at intersections than at any other place. Always slow down, look both ways and look left again before you enter an intersection. Slow down **before** you enter, then increase your speed until you've cleared the intersection. **DO NOT slow down while you're turning or crossing!**

If your view is blocked so that you can't see traffic on the side street, slow down so that you can stop if a car is coming.

If traffic is stopped and is blocking an intersection, stop before reaching the crosswalk and wait for the traffic to move.







It is mandatory revocation of driver license for one year for failing to stop for a school bus with red loading/unloading lights flashing.

YIELD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A SCHOOL OR CHURCH BUS

Drive carefully and be ready to slow down and stop when you are near a school bus. If you approach a bus with flashing red lights and/or showing a red "STOP" sign, it means that children are getting on or off the bus and you must stop.

You must stop and remain stopped until—

- the bus has started moving, OR
- the driver motions for you to proceed, OR
- the red flashing lights go off and/or the sign is pulled back.

You DON'T have to stop for a school bus when—

- the bus is on a different roadway, OR
- the bus is stopped in a loading zone by a controlled-access highway where pedestrians are not allowed to cross.
- Approaching traffic not required to stop for School Bus on a divided highway

MOVE OVER LAW OR BERNARDO-MILLS LAW

(47 O.S. § 11-314)

When approaching any stationary vehicles with **FLASHING LIGHTS** pulled to the side of the road, drivers are REQUIRED to move over a lane, if safe to do so, or slow down and use caution.

On a multi-lane road going in your direction:

- Move over to a lane that isn't next to the stopped vehicle if it's safe to do so.
- If you can't safely change lanes, slow down and drive carefully.

On a smaller or two-lane road:

- Slow down and drive carefully.

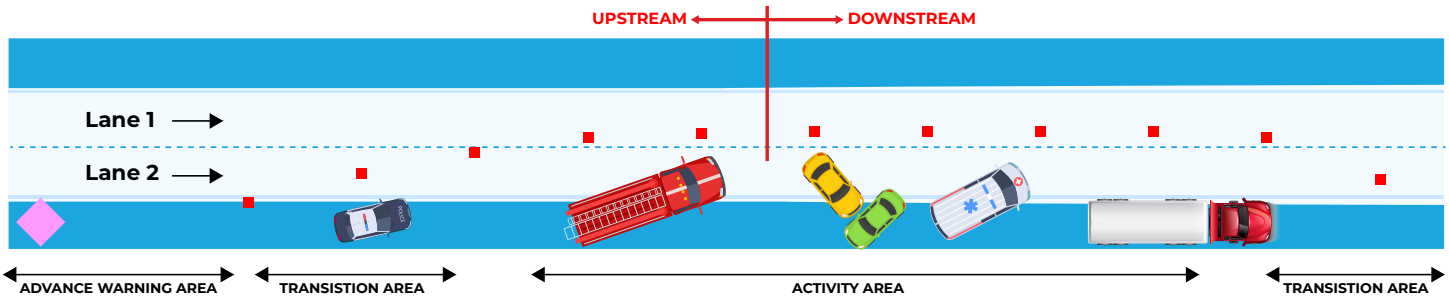
It is important to move over or slow down around vehicles displaying flashing lights on the side of the road because it helps prevent secondary crashes.

A **Secondary Crash** is any crash that occurs because of another crash or incident. Many times, secondary crashes happen because a driver becomes distracted by the sight of a crash and take their eyes off the road, causing another crash.

TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT (TIM) SCENE

A **TIM scene** refers to a **Traffic Incident Management (TIM) scene** — the area where a roadway incident has occurred and where emergency responders, law enforcement, tow operators, or other personnel are actively working to manage and clear the situation.

TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SCENE



TIM scenes are **dangerous** places. Responders are at risk of being hit by passing vehicles. That's why **"Move Over" laws** exist — to protect them by requiring drivers to:

- **Change lanes** away from the scene if possible, or
- **Slow down** and proceed with caution.

A driver should approach a TIM scene with **caution, awareness, and responsibility** to ensure the safety of responders, other drivers, and themselves.

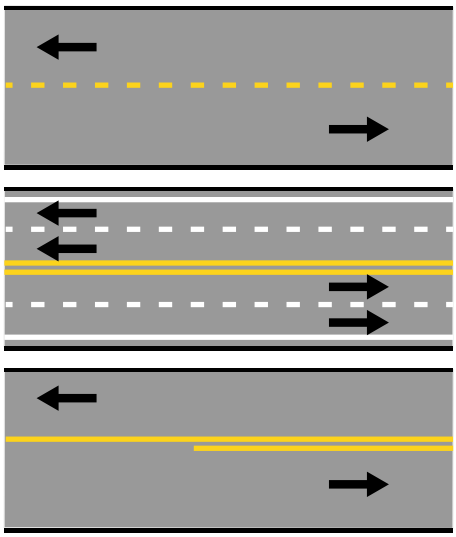
- Stay Alert
- Move Over (if possible)
- Slow Down
- Follow Any Directions from Emergency Responders
- Do not Rubberneck

Notes



Lane Usage and Maneuvers

A lane is part of a roadway wide enough for a car or a single line of vehicles to travel safely. Most lanes on hard-surfaced roads are marked with white or yellow lines. On dirt or gravel roads, some rural roads, private drives and other roadways, the lanes may not be marked, but they are there anyway. You are expected to always drive in the proper lane, whether the lane is marked or not.



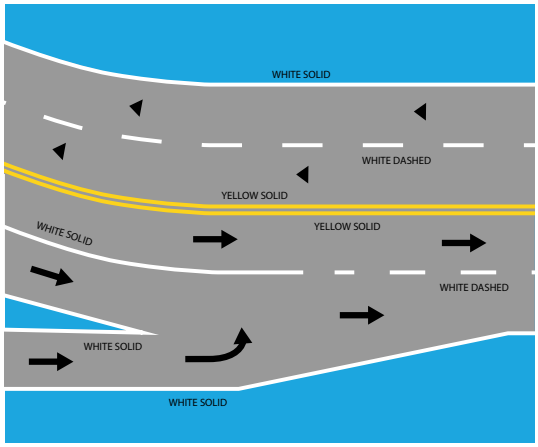
Yellow Dashes—Traffic moves in opposite directions on each side of the line. Passing is permitted when it's safe.

White Dashes—Traffic moves in the same direction on each side of the white dashes. Passing is permitted when it's safe.

Solid Yellow Lines—Traffic moves in opposite directions on each side of the line. Solid yellow lines tell you two things:

(1) if a solid yellow line is on the left, you are on the proper side of the road and (2) if you cross that line, there's a danger from approaching vehicles or from obstacles in the median. Single or double solid yellow lines mean DO NOT PASS. You may cross the line to turn left.

Solid White Line—Traffic moves in the same direction on each side of the line, but passing is hazardous, as when you're approaching an intersection or merge area.



2 Lanes—Two-lane highways have a single broken yellow centerline. You should always drive to the right of the centerline, except to pass when you can pass safely.

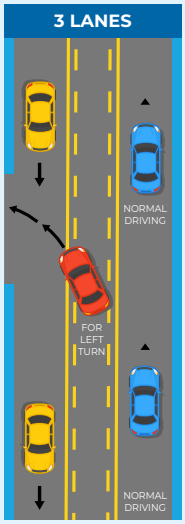
3 Lanes—Three-lane highways have two lanes for traffic flowing in opposite directions. Drivers from either direction may use the center lane for left turns. Enter this center lane only to make a left turn. You must not pass in this lane.

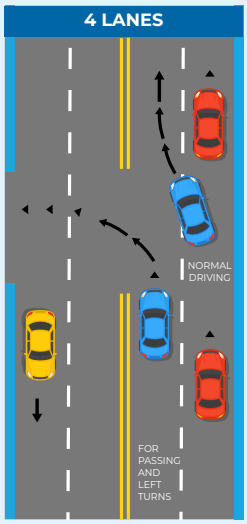
Center lane Marking: One solid yellow line on each side and yellow dash lines on the inside of the solid yellow lines. This lane is not to be used for passing.

4 Lanes—A four-lane highway is divided in half by two solid yellow lines in the center. The two lanes on each side are divided by a dashed white line.

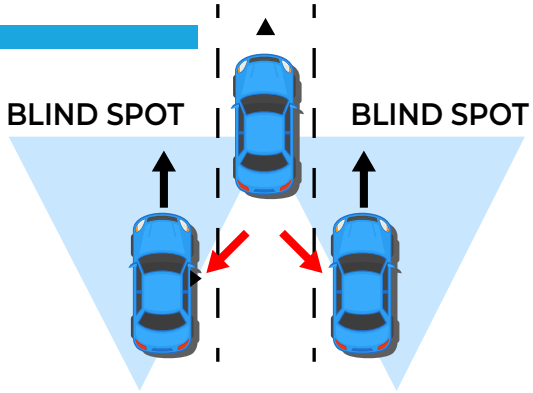
DRIVE IN PROPER LANE







CHANGING LANES

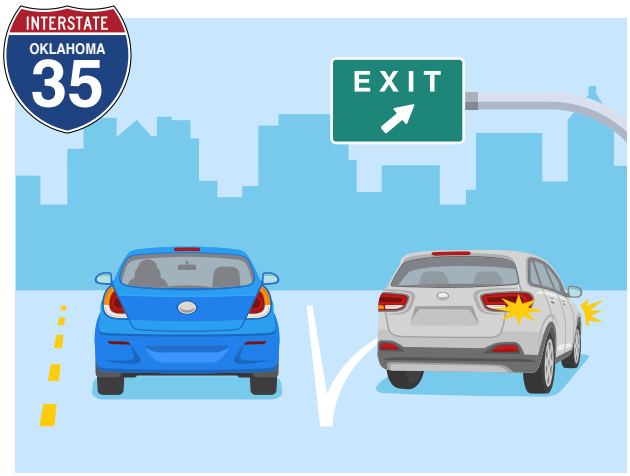


Never change lanes until you are sure it's safe.

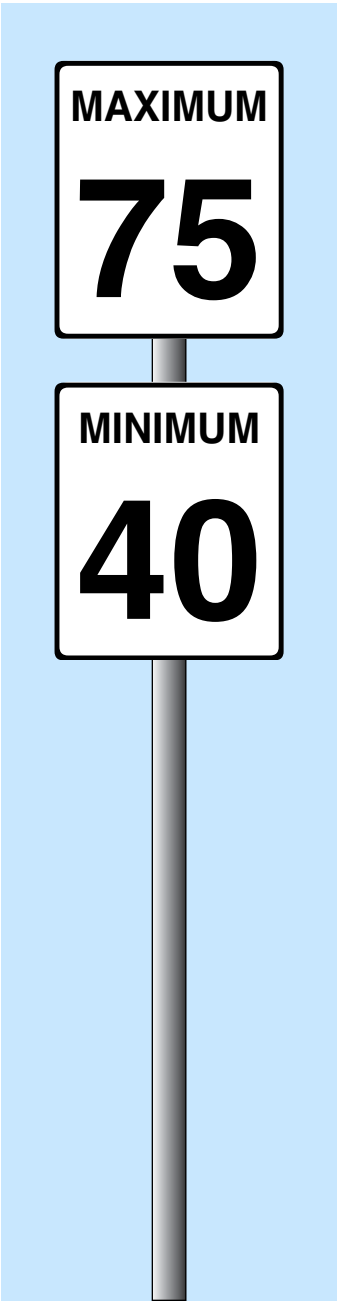
- Watch for clearance ahead and behind.
- Check your rearview mirrors.
- Signal your intention to change lanes.
- Look over your shoulder in the direction you will be moving.
- Look behind you to both sides again.
- Check your blind spots.
- Stay clear of the blind spots of the vehicle ahead of you.

When a driver ahead of you signals a lane change, slow down and leave space for the change.

EXPRESSWAY DRIVING



Oklahoma has many miles of limited-access highways designed for safe, uninterrupted travel at higher speeds. There are no stop signs, traffic signals or railroad crossings. Freeways, toll roads, throughways, turnpikes and expressways usually have no steep hills or sharp curves that limit your view of the road ahead. "Limited access" means that you enter or leave the roadway only at entrances and exits, called interchanges, without ever crossing the path of other traffic. Many interchanges have places to get food, gas and lodging.



Driving on controlled-access highways is different—and much safer—than driving on non-controlled-access highways. The rules for driving on these roads are different, too.

Speed

- If your car is not in good condition or if you can't or don't want to drive at or above the minimum speed limit, don't use the expressway.
- Drive between the minimum (usually 40 mph) and maximum (55-75 mph) speed limits. Driving too slowly is against the law because it's dangerous. Always drive at a safe speed for the conditions, such as traffic flow, rain, snow, etc.
- Maintain a constant speed. Don't speed up or slow down without good reason.
- Adjust your speed and lane to allow others to enter the freeway safely.
- Move to the right to allow vehicles driving faster than you to pass.

Use the Proper Lane

- Use the right-hand lane when you're driving slower than the other traffic.
- Use the middle or left-hand lane if you are traveling faster than the other traffic.
- Stay in the middle of your lane. You can change lanes when necessary but don't weave in and out of traffic. Changing lanes back and forth doesn't get you there faster.
- Do not travel alongside other vehicles at the same speed. Avoid cars moving in packs. Stay out of other drivers' blind spots. Change speed and/or lanes so that you don't block the normal flow of traffic.

Avoid Collisions—Drive with Caution

- As far as possible, plan your entrance, direction and exit.
- Stay 3 seconds behind the vehicle in front of you. Allow 4 seconds in bad weather.
- Watch 15-20 seconds ahead for cars braking, entering and exiting.
- Observe all highway signs. If you are going to exit, move to the exit lane as early as possible.
- Never turn around on the expressway. Do not, under any conditions, cross the median or divider to turn your car around on a controlled-access highway. Keep driving to the next exit, get off and re-enter the highway in the other direction.



Stopping

- If you have a breakdown, an emergency or must stop for some reason, signal, then pull off to the extreme right shoulder away from moving traffic where it's safe. Turn on your emergency flashers.
- When you are out of your car, never walk near the roadway. Keep children away from the traffic.



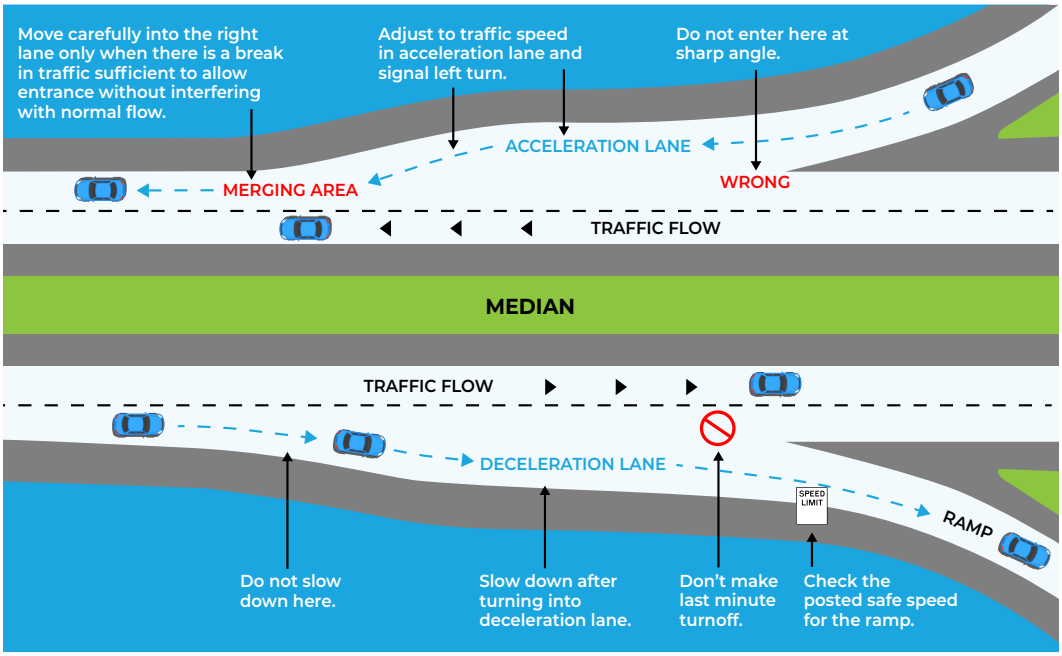
Entering the Expressway (See below)

- You must yield to vehicles already on the expressway.
- Enter in the acceleration lane and stay to the right. Adjust your speed and watch the traffic.
- Signal left and when it's safe, merge into the proper lane.

Leaving the Expressway (See below)

- Move to the proper lane well in advance of the exit, especially in heavy traffic.
- Maintain your speed at the flow of traffic until you reach the exit.
- Signal right at least 100 feet before the exit.
- Slow down in the deceleration lane or exit ramp and keep slowing down until you reach the posted speed limit. Check your speedometer.

ENTERING AND LEAVING AN EXPRESSWAY



PASSING

On a roadway that is divided into four or more lanes, a vehicle cannot impede the normal flow of traffic by driving in the left lane. However, you are not prohibited from driving in a lane other than the right-hand lane in certain conditions like traffic conditions or flow or road configuration, such as the potential of merging traffic, require the use of other lanes to maintain safe traffic conditions. You may not exceed the speed limit to pass another vehicle.

Getting there late is better than not getting there at all.

Passing on the left

1. Do not move to the left until you are sure you can do it safely. Check ahead for at least 200 feet of clear roadway without a "No Passing Zone."
2. As you get ready to pass, especially in a large truck or bus, never get so close that the vehicle blocks your view of the road ahead. Follow at a safe distance until you can see far enough ahead to pass safely.
3. Be sure that no other car is passing or is about to pass your car at the same time. Check your rearview mirror and look over your shoulder to check your blind spots.
4. Signal for a left turn and when clear, move into the left lane.
5. Pass the car ahead and don't return to the right lane until you can see that car in the rearview mirror.
6. Signal and pull into the right lane. Turn off your signal when you're in the lane.

Passing on the right

You may overtake and pass on the right when:

- The road is wide enough for two or more lanes in each direction and there are no parked cars or other obstructions on the roadway.
- You are on a one-way road.
- The vehicle in front of you is making or about to make a left turn. You can never legally pass on the right by driving off the pavement or main portion of the highway.

No Passing Zones

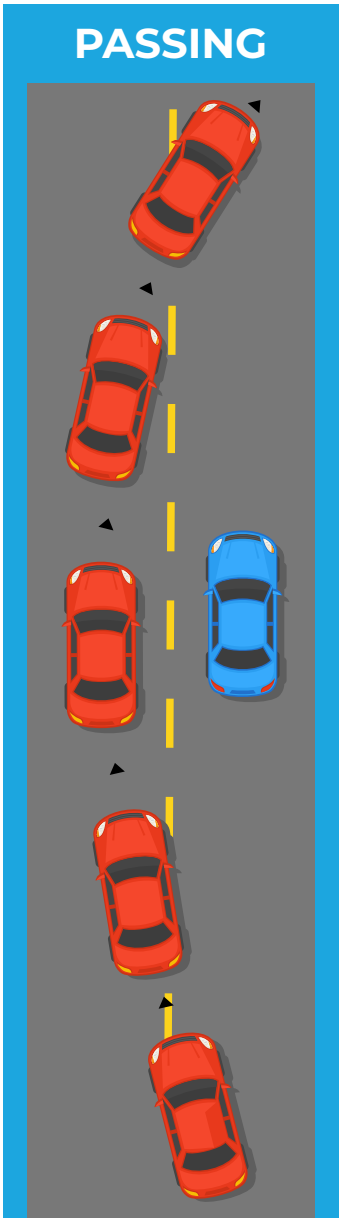
- You MUST NOT PASS:
- When the solid yellow line is in your lane, whether there are two yellow lines or a single solid line and a dashed line.
- On hills or curves, even if the road is not marked.

DO NOT PASS within 100 feet of an obstructed view or if vehicles or pedestrians might cross your path. Watch for *bridges, viaducts, tunnels, overpasses, railroad crossings, intersections* and *crosswalks*.



When someone is passing you:

1. Keep everyone safe—help the other driver pass you.
2. Stay in your lane and move right if being passed on the left.
3. Don't increase your speed. If a car approaches from the other direction while you're being passed, slow down and let the passing driver pull in front of you.



TURNING

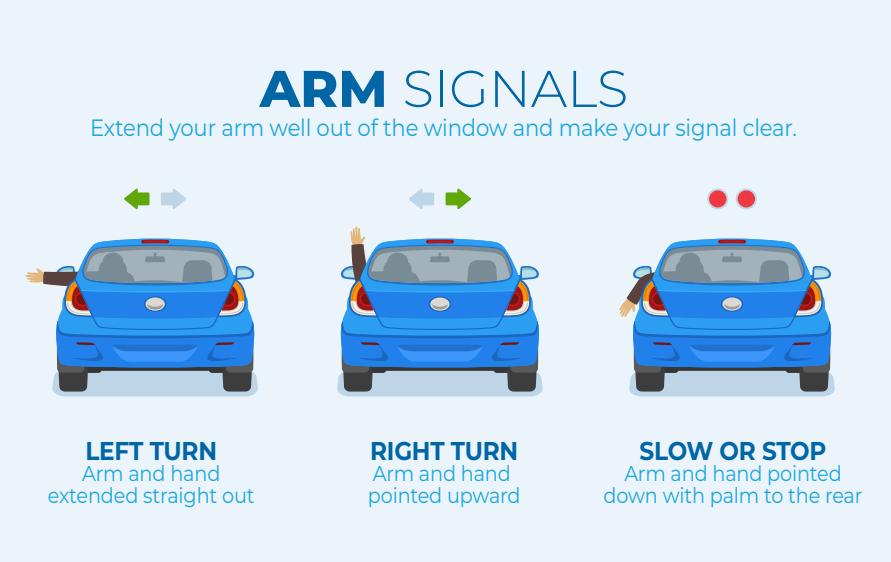
In 2008, there were 4,813 collisions caused by drivers who made improper or illegal turns. To beginning drivers, turning seems simple, but it's more difficult than you think because it requires (1) paying attention in all directions at once, (2) planning and preparation and (3) good timing.

Turn Signals—Your turn signals are used to inform and warn other drivers that you intend to turn left or right, change lanes, slow down, pull off or onto the roadway or stop. Your signal helps protect you and enables other drivers to adjust to your moves.

It is illegal to turn without signaling. You should signal for at least 100 feet or 1/3 of a block before you turn, slow down or stop.

You can use the turn indicators on your car or you can use arm signals. When you use arm signals, bring your arm in during the actual turn to keep control of the steering wheel.

Making a Turn—There are six steps in making a good turn. Study the diagrams on how to make right and left turns. See page 36. Learn the six steps and the diagrams. They will help you avoid costly collisions and injuries.



Making a Left Turn—Turn when the oncoming traffic is clear and watch behind you for cars trying to pass you while you're turning.

Do:

1. Signal what you intend to do.
2. Look behind and on both sides to see where other vehicles are, so you can change lanes and make the turn safely.
3. Move into the correct lane as soon as possible. The faster the traffic is moving, the sooner you should move into the proper lane.
4. If you are going too fast to make the turn safely, *slow down before you reach the stop line or crosswalk*. Select the proper gear before entering the intersection and accelerate slightly through the turn. Don't brake or depress the clutch while turning. Don't shift gears in the intersection.
5. Make the turn correctly. It will be easy if you are in the proper lane and driving slowly enough when you start the turn.
6. Finish the turn in the proper lane.

Don't:

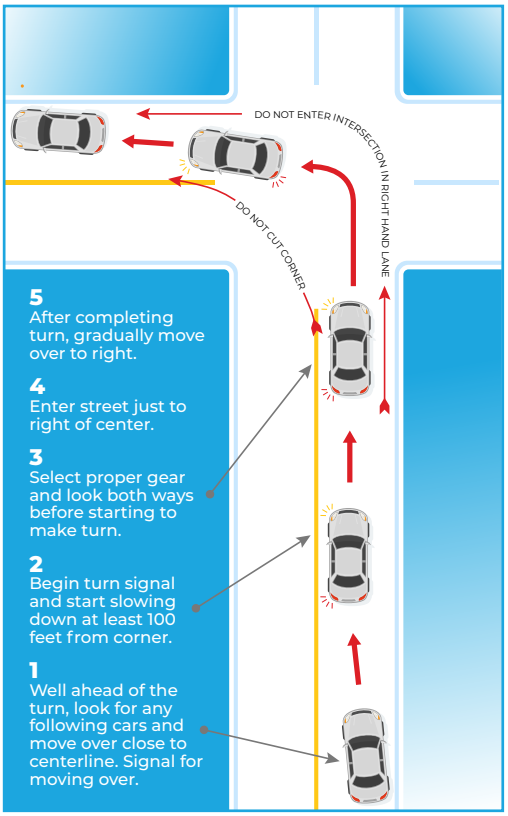
- Don't turn unless the turn is permitted and can be made easily.
- Don't try to turn from the wrong lane. If you aren't in the proper lane, drive to the next intersection and make the turn from the proper lane there. Circle back if you must.
- Left turns—Don't turn the steering wheel to the left while waiting for oncoming traffic to pass. If you are hit from the rear while your wheels are turned, the impact can push you right into oncoming cars. Wait until you are sure you can complete the turn before turning the wheels.





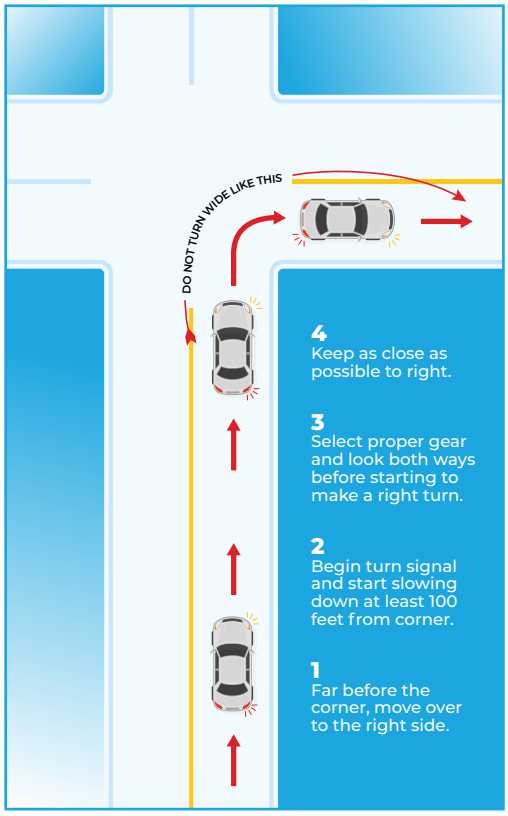
HOW TO MAKE A LEFT TURN

There are five steps in making a left turn. Take care to keep close to the centerline, but don't cross it.



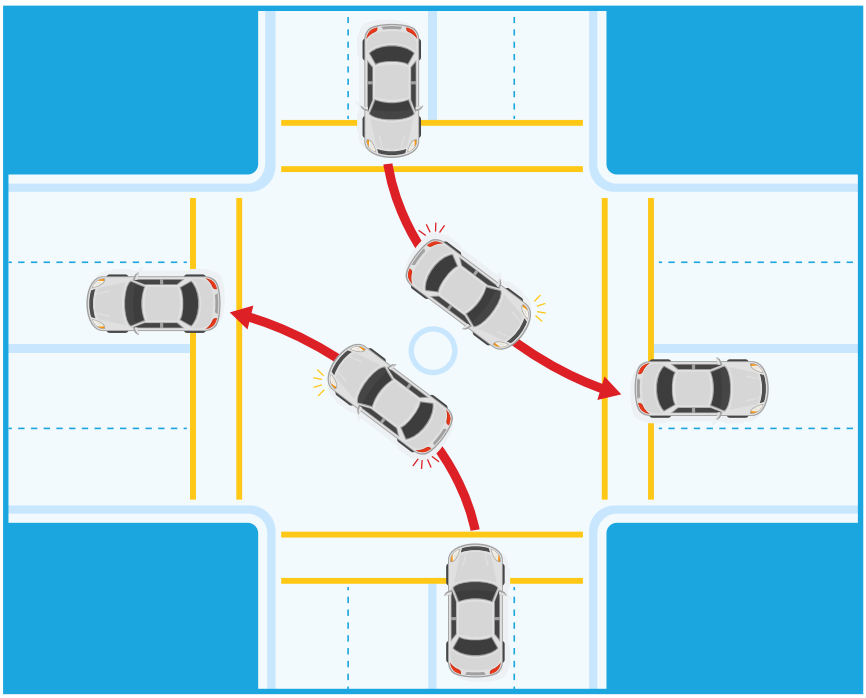
HOW TO MAKE A RIGHT TURN

There are four steps in making a right turn. Be careful not to swing to the left before or during the turn.



TURNING

Recommended speed when turning 10 mph or less.

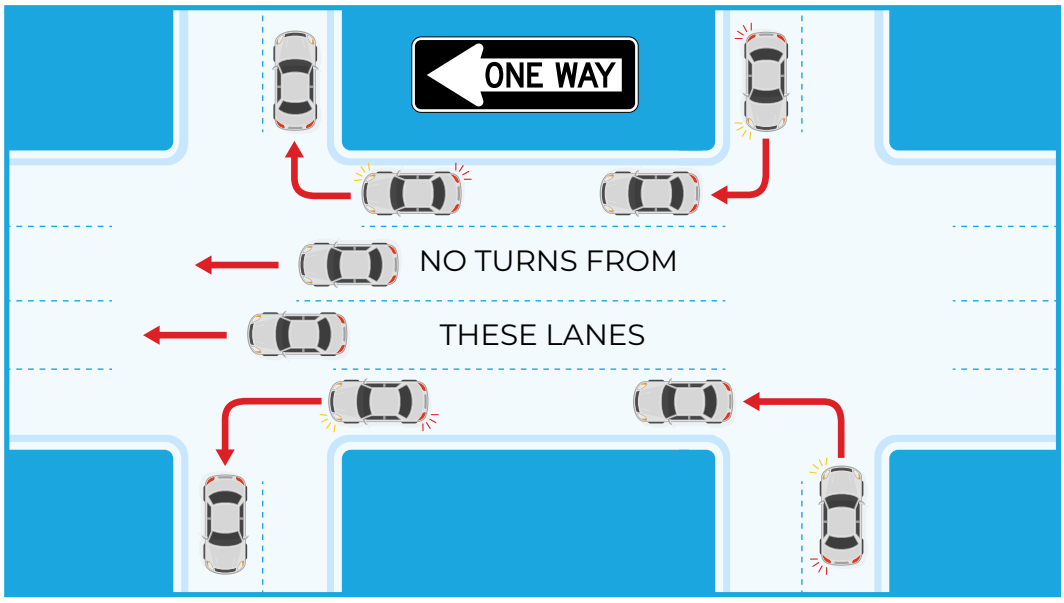


WHEN TO TURN LEFT OF CENTER: LEFT TURNS-TWO VEHICLES

When you are meeting another driver at an intersection and both of you want to turn left, each will turn to the left of the other. Leave from the left lane and enter in the left lane.

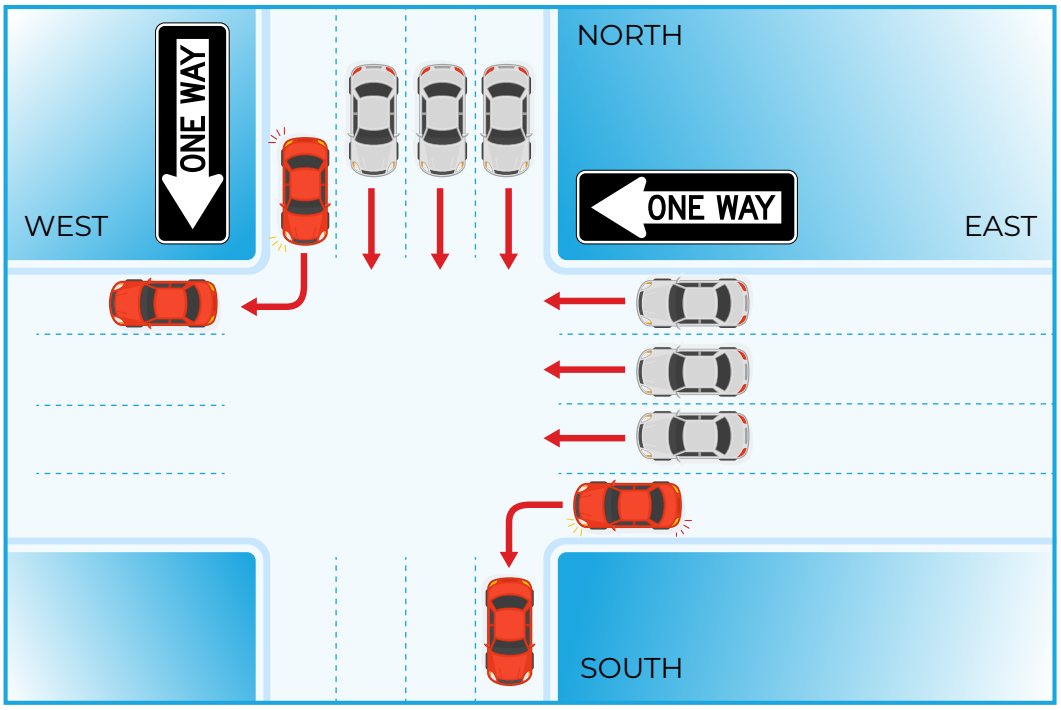
TURNING ON ONE-WAY STREETS

When you are turning on one-way or divided streets, always turn from the lane nearest the curb. When driving straight, you may drive in any lane, but the extreme right or left lanes should be used for turning. Don't weave in and out of lanes.



TURNING ON INTERSECTING ONE-WAY STREET

In this diagram, westbound vehicles in the left lane may turn left. Southbound vehicles in the right lane may turn right. Other vehicles continue straight ahead.



TURNING

Recommended speed when turning 10 mph or less.

BACKING

Backing is more difficult for the beginner than driving forward because the field of vision is blocked by the car itself and it's harder to control speed and direction. You will need a lot of practice to keep absolute control of the car or truck. Backing out of a parking place requires you to look in both directions and double-check for cars and pedestrians.

- Place your foot on the brake and shift to reverse. Grasp the steering wheel at the 12 o'clock position with your left hand. Place your right arm on the back of the seat and look directly through the rear window. Never use your rearview mirror for backing up.



- Accelerate gently and smoothly, keeping your speed slow. Your vehicle is much harder to steer while you are backing up. Steer slightly in the direction the rear of the vehicle should move. Back slowly into the lane closest to you for the direction you will be going. If backing up while turning, make quick checks to the front and sides. Continue looking to the rear until coming to a complete stop.
- Never back into an intersection to turn around. It's much safer to drive around the block.

SAFETY TIP

Always check behind your car for bikes, tricycles and even small children **BEFORE** you get into your car. This is especially important for vans and pickups

Notes

The Basic Speed Rule

Consider all the conditions that affect your driving, drive at a speed that is safe for those conditions and be able to stop without hitting anyone.

The Basic Speed Rule does not set an exact speed limit but means that the speed you may drive is limited by the current conditions. For example, the posted speed limit is 65 mph, but if you're driving at night on a two-lane state highway, it's raining or it's very foggy, 65 mph is too fast for those conditions.

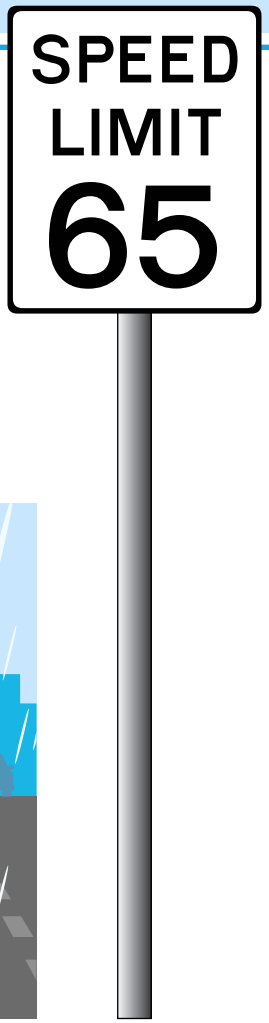
THE BASIC SPEED RULE

- Your speed must be careful and prudent (using skill and good judgment).
- Your speed must be reasonable and proper, not too fast and not too slow, for the conditions:
  - Amount of traffic—how many cars on the road
  - Speed of traffic—how fast or slow it's moving
  - Whether pedestrians are present—especially children in school zones
  - Surface of the road—rough or smooth, paved, gravel, etc.
  - Width of the road—one-lane, two-lane, four-lane
  - Structure of the road—straight, curving, bridges, narrow shoulders, etc.
  - Visibility—how far ahead you can see clearly
  - Weather and air conditions—rain, snow, ice, fog, smoke, dust, etc.
  - Your own driving ability
- You must not drive so slowly that you block, hinder or interfere with other vehicles moving at normal speeds.
- Your speed must be adjusted to conditions so you can stop within a clear distance ahead.

Suppose you are driving in a line of downtown traffic and the car ahead of you stops suddenly. If you can't stop in time to avoid hitting that car from behind, you are either breaking the "Basic Speed Rule"—even if you were driving within the posted speed limit—or following too closely.

THE LAW SAYS

No motor vehicle shall be driven at a speed greater than is careful and prudent and not greater than or less than is reasonable and proper, having due regard to the traffic, surface and width of the highway and of any other conditions then existing. No person shall drive any vehicle upon a highway at a speed greater than will permit him to stop within the assured clear distance ahead.



MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR VIOLATING THE BASIC SPEED RULE

Upon conviction of speeding, you may be fined up to $654.00 and sentenced to 30 days in jail. Fines double in school and construction zones when workers or equipment are present.



SPEED LIMITS

Under state law—unless otherwise posted—and under normal conditions, you may drive at the speeds listed in the chart below:

STATE SPEED LIMITS
UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED

Controlled access highways	75 mph
Turnpikes	80 mph
Undivided State Highways	65 mph
County roads	55 mph
Highways within state parks or wildlife refuges	35 mph
School zones on any highway outside of a municipality in a properly marked zone	25 mph

VERY IMPORTANT: CAREFULLY OBSERVE AND OBEY ALL POSTED SPEED LIMITS

Under state law, cities and towns can set their own speed limits. These limits will change according to the zones. Watch carefully and obey speed limit signs in business, residential and school zones.

TURNING

Recommended speed when turning 10 mph or less.

NIGHT DRIVING

Night driving presents a serious danger, especially on poorly lit highways and country roads. The distance that you can see clearly is greatly reduced. Dark-colored animals, dark objects on the road or people walking or riding bikes dressed in dark clothing will be hard to see.

You should reduce your speed at night and adjust to the road and weather conditions. *Don't overdrive your lights—adjust your speed so you can stop within the distance you can see.* You should consider how powerful your lights are and how responsive your brakes are. As soon as you see pedestrians, animals or objects on the road in front of you, you must be able to stop before you hit them. If you are overdriving your lights, you will not be able to stop in time.

Don't wear sunglasses or colored glasses when driving at night or on dark days. Glare from oncoming headlights, billboard and advertising lights and in some conditions, from street lights can interfere with your night driving vision because your eyes take longer to adjust. Colored lenses cause your eyes to adjust even more slowly and can reduce your vision.



DAY



NIGHT

ROAD RAGE

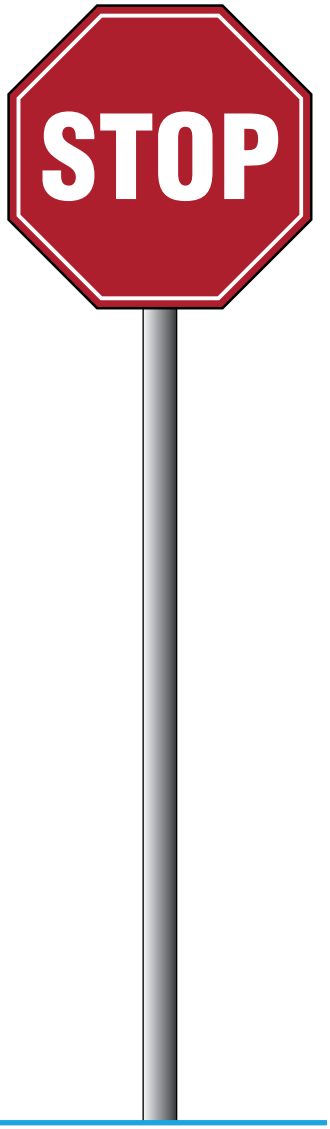
It is important to recognize the warning signs of aggressive driving to avoid becoming involved in a hazardous situation. Examples of road rage include tailgating, cutting off other vehicles, careless lane changes, speeding and running red lights. Escalated road rage could include obscene gestures, verbal assault, intentionally hitting another vehicle and threatening to use a weapon.
Here is a list of precautions you can take behind the wheel:

- Avoid offending other drivers
- Do not engage other drivers
- Keep your anger in check

If you suspect another driver is targeting you, go to a safe place such as a police, fire or gas station, where there are people. If necessary, call 911 immediately. DO NOT drive home.

Notes

Stopping and Following



STOPPING DISTANCES

There is no sure way to tell exactly how long it will take you to stop at a certain speed. Your stopping distance depends on:

- Your own reaction time.
- Weather and road conditions.
- The weight of your vehicle.
- The condition of your brakes.

There are three steps in stopping your vehicle—perception, reaction and braking.

PERCEPTION, REACTION AND BRAKING TIME

Step	Time	Explanation
Perception	About .5 seconds	See/hear danger
Reaction	About .66 seconds	Brain tells foot to brake
Braking/stopping	Depends on speed	Press brake until car stops

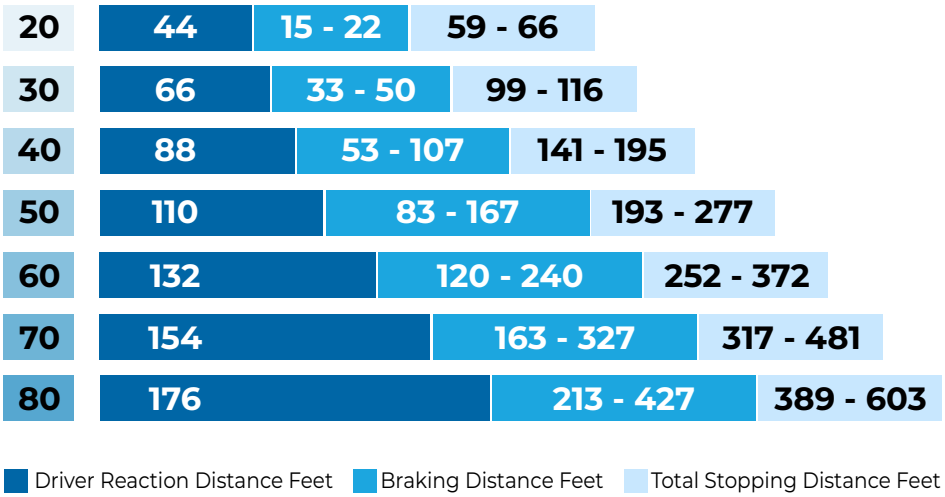
Suppose you're driving on the turnpike at night at 80 mph. A deer suddenly appears in your headlights. Will you be able to stop in time?

SAFETY TIP

Watch when the rear of the vehicle ahead passes a sign, pole or any other fixed point, count the seconds it takes you to reach the same point (one-one-thousand, two-one-thousand, three-one-thousand, four-one thousand). You are too close if you pass the point before counting four seconds. Always increase your distance on slick roads, following large vehicles, motorcycles, night, fog or bad weather.

ESTIMATED EMERGENCY STOPPING DISTANCE

STOPPING DISTANCE: From eye to brain to foot to wheel to road



BRAKING

You should apply your brakes slowly and evenly. With a standard transmission, you can use your gearshift to slow down when you're approaching a stop sign or signal. First, flash your brake lights to signal the car behind you, then shift down to a lower gear.

Braking Under Emergency Conditions

NOTE: These instructions are for standard braking systems.

- **Flat tire or blowout**—Take your foot off the gas pedal and apply your brakes cautiously. NEVER brake suddenly.
- **If you run off the pavement**—Hold the steering wheel firmly. Apply your brakes lightly and reduce your speed until you can safely return to the pavement. Check traffic in both directions and when it's safe, steer carefully back into your lane.
- **On ice, snow, sleet, gravel, sand and other loose surfaces**—Tap the brakes slightly, about one second apart. Braking suddenly can make the car skid. (CAUTION: Never tap antilock brakes.)

Sudden over-correction can make you lose control of your car. Make changes slowly and carefully.

STOPPING IN ICY AND RAINY CONDITIONS

Always drive cautiously when roads or weather conditions can make you lose control of your car. Slow down and be ready for an emergency situation—for the drivers ahead as well as for yourself.



Skidding—Icy roads are dangerous. You must be extremely careful on ice, especially on "black ice," a clear icy coating on the road surface that you can't see. There is very little you can do once a skid starts. The best skid control is prevention. Get the feel of the roadway—test your brakes gently after the car is in motion to find out how much traction you have. Traction will vary, changing with traffic use and sunshine or shade.

On roads or spots that seem clear, always be alert for black ice and watch for danger spots ahead, such as on bridges or in shady areas.

Sudden braking increases the skid. Don't use the clutch.

As a general rule, if the car starts to skid, take your foot off the brake and turn the steering wheel in the direction of the skid if you can do so without running off the road, hitting something or steering into oncoming traffic.

Steering into the direction of the skid may not always be the best action. For example, if you are meeting other traffic and the rear of your car skids to the left, you wouldn't steer into the oncoming traffic.

BRAKING UNDER EMERGENCY CONDITIONS

STANDARD BRAKES

Maximum braking comes just before the wheels lock and stop rotating. Too much pressure on the brake pedal will lock the wheels and the vehicle will skid.

ANTILOCK BRAKE SYSTEMS (ABS)

Braking techniques for stopping safely and avoiding skids are different from those for standard brakes. If your car is equipped with an ABS, read the owner's manual for instructions on maximum braking.

The best advice for driving on icy roads is DON'T. Ask yourself: Is this trip worth the risk?

Rain—The roads are likely to be very slick just after it begins to rain or drizzle. The first few drops loosen built-up grease and dirt on the road surface, covering it with a slippery film that makes driving very dangerous. Keep alert—the first few drops of rain signal danger. Slow down and use extra caution: "Slippery when wet."

Hydroplaning—As long as the road surface is wet, you should slow down to avoid hydroplaning. Hydroplaning means that your tires lose contact with the road surface and ride on the film of water. Hydroplaning reduces traction and increases stopping distance. Turning is more hazardous. Wide tires can hydroplane even at reduced speeds.

- Slow down or pull off the road in a heavy downpour.
- Never drive into water crossing the roadway. You can't judge the depth of the water or force and pull of the flow.

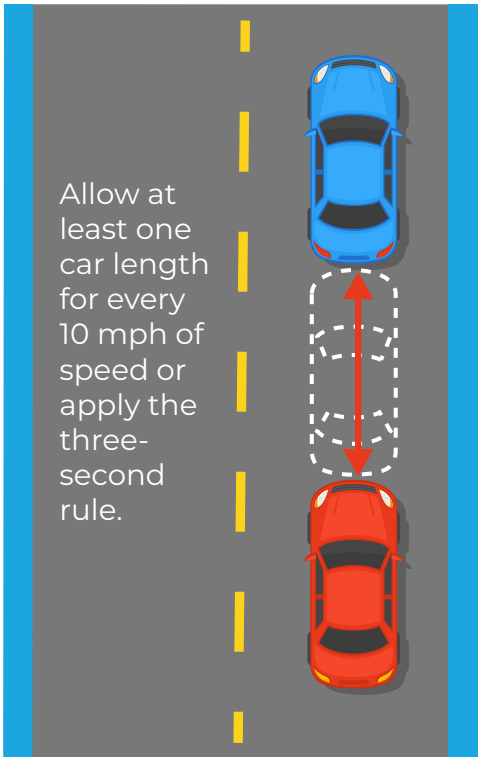
Slow down and use extra caution:

"Slippery when wet."

FOLLOWING

You should always give yourself a "cushion of safety," having open space in front, behind and on the sides. Avoid following too closely. Stay far enough behind the next vehicle that, if it should stop suddenly, you can stop safely. Remember that speed, traffic, road and weather conditions will affect your ability to stop.

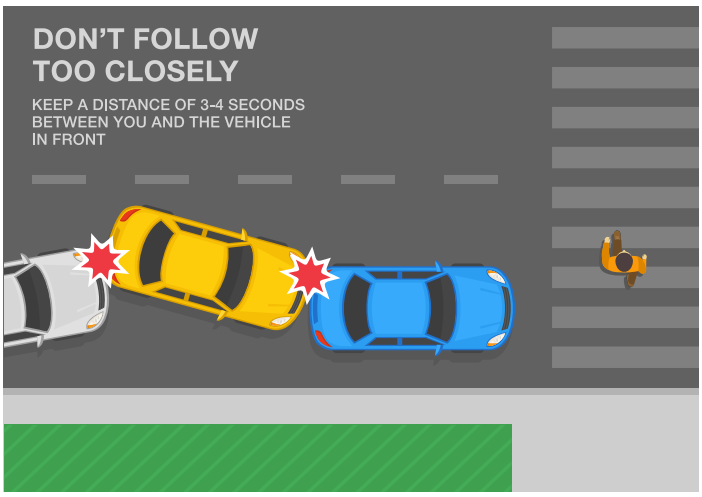
- Allow one car length for every 10 miles per hour of speed OR
- Use the "three-second rule"—Select a fixed object, such as a tree, roadside sign or utility pole, ahead of the car in front of you. Once the car has passed the object, you should be able to count, "One thousand one, one thousand two, one thousand three," before you pass the fixed object. In bad weather or poor road conditions, increase your count to four seconds (one thousand four).



Sometimes cars will bunch up and travel in a pack. It's much safer to avoid the pack when you can and maintain your cushion of safety.

If you are traveling in a caravan or motorcade (such as a funeral procession) outside of a business or residential area, leave at least 200 feet between each vehicle so other cars or trucks can enter the line safely.

Following a truck—Trucks take longer to stop than cars because of their size. But at higher speeds or on wet pavement, they may have better traction and be able to stop more quickly than a car. If you are following too closely, you may not be able to stop in time to avoid rear-ending the truck. See Chapter 10 on sharing the road with trucks.



HOW TO AVOID REAR-END COLLISIONS



Rear-end collisions are a major driving problem. They can be avoided if you will follow a few simple rules.

- Pay strict attention to your driving when following another car.
- Watch for brake lights on the four or five cars down the line. It will increase your response time. Shift your foot to the brake pedal as soon as you see brake lights go on ahead, so you can stop if needed.
- Watch for shrinking distance between your car and the one ahead. It's a sure sign of danger.
- Watch for stopped vehicles on the shoulder ahead. It's sometimes hard to tell whether a car in the distance ahead is moving or stopped. Compare the car in question to a fixed object.
- Look for problems that might develop for the driver ahead of you so you have more time to react.
- Above all, leave plenty of space between your car and the car ahead of you as a safety cushion.
- If the car ahead of you signals for a left turn, slow down and prepare to stop.

Avoid being hit from behind.

If someone is following you too closely (tailgating):

- Flash your brake lights if braking will not cause a collision.
- Slow down and encourage the driver behind you to pass.
- If these tactics fail, pull over, stop and let the tailgater pass. Keep your doors locked. It's best to stop in an area where there are other people, such as a convenience store. If it's night, pull into a well-lighted area.



Notes

Parking



PARKING

Knowing how to park is an important driving skill. Not all collisions are driving errors. An improperly parked car can roll, gain speed, destroy property or kill someone. When you leave your car, truck or van:

- Set the parking brake.
- Put the gear in low, reverse or "park."
- Turn off the motor.
- Lock the ignition and remove the key.

It's always a good practice to lock your car, even in your own driveway.

PARKING ON A HIGHWAY

Where parking is permitted, signal, slow down and drive completely off the pavement or the main traveled part of the roadway.

If your vehicle breaks down, move it completely off the highway. Turn on the emergency flashers.

Watch out for fast traffic going by as you get out of the car. Do not allow children to leave the car and approach oncoming traffic.

ANGLE PARKING

Angle parking is used in parking lots, shopping centers and sometimes at curbs.

When you enter an angle parking space:

- Watch for vehicles and pedestrians both ahead and behind.
- Signal and begin slowing down.
- Make sure the rear of your car will clear the parked car.
- Steer sharply into the parking space and then straighten the wheels, centering your car.
- See graphic to the right.



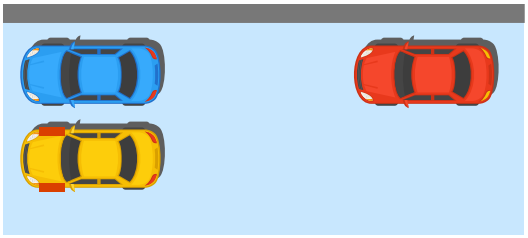
When you back out of an angle parking space:

- Make sure nothing is in your way. In a supermarket lot, check for carts.
- Look both ways and double-check because it's hard to see oncoming traffic. Be especially careful if a truck or van is parked beside you, blocking your view.
- Move back slowly. Be sure traffic is clear in the lane where you're backing.
- Tap the horn to warn pedestrians nearby.
- When you can see past the tops of the cars parked next to you, stop and look again. Look back and to each side for pedestrians and other drivers.

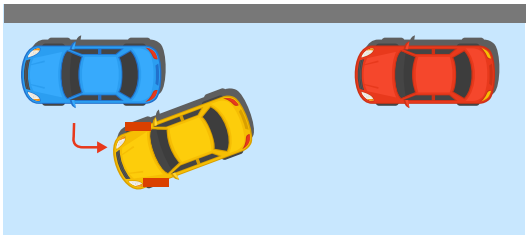
- Remember that the front of your car will swing opposite to the direction of your turn and can hit the car next to you.
- Back slowly while turning until your left front wheel passes the rear bumper of the car parked on the left.
- Straighten the wheels as your car comes back into the lane of traffic.

PARALLEL PARKING

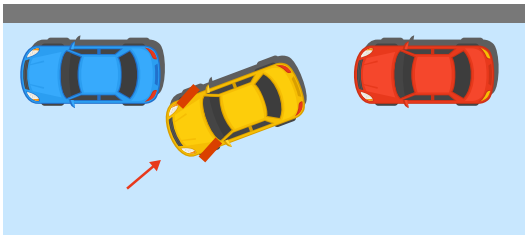
Unless there are signs that prohibit parking or a yellow-painted curb, you may park parallel to any curb and within 18 inches of the curb. Parallel parking takes practice and requires a lot of caution and control.



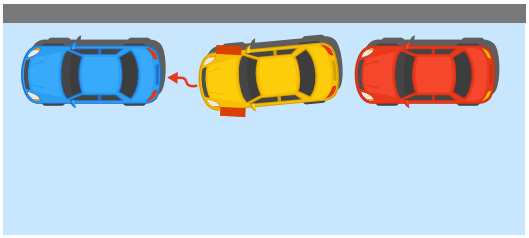
Choose a space large enough for your car. Signal, then drive up even with the car in front and about 2 feet out from it.



Make sure you will not interfere with oncoming traffic, then turn your front wheels all the way to the right and back slowly toward the curb.



When your front wheels are opposite the rear bumper of the car in front, quickly turn your steering wheel all the way to the left. Back slowly into position alongside the curb, within 18 inches of it.



Straighten your front wheels and drive into the final parking position. Center your car in the space.

Spacing and timing are important. If you are too close to the car ahead or if you cut your wheels to the right too soon, you'll drive too close to the rear bumper of the car ahead of you. If you are too far out from the car in front, you won't be able to get close enough to the curb. If you cut your wheels to the left too late, you'll hit the curb. Each time you drive out or back up, signal, watch for oncoming traffic and move slowly.

PARKING AND STARTING ON A HILL

A car parked on an incline can roll downhill, forward or backward if the parking brake is not set or not working properly or if the car isn't braced against the curb.

To Park on a Hill

- Parallel park as in the previous section, but stop within six inches of the curb.
- Brace the wheels against the curb, as described in graphic on the next page.
- Set the parking brake.
- Put the car in the proper gear, reverse, low gear or "park."
- Turn off the switch.

Facing downhill—To brace your car when parking downhill, turn your wheels toward the curb and drive forward slowly until the wheel is against the curb (see diagram). Shift into reverse or "park." If the car should roll, the curb will stop it.

Facing uphill, against a curb—Turn your wheels sharply, away from the curb and back up slowly until the rear of the tire is against the curb. Shift into low gear or "park." If the car should roll, the curb will stop it.

Facing uphill, without a curb—Turn your wheels sharply to the right. Shift as above. If the car should roll, it will roll away from the traffic flow.



Turn wheels TO THE CURB



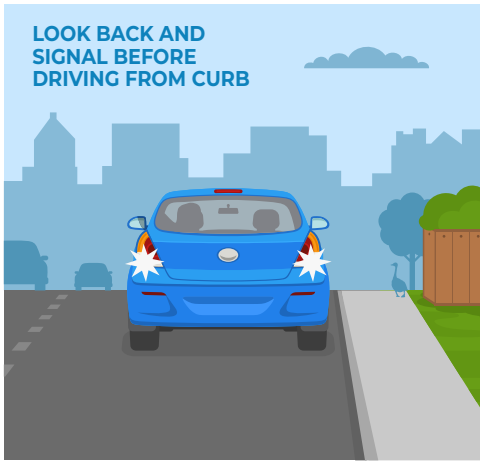
Turn wheels FROM THE CURB



Turn wheels TO THE RIGHT

To Start on a Hill

- Start the motor.
- Shift to the proper gear.
- Signal.
- Look in the rearview mirror and look to the rear.
- Release the parking brake.
- Check again for oncoming traffic. When the lane is clear, drive out. It will be your responsibility to wait for an opening and move safely into the proper lane, as the drivers already traveling have the right-of-way.



If you are using a standard transmission, when you release the brake, you should accelerate and release the clutch at the same time to keep the car from rolling.

DISABLED PARKING PLACARD

Service Oklahoma issues a transferable parking permit to physically disabled residents who may be the driver or the passenger of any vehicle. The permit is hung from the mirror. A car displaying the physically disabled parking permit has special parking privileges throughout the state and may park in spaces reserved for disabled parking.

Any person applying for a permit must submit an application completed by a physician. The physician must state that the person has a physical disability, as required by law. A review test for the driver license may be required.

Making a false statement in an application or unauthorized use of a permit is a misdemeanor.



Visit Service Oklahoma at service.ok.gov to apply online for a disabled parking permit.

UNLAWFUL PARKING

Laws are made to protect us from dangers that we may cause to other people and dangers that others may cause us. Parking laws are intended to keep your car from being hit by someone else and to keep your car, truck, van or motorcycle from endangering others.



THE LAW SAYS

No person shall stop, park or leave a vehicle unattended except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance of law or the directions of a police officer or traffic-controlled device in any of the places.

It is illegal to park in these places:

1. On a sidewalk.
2. In front of a public or private driveway.
3. Within an intersection.
4. Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.
5. On a crosswalk.
6. Within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection.
7. Within 30 feet upon approaching any flashing beacon, stop sign or traffic control signal located at the side of the roadway.
8. Within 50 feet of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing.
9. Within 20 feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station or within 75 feet on the side of a street opposite the entrance (when properly signposted).
10. Alongside or opposite any obstruction or street excavation when parking would obstruct traffic.
11. On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street (double parking).
12. On any bridge or other elevated structure on a highway or within a highway underpass.
13. Any place where official signs prohibit stopping.

Sharing the Road

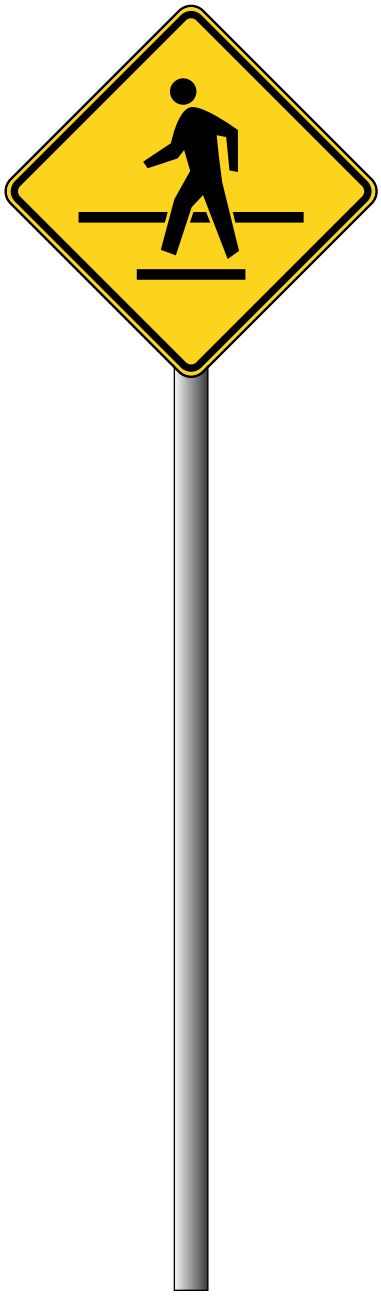
Your responsibility as a defensive driver includes making allowances for and adapting to the other people and vehicles on the road. There are skills and techniques you should use for sharing the road with pedestrians, bicycles, motorcycles, trains, trucks, farm equipment and horse-drawn vehicles. Knowing what to do and how to do it can help you stay alive and avoid damaging your vehicle or someone else's.

REMEMBER THE "GOLDEN RULE." DRIVERS SHOULD PROTECT EACH OTHER BY DRIVING DEFENSIVELY.

SHARING THE ROAD WITH PEDESTRIANS

"Pedestrians" include people walking, skateboarders, in-line or roller skaters and people with disabilities who use wheelchairs, walkers, tricycles or similar supports.

Pedestrians in a crosswalk have the right-of-way over most vehicles, whether the crosswalk is marked or not.



Crosswalks are intended to encourage people to cross only at certain locations. As you know, some people will cross when and where they want to, regardless of traffic signals, marked crossings or even their own safety. As the person controlling a potentially dangerous machine, it's your job to "play it safe" where pedestrians are concerned and protect them when you see they may be in danger.

- Be alert to people entering the roadway or crosswalks in any place where pedestrian traffic is heavy.
- Yield to blind pedestrians carrying a white or chrome cane or using a guide dog.
- Be especially careful in school zones, school crossings or where children are playing.
- Yield to pedestrians using the sidewalk when you're entering or leaving a driveway or alley.
- Don't honk, gun your engine or do anything to rush or scare a pedestrian crossing in front of your car, even if you have the legal right-of-way.

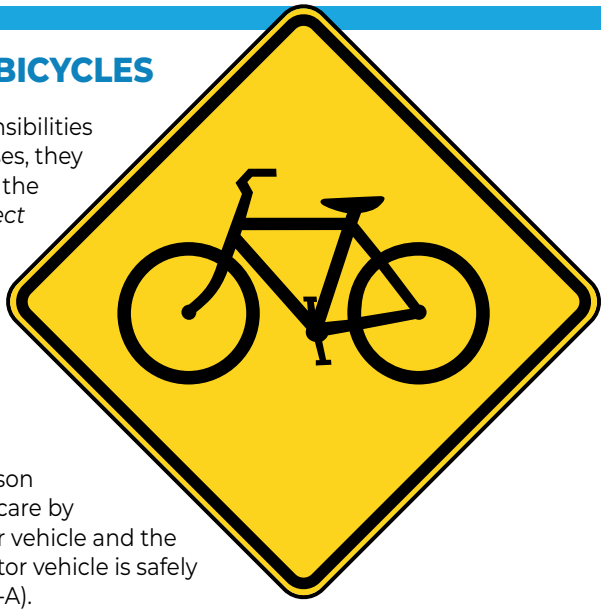
HELP THE UNSEEN PEDESTRIAN

A teenager steps into the crosswalk (or worse, into the roadway) on a four-lane city street. The driver in the lane nearest her sees her and stops. But the drivers in the next lane don't see her and don't know why the first driver stopped. They go ahead at full speed. A pickup driver, several vehicles back in that second lane, reaches the girl's path just as she steps into view—and into danger.

If you are the driver in the stopped car, do everything you can to help protect that girl, such as warning the drivers behind you with a "stop" hand signal or with several taps on your brakes, flashing your brake lights.

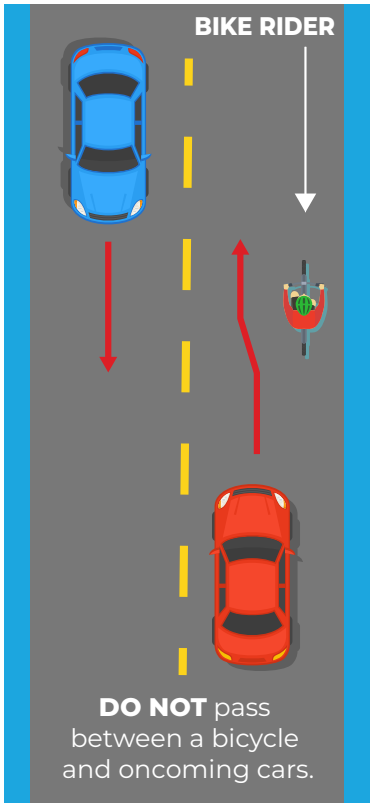
If you see the car in the lane next to you, stop suddenly for no apparent reason, slow down and look out. That driver may be stopped for a pedestrian.

SHARING THE ROAD WITH BICYCLES



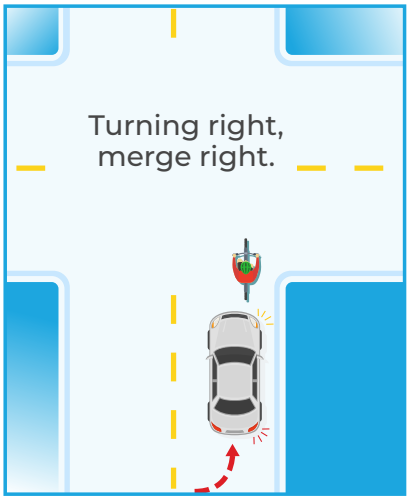
Bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities on the streets that you do and in most cases, they must share the lane. When you're sharing the road with bicycles, you should always *expect* the rider to make sudden moves. Trash, minor oil slicks, a pothole or crack in the concrete, a barking dog, a parked car or a car door opening and other surprises can force a bicycle rider to swerve suddenly in front of you.

When overtaking and passing a bicycle proceeding in the same direction, the person driving a motor vehicle shall exercise due care by leaving a safe distance between the motor vehicle and the bicycle of not less than 3 feet until the motor vehicle is safely past the overtaken bicycle (Title 47-11-1208-A).



- Watch for bicycle riders turning in front of you without looking or signaling, especially if the rider is a child.
- Allow at least 3 feet of room when passing a bicycle rider.
- Avoid passing between a bicyclist and oncoming vehicles on a two-lane road. Slow down and allow vehicles to pass. Then move to the left to allow plenty of room to pass the rider safely.
- NEVER pass a bicycle if the street is too narrow. Wait until there is enough room to let you pass safely.
- Residential areas are danger zones: Bicyclists have all the rights AND responsibilities of a person driving a car and are subject to all vehicle laws.
- Watch out for bikes coming out from driveways or from behind parked cars or other obstructions.
- If you are about to pass a bicycle on a narrow roadway and you think the rider doesn't know you're coming, honk your horn briefly as a signal that you're going to pass. Don't blast your horn or otherwise startle or try to intimidate the rider.
- At night, watch the side of the road for bicyclists. They are required to have a front light and rear reflector, but lights from approaching traffic may make them hard to see.
- Merge with bicycle traffic when preparing for a right turn. *Don't turn directly across the path of a bicyclist.*





CHAPTER 10

Bicycle riders are required to ride as far right in the lane as possible only when the lane can be safely shared by a car and a bicycle, side by side. Even then, there are certain times when a bike can take the full lane.



A bicyclist can ride in the full lane when:

- The rider is overtaking and passing another vehicle going in the same direction.
- The bicyclist is getting in place for a left turn at an intersection or turning left into a private road or driveway.
- There are unsafe conditions in the roadway, such as parked cars, moving vehicles or machinery, fixed obstacles, pedestrians, animals, potholes and debris.
- The lane is too narrow for both a car and a bicycle to safely share the lane. In this case, it is safest to let the bicycle take the full lane.
- If you see this flag on a bicycle, slow down; the bicycle rider may have impaired hearing.
- All bicyclists must ride in the correct lane of traffic.

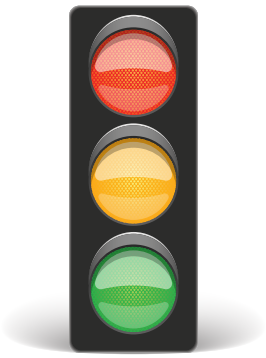
Bicycle Safety Rules for Stop Signs and Red Traffic Signals
The following guidelines were introduced to improve bicycle safety on roadways:

1. **Bicycle** is defined as any device outlined in Oklahoma law (Title 47, Section 1-104).
2. **Immediate Hazard** refers to a vehicle approaching a bicyclist at a speed or distance that could lead to a potential collision.



Stop Signs:

- Cyclists must slow down when approaching a stop sign.
- If there's a risk of danger, cyclists must stop before entering the intersection.
- Cyclists should yield to pedestrians and other traffic when entering the intersection.
- If no danger is present, cyclists can proceed without stopping.



Red Traffic Lights:

- Cyclists must stop at a red light before entering the intersection.
- They must yield to any oncoming traffic that poses an immediate hazard.
- If it's safe, cyclists can proceed through the red light.
- Cyclists can make a right turn on red after slowing down and yielding to traffic.
- Cyclists can also make a left turn onto a one-way street after stopping and yielding to oncoming traffic.



SHARING THE ROAD WITH MOTORCYCLES



Research shows that two-thirds of car/motorcycle collisions are caused not by the motorcyclist but by the driver who turned in front of the motorcycle. The driver didn't see the motorcycle at all or didn't see them until it was too late to avoid the collision.

Why Drivers Don't See Motorcyclists

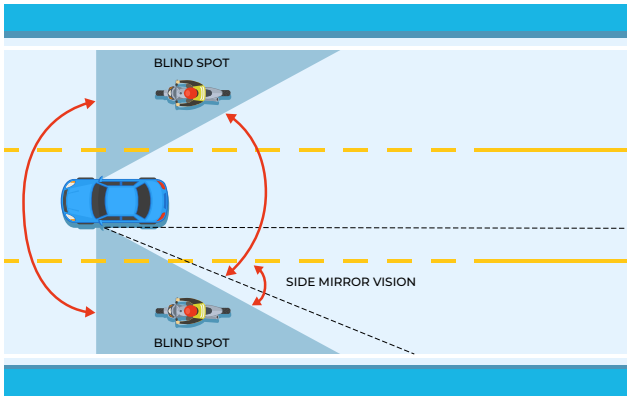
- Motorists tend to look for other cars rather than motorcycles.
- The profile of a motorcycle is narrow and the body is short, making it harder to see and making it harder for a driver to estimate its distance and speed.
- Motorcycle riding requires frequent lane movements to adjust to changing road and traffic conditions.

Motorcycles have the right to use the lane. Riders need the lane's full width to respond to and handle hazards such as potholes, shifting traffic blocking their view or blocking them from being seen and strong winds or blasts of air from passing vehicles. You should not try to share a lane with a motorcycle and respect its space and position in traffic. **All operators of motorcycles must have an M endorsement on their driver license.**

Techniques for Sharing the Road with Motorcycles

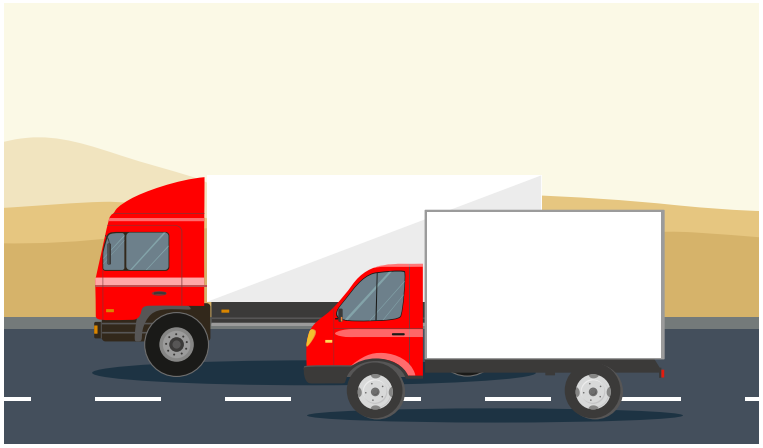
- **Passing**—Pass as you would pass a car and don't pass too close or too fast, as the blast of air can blow a motorcycle out of control.
- **Left turns**—Always signal your intention to turn. Watch for oncoming motorcycles.
- **Follow at a distance**—Allow at least a three-second following distance so the cyclist has enough time to maneuver or stop in an emergency. Both cyclists and drivers are more likely to make bad decisions if there is not enough stopping distance or time to see and react to conditions.
- **Check your blind spots when changing lanes**—Cyclists riding alongside a lane of cars are often out of the view of the driver. An unsuspecting driver may change lanes and clip or hit a motorcycle.
- **Anticipate motorcyclists' maneuvers**—Because a motorcyclist can change lane position for the following reasons:
  - Increase their ability to see and be seen.
  - Avoid others' blind spots.
  - Avoid surface hazards.
  - Protect their lane from other drivers.
  - Communicate their intentions.
  - Avoid windblast from other vehicles.
  - Provide an escape route.
  - Set up for turns.

  At intersections, where most collisions and injuries occur, wait until the rider's intentions are absolutely clear (turning or going straight) before you move into the path of travel. Be even more careful in difficult driving conditions—rain, wet roads, ice and heavy winds—when the motorcycle's braking and handling abilities are impaired.



- **Pay extra attention at night**—You can easily misjudge distance because the single headlight and single taillight of a motorcycle can blend into the lights of other vehicles. Always dim your headlights as you would for cars and trucks.
- **Drive aware**—Whenever you are on the road or at an intersection with a motorcycle, use extra caution and care. Learn to watch for the narrow profile.
- **Endorsement**—Any individual who operates a motorcycle must have a motorcycle endorsement.
- **Windshields**—State statutes require that all vehicles covered under this section shall be equipped with a windshield of sufficient quality, size and thickness to protect the operator from foreign objects, except that in lieu of such windshield, the operator shall wear ANSI-approved goggles or face shield material designed to protect against foreign objects.

SHARING THE ROAD WITH TRUCKS



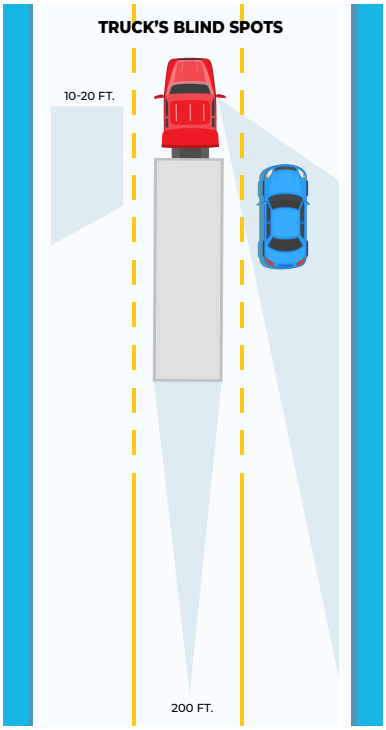
You will always be sharing the road with trucks because they haul more freight more miles than any other form of transportation.

In America, 72 percent of goods are shipped by truck and in most communities, trucks are the only form of delivery.

Truck drivers are always watching for smaller vehicles and working to avoid collisions. There are some techniques that you can use to help them—and yourself—share the road safely.

Safety Rules for Following a Truck:

- Stay far enough back so you can see the roadway ahead clearly.
- Position your vehicle outside the truck's "blind spot," and be sure the truck driver can see you in the rearview mirror. If you can't see the truck's mirror, the driver can't see you. A truck's blind spots are immediately in front on either side of the cab and up to 200 feet in the rear. A trucker may not be able to see the road directly in front of the cab. If the tractor has a long hood, the trucker may not be able to see the first 10-20 feet of concrete in front of the bumper—plenty of room for a car to slip unnoticed into a dangerous position.
- If you're stopped behind a truck on an uphill grade, stay to the left in your lane so the driver can see you. When stopped in a traffic lane, leave extra space in front of your car in case the truck rolls back slightly when it starts to move.
- Dim your lights at night. Bright lights reflected in the mirrors can blind the driver.
- In rainy conditions, stay back. Spray and splash from the rear wheels can cover your windshield with sheets of water or mud.

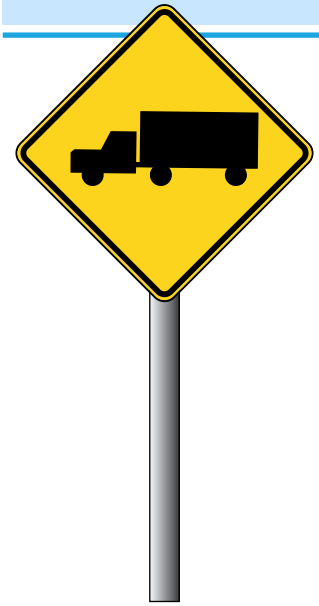


Passing a Truck

- Check to your front and rear and move into the passing lane only if it is clear and you are in a legal passing zone. Let the driver know you are passing by blinking your headlights, especially at night. The driver will make it easier for you by staying to the far side of the lane.
- Because of their weight, trucks travel faster downhill and slower uphill. You may have to increase your speed to pass a truck on a downhill grade. Complete your pass as quickly as possible and don't stay alongside the truck. After you pass, maintain your speed. Don't pass a truck, then slow down, making the truck driver brake while traveling downhill.
- If the driver blinks the truck's lights after you pass, it's a signal that you are cleared to pull back in front of the truck. Move back only when you can see the front of the truck in your rearview mirror.
- When a truck passes you, you can help the driver by keeping to the far side of your lane and reducing your speed slightly. Never speed up as a truck is passing.
- When you meet a truck coming from the opposite direction, keep as far as possible to the right side of the road to avoid being sideswiped and to reduce the wind turbulence between you and the truck. The turbulence pushes vehicles apart; it does not suck them together.

PASS TRUCKS WITH CARE AND CONFIDENCE

Many people are afraid of passing two-trailer trucks. They're afraid of the passing distance and think that maybe the second trailer could swerve out of control and hit them. Studies show that these trucks are just as safe as single-trailer trucks and you can pass them and all trucks, using care and skill, without being afraid.



Risky Situations with Trucks

A truck making a right turn—Watch for turn signals. Trucks make wide right turns and often must leave an open space on the right side. Do not move into that space or try to pass a truck if it might be making a right turn. If you are between the truck and the curb, the driver may not be able to see you and your car can be crunched or sideswiped.

A truck backing up—When a truck is trying to back into a loading dock, there may be no choice except to block the roadway for a short time. Never try to cross behind a truck when it's preparing to back up. This is a high-collision situation because you will be in the driver's blind spot. Give the driver plenty of room and wait patiently for the few minutes it takes to complete the maneuver.



SHARING THE ROAD WITH TRAINS



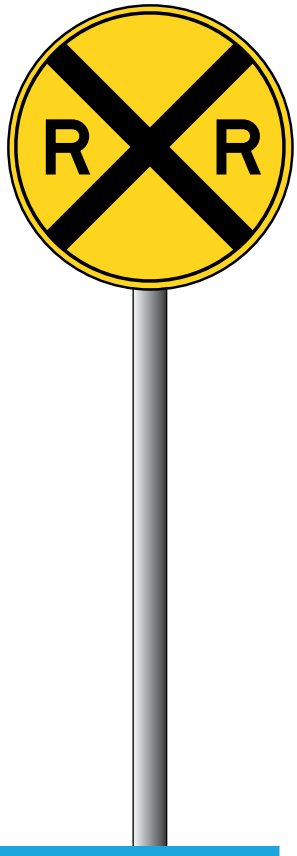
Actually, you don't share the road with trains—you stop and let them have the right-of-way. You must ALWAYS yield to trains because:

- A train traveling at 55 mph takes a mile or more to stop.

A train collision is always the fault of the car driver. Nearly half the car/train collisions in America happen at crossroads with lights, bells or gates and two-thirds of the crashes happen in full daylight. Why?

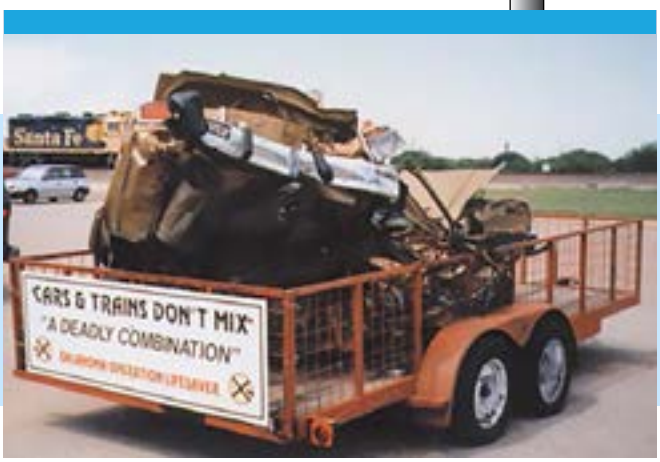
Impatience—Drivers don't want to wait the 30 seconds to 2 minutes average time it takes for the train to pass through the intersection. They try to beat the train. Don't let yourself or your family and friends be one of these statistics. In Oklahoma in 2021, there were 45 crashes involving trains, with three fatalities and 25 persons injured.

Negligence—When drivers see a railroad crossing sign or warning, they don't respect the potential for danger: they cross the tracks without looking, listening or stopping. Most collisions occur within 25 miles of the driver's home.



LOOK, LISTEN AND LIVE

Operation Lifesaver is a program to teach railroad crossing safety. Since Operation Lifesaver started in 1972, collisions like this have been reduced by 50 percent.



CHAPTER 10

THE LAW SAYS

Whenever any person driving a vehicle approaches a railroad grade crossing, the driver of such vehicle shall stop within 50 feet but not less than 15 feet from the nearest rail of such railroad and shall not proceed until they can do so safely when:

a. A clearly visible electric or mechanical signal device gives a warning of the immediate approach of a train.
b. A crossing gate is lowered or when a human flagman gives or continues to give a signal of the approach or passage of a train.
c. A train approaching within approximately 1500 feet of the highway crossing emits a signal audible from such distance and the train, by reason of its speed or nearness to such crossing, is an immediate hazard.
d. An approaching train is plainly visible and is in hazardous proximity to such crossing.



Warning Devices for Highway-Rail Crossings
All Oklahoma public highway-rail crossings have been marked with one or more of the following warning devices. Over 1,200 of these crossings have gates, lights or bells to warn you of approaching trains.

Advance Warning Signs—Advance warning signs mean a highway-rail crossing is ahead. The signs are located far enough from the crossing to allow you to stop before reaching the crossing.



Pavement Markings—An R X R and a stop line may be painted on the pavement in front of a crossing. Always stay behind the painted stop line while waiting for a passing train.

Railroad Crossbuck Signs—Crossbucks are found at most public crossings. Treat them the same as a YIELD sign—slow down and prepare to stop if you see or hear a train approaching. If there is more than one track, a sign below the crossbuck shows the number of tracks at this crossing. Knowing the number of tracks is important for knowing when to wait and when to go.



Flashing Light Signals—Flashing lights mean a train is coming. Always stop when the lights are flashing. Cross only when the lights stop flashing. If there is more than one track, make sure all tracks are clear before beginning to cross.

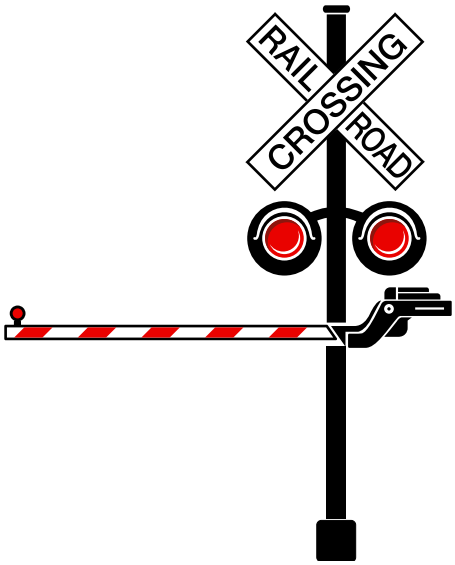
Gates and Flashing Signals—Stop when the lights begin to flash and before the gate is lowered across your lane. Remain stopped until the gates are raised and lights have stopped flashing.

Stop Sign—Stop completely and look both ways before driving across the tracks.









Safety Rules for Highway-Railway Crossings

- Slow down, keep alert and watch for the crossing sign or signal.
- Look both ways and listen because you may have to stop.
- Expect a train on any track at any time.
- Don't get trapped on the tracks. Never move onto a railroad track unless you are certain you can drive across safely. Once you have started across the tracks, keep going.
- Never drive around the gates. If the gates are down, stop behind the gate. It's against the law to drive through lowered gates. Don't cross the tracks until the gates are raised and the lights have stopped flashing.
- If you are crossing the tracks and the warning lights begin flashing or the gates start coming down, don't stop. KEEP MOVING! The warning signals will allow enough time for you to finish driving through the crossing before the train arrives. The gate on the far side of the tracks will not block you in. If you stop and try to back up, your vehicle may stall.
- Watch out for the second train. When you are at a multiple-track crossing and the last car of the train passes by, don't go until you're sure that no other train is coming on another track from either direction.

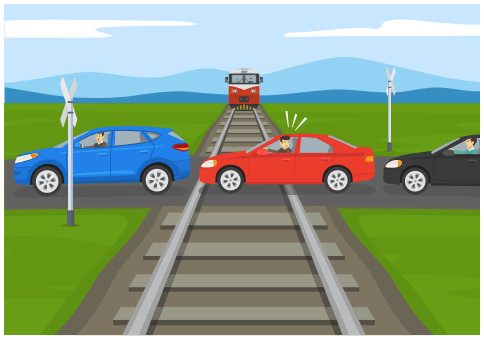
If this happens to you, remember the word "GO," as in GET OUT of your vehicle!

- Get out of your vehicle if it stalls on the tracks. If your vehicle is physically on the train tracks at a grade crossing and the lights begin to flash, you may only have 20 seconds to escape before the train makes it to your location. Twenty seconds is the minimal amount of time that it takes a train to reach the grade crossing once the warning lights activate.
- Once outside, run at a 45-degree angle away from the tracks in the direction that the train is coming, as shown in the picture to the right, then immediately dial 911
- If you are stuck on the tracks and there are no warning lights or the warning lights have not activated yet, get out of your vehicle and immediately dial 911 and the ENS (Emergency Notification System) number located on the railroad crossing posts or the metal control box near the tracks. Provide the location, crossing number (if posted) and the road or highway that intersects the tracks. Be sure to specify that a vehicle is on the tracks!

If you are stuck on the tracks and there are no warning lights or the warning lights have not activated yet, get out of the vehicle and immediately dial 911 and the Emergency Notifications System (ENS). The ENS is a blue and white emergency sign with a unique number assigned to each grade crossing and identifies the exact location of the crossing to the railroads.

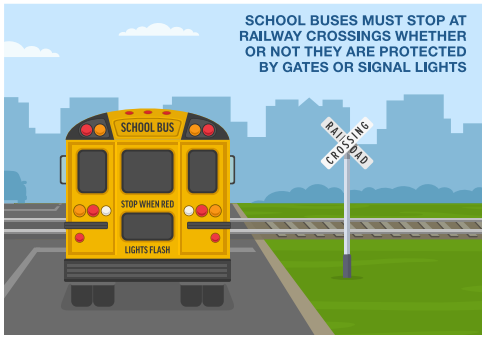
- Never race a train. You will never have a second chance if you lose the race.
- Watch for vehicles that must stop at highway-railway crossings.
  - Trucks carrying hazardous materials
  - School bus
  - Church bus
  - Passenger bus

  Be prepared to stop behind them.
- Never pass at a highway-rail crossing. Don't pass cars or bicyclists. The bicycle tires can get caught on the tracks and the rider can be thrown across your path.
- Don't misjudge the train's speed and distance. Because of the large size of a train, it appears to be moving much slower than you think. If you see or hear a train, STOP and WAIT for the train to pass.
- Be especially careful at night for highway-railway crossings. It's very hard to judge a train's speed and distance at night. If you see or hear a train, STOP and WAIT for the train to pass.











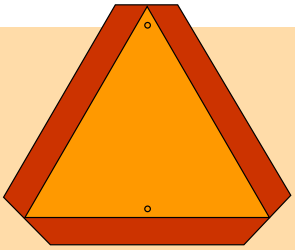
SLOW-MOVING VEHICLES

Be alert for slow-moving vehicles, especially in rural areas. Watch for tractors, combines and other farm equipment moving from one field to another and traveling on state highways. The equipment can be very large and use more than one traffic lane. In most cases, these vehicles will be traveling at less than 25 mph. Coming over the top of a hill at 65 mph to find a large, slow-moving tractor in front of you is a frightening and dangerous experience. Expect the unexpected and be prepared to protect yourself and your passengers.

In some areas of Oklahoma, you may be sharing the road with animal-drawn vehicles. They have the same rights to use the road as a motor vehicle and must follow the same rules of the road. They are subject to heavy damage and injury to the occupants if hit by a car. Warning signs will be posted in areas where you are likely to find animal-drawn vehicles. **Be alert!**

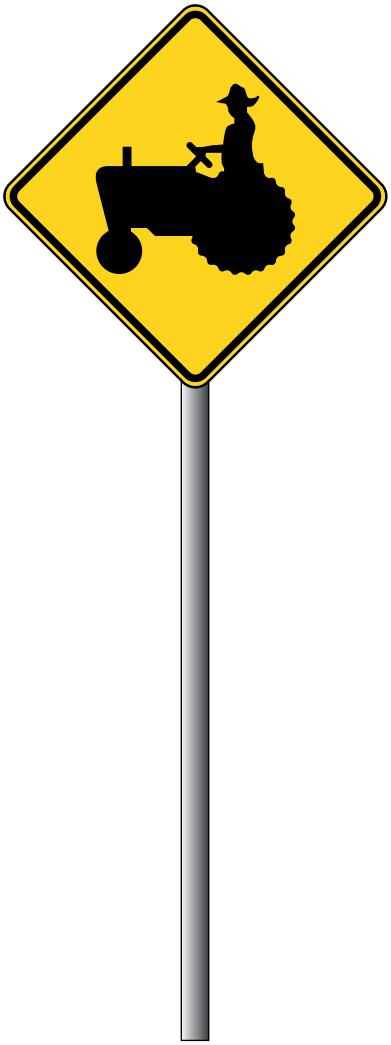


Notes



Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem

This emblem is used on Slow Moving Vehicles (SMVs) such as agricultural equipment, highway and roadside construction equipment and highway maintenance equipment traveling on public highways at speeds of 25 MPH or less.





Driving Tips



USING HIGH AND LOW HEADLIGHT BEAMS PROPERLY

Your vehicle's headlights help you see while you drive. They also make it easier for other drivers to see your vehicle. Dim your high beam headlights to low beams within 1000 feet of an oncoming vehicle or within 600 feet of the vehicle you are following. Use your headlights:

- When a road sign states that headlights must be used.
- Beginning 30 minutes after sunset and 30 minutes before sunrise.
- Use high beams in open country if there are no other cars nearby. Speed should be slower than it is by day.
- Use low beams where there are streetlights, fog, rain, snow or adverse weather conditions.

USING A STANDARD TRANSMISSION

With a standard or manual transmission, you can control the gear-speed ratio and use your gears, rather than your brakes, to help slow down your car. Many drivers enjoy the feeling and control of driving cars and trucks with a standard transmission.

Techniques for Smooth and Effective Shifting

- Hold the clutch pedal all the way down when starting the motor, shifting gears and when your speed drops below 10 mph as you're coming to a stop.
- Don't "ride the clutch," meaning don't drive with your foot resting on the clutch pedal.
- Practice getting smooth coordination in using the clutch and accelerator pedals.
- Don't coast with the gears in neutral or with the clutch pedal pushed down except when shifting gears.
- When going down steep hills, put your car in a lower gear.
- Coasting on a downgrade with the clutch engaged or the vehicle in neutral is a violation of OS§ Title 47, Chapter 11-1107.

GOOD DRIVING POSTURE

You will be driving more effectively and with less fatigue if you are comfortable, your body is well-aligned in your car seat, you are the proper distance from the steering wheel and the pedals and if you can use your mirrors to the best advantage.

- Adjust the seat to a comfortable position so you can reach the pedals easily and have good vision.
- Adjust the rearview mirror so that you can see the road behind.
- Check and adjust your left outside rearview mirror.
- Be sure there's nothing on the front seat that can fall on the floor and distract you.
- **Fasten your seat belt.**



- Use a solid, strong grip on the steering wheel:
- You should have at least 1/3 of the wheel between your hands to have a strong turning force with either hand. Think of the steering wheel as a clock. Generally, your left hand should be between 9:00 and 10:30 and your right hand between 2:00 and 4:00.
- Don't drive with your elbow out the window. You don't have full control of the steering wheel and a side-swipe collision could take off your arm.

AVOID CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

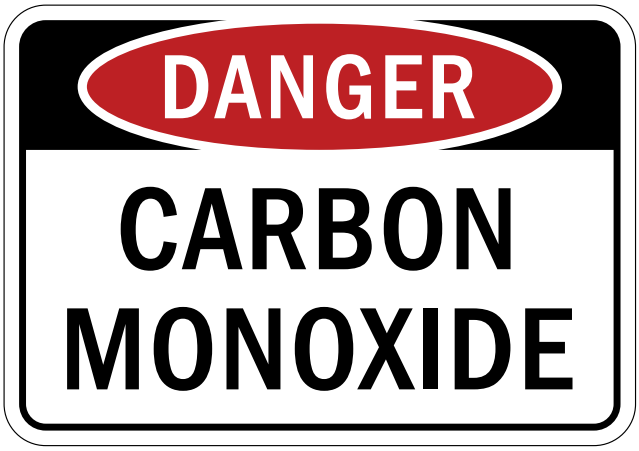
You can't see, smell or taste it, but carbon monoxide gas from your engine can kill you. Carbon monoxide is most likely to leak into your car when the heater is running, when your exhaust system is not working properly or when you're in heavy traffic and breathing exhaust fumes from other cars. A faulty exhaust system can leak poisonous fumes into the back seat area where children may be sitting or sleeping.



Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning:

- You feel drowsy and/or dizzy.
- Lights seem brighter.
- The skin has a blue color; lips turn blue.
- Your forehead tightens.

Pull off the road, park and turn off the motor. Open your windows. Relax or get out and walk around until you feel better. A child or passenger overcome with carbon monoxide may require artificial respiration or medical attention.



How to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning:

- Have your exhaust system checked regularly by a reputable mechanic.
- Be alert for any unusual roar from under the car.
- Never let the engine run in a closed garage.
- In congested traffic, close the fresh-air vent.
- On the highways in cold weather, open the fresh-air vent.

DRIVING OUT-OF-STATE

Before starting on a vacation or business trip, be sure you have a physical copy of your vehicle insurance and registration in your vehicle in accordance with Oklahoma law.

CAR PHONE SAFETY

Oklahoma law requires drivers to give their full attention to the road. Unfortunately for many Oklahomans, distracted driving is trending.

Distracted Driving is extremely risky behavior and puts you and your passengers in danger, as well as pedestrians and bicyclists sharing the road.



There are three main categories of driver distraction:

- Visual: Taking your eyes off the road
- Manual: Taking your hands off the steering wheel
- Cognitive: Thinking about anything other than driving

Distracted driving, which includes any activity that diverts attention from driving, can be very dangerous. In 2014 alone, more than 3,000 people were killed and an additional 431,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers nationwide.

Distracted driving can include eating and drinking, talking to people in your vehicle, fiddling with the stereo or texting and driving.

Safety tips for phoning while driving:

- Whenever possible, pull off the road before calling from your car.
- Do not unbuckle your seat belt to reach for a phone.
- Use the memory dial function and voice-activated dialing when possible to avoid taking your eyes off the road.
- Do not allow the phone to distract or disturb you while driving.
- DO NOT eat, drink, light a cigarette, read or write while you talk and drive.
- Make your calls as short as possible; know when to hang up.
- Ask your passenger to handle all phone calls for you.
- Know your own limits. If you recognize that using a car phone distracts you from driving safely, limit your use or simply pull off the road when you're on the phone.

As of 2015, it is illegal to text while driving in Oklahoma. Commercial drivers or public transit drivers are also prohibited from making hand-held phone calls while driving.

PAY ATTENTION – BE ALERT

In 2009, 10 fatal crashes involved a driver distracted by an electronic device. Learner's Permit or Intermediate License holders can be suspended or have their license canceled for using a hand-held electronic device while operating a motor vehicle for non-life-threatening emergency purposes.



ANIMALS

There may be a time when an animal suddenly runs in front of your vehicle. DO NOT swerve to avoid hitting the animal. This may result in a more serious crash than if your vehicle collided with the animal.

To reduce your chance of having an accident with an animal:

- Use caution when driving at dawn or dusk; this is when animals are most active.
- Be extra alert when driving on roadways marked with animal crossing signs.
- Scan the sides of the road and watch for the reflection of your headlights in the eyes of animals.
- Deer/vehicle crashes most often occur from October to December.
- Slow down when approaching an animal standing near the roadway.

EMERGENCY KIT FOR YOUR CAR

The delay and frustration from a roadside breakdown can be reduced if you're prepared for roadside emergencies. Carry these items in your car to be prepared for an emergency and to help other drivers along the road.

Emergency Kit

- Flashlight with good batteries
- Inflated spare tire and tire jack
- Oil for loosening lug nuts
- Rags
- Cell Phone
- Water
- Blanket
- Adjustable crescent wrench
- Emergency flares
- Jumper cables
- Heavy-duty lug wrench
- Windshield sunscreen or sign with "send help" on it
- Tarp
- Tire gauge and screwdriver set
- First-aid kit
- Bungee cord or strong rope
- Candles and matches



STAY ALERT . . . STAY ALIVE!

To avoid fatigue on long trips, take a break occasionally.

TRAFFIC FACTS

Oklahoma has more than 750 troopers enforcing its traffic laws and protecting 2,481,432 licensed drivers (and their passengers) on over 111,994 miles of roads. From concrete turnpikes to plain dirt roads, from flat highways in the panhandle to the winding curves of "Green Country" in the east, Oklahoma has a wide variety of terrain and driving conditions that require a variety of driving techniques. When you are licensed to drive in Oklahoma, you will be sharing the road with 3.8 million registered vehicles and 96,632 motorcycles.

FLOOD DYNAMICS

Water weighs about 62.4 pounds per cubic foot and typically flows downstream at 6 to 12 miles an hour. When a vehicle stalls in the water, the water's momentum is transferred to the car. For each foot the water rises, 500 pounds of lateral force are applied to the car. For each foot the water rises, the car displaces 1,500 pounds of water. In effect, the car weighs 1,500 pounds less for each foot the water rises! Most vehicles will float in just 2 feet (24 inches) of water, even SUVs!

All motorists should remember the following Flood Safety Rules:

- Cars can easily stall in the water and be carried away in any current.
- Most vehicles will be swept away by less than 2 feet (24 inches) of running water.
- Do not try to cross a flooded road or stream in your vehicle.

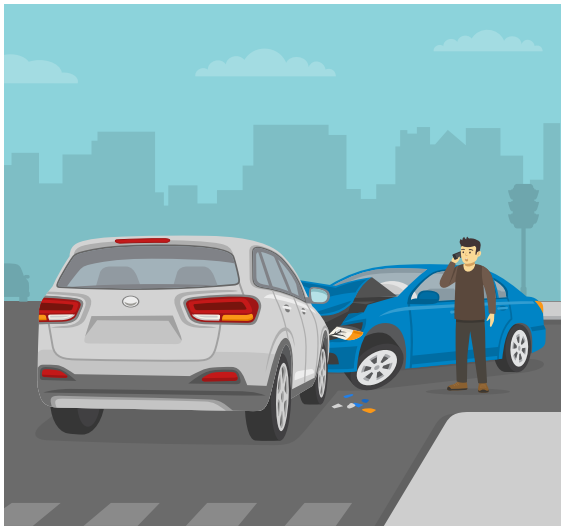


MOST VEHICLES WILL BECOME BUOYANT IN 2 FEET (24 INCHES) OF WATER OR LESS.

- Do not drive around barricades at low-water crossings.
- Be especially vigilant at night or when traveling on unfamiliar roads.
- Do not drive into or attempt to drive across flowing water.
- Observe any water level indicators at low-water crossings, remembering that 6 inches of water may be enough to cause you to lose control of your vehicle.
- Be aware that beneath the water's surface, roadbeds may have been washed away.
- If you choose to abandon your vehicle, respect the force of the water. You can be knocked off your feet by 6 inches of fast-moving water

If you encounter a flooded roadway, TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AFTER A CRASH



If you are involved in a collision that results in death, injury or property damage, you must – **Remain Calm**.

1. Stop and call 911 or local law enforcement.
2. Turn on hazard lights.
3. If anyone is hurt, you must get help immediately but DO NOT try to move an injured person unless it is a life-or-death necessity.
4. If the crash is minor and your vehicle is blocking the flow of traffic, you must move it or have it moved.
5. Exchange vehicle, witness and driver information (name, address, phone number, driver license, vehicle registration number and insurance).
6. Take photos.
7. DO NOT blame other people or accept blame, and DO NOT discuss the accident. Wait for law enforcement officers and answer questions truthfully and calmly.

If the collision involves a parked car or property and you can't locate the owner, leave the driver's and vehicle owner's name and address, and provide the information from the insurance verification form on the damaged property where the owner will find it.

The investigation officer will complete a report and place it on file. You should contact your insurance company as soon as possible, report the accident and provide the required information.

Notes

DUI

Alcohol, Drugs and Driving—Oklahoma Is Tough on DUIs



DRUGS AFFECT YOUR DRIVING

Everyone knows that mind-altering drugs like alcohol, marijuana, tranquilizers, antidepressants, speed and meth can change the way you see things and the way you react—mentally and physically. But not everyone realizes that many prescription drugs and even over-the-counter drugs (such as cold, hay fever, pain medications and diet pills) can slow your reaction time, make you dizzy or nervous and impair (damage, weaken or worsen) your concentration and vision.

You never know what will happen. The same drugs and the same amounts of drugs, will affect each person differently. Also, the same drug can affect you more at one time than another. Weight, emotional state, heart and breathing rate, food intake, amount of sleep, tolerance for a drug and other factors, can all influence the way you react to drugs. Even a small amount of alcohol or drugs will reduce your ability to judge a driving situation, decide what to do and act quickly.

Mixing drugs can be especially dangerous, because they react with each other and multiply the harmful effects on your concentration and coordination. This is especially true when one of those drugs is alcohol. Mixing alcohol and drugs may multiply the effects of the alcohol and the combination can create additional effects, including serious health problems—even death.



DOING DRUGS CAN DO YOU IN

In an emergency, you need good judgment, good physical coordination and fast reaction time to avoid injury, damage or death.

ALCOHOL—WHY DRINKING AND DRIVING IS SO DANGEROUS

Alcohol moves quickly to your stomach, into your blood and to all parts of your body. Driving skills, especially your judgment, are affected almost immediately. Alcohol puts good judgment on hold—you don't know when you've had too much to drink until it's too late. By the time you feel it, your judgment and coordination are already impaired.



Alcohol slows your reflexes and reaction time, reduces your ability to see clearly and makes you less alert. As the amount of alcohol in your body increases, your judgment will worsen and your driving skill will decrease. You will have trouble judging distances, speeds and the movement of other vehicles and you will have trouble controlling your vehicle.

Oklahoma law enforcement is tough on drunk drivers. Alcohol is responsible for about 1/4 of all highway deaths. More young people are crippled, maimed and killed by drinking and driving or by drunk drivers than by any other cause. If you drink or use drugs and drive, there is a greater possibility that you will be caught because Oklahoma has improved its laws and increased its law enforcement against drinking drivers.

IF YOU DRINK, DON'T DRIVE

Consider this sobering fact about alcohol—it's not what you drink; it's how much. A 12-ounce can of beer, a 5-ounce glass of wine and a cocktail with 1.5 ounces of 80-proof distilled spirits all contain the same amount of alcohol.

Oklahoma has tough penalties for anyone driving under the influence or impairment of alcohol and drugs, especially for drivers under 21. The consequences of arrest and conviction will remain on a driver's record. If you are arrested for driving or riding a motorcycle under the influence of drugs, the conviction and penalties can affect you for the rest of your life.

OKLAHOMA IMPLIED CONSENT LAWS

The very act of driving or being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle means that you have agreed to take one or more tests to determine your blood alcohol content (BAC). This law applies to everyone, residents and non-residents alike. Refusal to take the test upon request by a law enforcement officer will result in an automatic revocation of your driving privilege, even if you have not been drinking. If you have been drinking, the test will determine the BAC level. If the BAC level is 0.08 or more (or any measurable amount if you are under 21 years old), your driver license will be revoked—even if you are not convicted in court of driving under the influence (DUI).



THE LAW SAYS

If your license is revoked under the Oklahoma Implied Consent Law, the revocation period will be from 180 days to 2 years, depending on your previous driving record.

CRIMINAL EVIDENCE AND PENALTIES



Whether or not a BAC test indicates you are legally intoxicated is not the real issue. Impairment of judgment and skill begins well below the legal limit. Observations and information gathered by the arresting officer are also evidence that may be used in court and can result in a conviction without a BAC test. Oklahoma law prohibits driving a motor vehicle while impaired by alcohol or other substances. An alcohol concentration more than 0.05 is relevant evidence that the driver's ability to drive was impaired.

When Service Oklahoma receives notice of a conviction, Service Oklahoma will also suspend the person's driving privilege as follows:

- First suspension—30 days
- Second suspension—6 months
- Third suspension—1 year

DUI stands for "Driving Under the Influence" and means that a driver is intoxicated by drugs or alcohol or both.

If the BAC is 0.08 or more *or any measurable amount for drivers under 21* (see Zero Tolerance, page 65) or if the arresting officer's observations of the driver's behavior, appearance and mannerisms lead to a conviction for DUI, the penalties are imprisonment AND a fine.



PENALTIES FOR IMPAIRED DRIVING

BAC OVER 0.05 BUT LESS THAN 0.08

On conviction, a fine of $100–$500, up to 6 months in jail or both



PENALTIES FOR DUI—BAC .08 OR MORE

First offense

- a misdemeanor
- imprisonment in jail for not less than ten days nor more than 1 year and
- a fine of not more than $1,000

Second offense within 10 years

- a felony
- imprisonment for not less than 1 year, not to exceed 5 years and
- a fine of not more than $2,500

Second felony offense

- imprisonment for not less than 1 year, not to exceed 7 years and
- fine of not more than $5,000

Third or subsequent offense

- imprisonment for not less than 1 year, not to exceed 10 years and
- fine of not more than $5,000

When Service Oklahoma receives notice of the DUI conviction, Service Oklahoma will also suspend or revoke the person's driving privilege unless the privilege has already been revoked because the BAC test was refused or failed during the same incident. The license will be suspended as follows:

- For 180 days on the first revocation
- For 1 year, if there was a prior DUI or drug-related revocation within 10 years
- For 2 years, if there were two or more DUI or drug-related revocations within 10 years



Additional costs commonly associated with an alcohol-related arrest include:

- Lawyer's fees
- Lost time off work for court and alcohol education programs
- Alternative transportation costs while your license is suspended
- Court costs, separate from the fines
- An Alcohol and Drug Substance Abuse evaluation (ADSAC)
- An Ignition interlock device installed in your vehicle
- License reinstatement fees
- Increased insurance rates
- Psychological and emotional costs of being a "drunk driver"
- Struggle for jobs, money and education: If you are convicted of a felony for a DUI, it may adversely affect your applications for loans and financing, college admission and scholarships and more, for the rest of your life.

OTHER DRUGS AND DRIVING

The effects of drugs other than alcohol can impair your thinking and driving even more than alcohol. Remember that many prescription drugs taken in combination with alcohol or other drugs can be deadly.

Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drugs—Before you take a drug, check the label for warnings about side effects such as drowsiness or nervousness. Diet and pep pills can make you more alert for a short time, but later they can bring on nervousness, dizziness, poor concentration and distorted vision. If you aren't sure if it's safe to take the drug and drive, ask a pharmacist or doctor.

Marijuana—Research shows that people who use marijuana make more driving mistakes than other drivers, have more trouble adjusting to glare and have more arrests for traffic violations. Although the state has legalized cannabis for some medical purposes, it impairs driving performance, and it is illegal for anyone to drive with any detectable level of cannabis in their system.

Illegal Drugs—Illegal drugs are not good for your health and affect your ability to drive safely. For example, drivers on amphetamines are four times more likely to be involved in a car crash.

"ZERO TOLERANCE" FOR DRIVERS UNDER 21

Oklahoma DUI laws are very strict for people under 21. Oklahoma wants to keep its young people driving and alive (See the next section, "Additional penalties for drivers under 18," page 66.) A collision caused by mixing drinking or drugs and driving can wipe out a hopeful future. A DUI conviction for teenagers and young adults can literally ruin their lives before they have a chance to find out what life is all about.

THE LAW SAYS:

It is unlawful and punishable, as stated below, for any person under 21 years of age to drive, operate or be in actual physical control (APC) of a motor vehicle within our state who:

- Has ANY measurable quantity of alcohol in the person's blood or breath at the time a test is administered.
- Exhibits evidence of being under the influence of any other intoxicating substance; or
- Exhibits evidence of the combined influence of alcohol and any other intoxicating substance.

Lengths of License Revocation
When a person's driver license is revoked based on the "Zero Tolerance Law," the periods of revocation are as follows:

- First conviction or offense for driving under the influence (DUI), actual physical control (APC), refusal of the breath or blood test or a measurable amount of BAC, the revocation would be for a period of SIX MONTHS.
- Second conviction or offense for DUI, APC or refusal of the breath or blood test or a measurable amount of BAC, the second revocation would be for a period of 12 MONTHS.
- If you are less than 16 years of age at the time or will be less than 16 at the end of the cancellation, Service Oklahoma shall extend the cancellation until you are 16 years of age.

In addition to the mandatory revocation of the driving privilege:

Fines and Penalties
- First conviction—Fine of $100–$500 or community service or treatment program or any combination of fine, community service or treatment program.
- Second or subsequent conviction—Fine of $100–$1,000 or community service or treatment program or any combination of fine, community service or treatment program.

SAFETY TIP

Protect yourself and other people. If you drink, don't drive.

Don't let your friends drive drunk. Drinking and driving is dumb!





ADDITIONAL PENALTIES FOR PERSONS UNDER 18

If you are under the age of 18, a court is required to notify Service Oklahoma of any offense that you commit, including any crime, violation, infraction, traffic offense or other offense involving or relating to the possession, use, sale, purchase, transportation, distribution, manufacture or consumption of beer, alcohol or any beverage containing alcohol: and to any crime, violation, infraction, traffic offense or other offense involving or related to consuming, ingesting, inhaling, injecting or absorbing any controlled dangerous substance as defined by Oklahoma law; or any substance which is capable of being ingested, inhaled, injected or absorbed into the human body and is capable of adversely affecting the central nervous system, vision, hearing or other sensory or motor functions.

When the court makes this notification, Service Oklahoma is required to cancel or deny a person a driver license for a determined period of time as recommended by the court or required by law.

PENALTIES FOR PERSONS UNDER 18

At the discretion of the court, a period of:

- 6 months
- 1 year
- 2 years or until the person attains the age of 21 years, whichever period of time is longer

DUI

Notes

Violations and Penalties

If your license is suspended or revoked, you can't apply for a new license until you are reinstated and you can't legally drive until your license is restored. Driving with a suspended or revoked license is a serious crime and the punishment can be severe.

UNLAWFUL USE OF LICENSE AND/OR IDENTIFICATION CARD

Your license is a legal document, the property of the state of Oklahoma and it is against the law to use it to misrepresent yourself in any way or to allow anyone else to use your license.

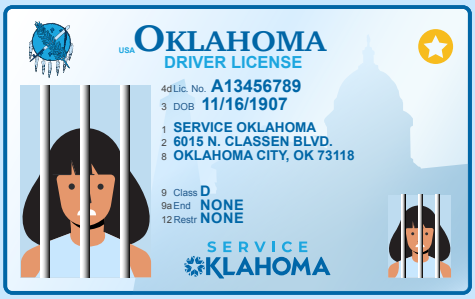
Many of the purchases of alcohol consumed by our young adults are aided by the possession of fake identification cards or driver licenses. With the increased capabilities of today's computers, a scanned identification card or driver license is easily duplicated and modified.

The Oklahoma Legislature has given the Department of Public Safety Identity Verification Unit new tools to combat fake identification cards and driver licenses by allowing the cancellation of any identification card or driver license for any of the following violations. Your ID card or driver license may be canceled if you:

- Loan your license or identification card to any other person or knowingly permit another to use it.
- Display or cause or permit to be displayed or possess a license or identification card issued to you that has altered information for the date of birth, expiration date, sex, height, eye color, weight or license card number.
- Fail or refuse to surrender to Service Oklahoma upon its lawful demand any license or identification card that has been suspended, revoked or canceled.
- Permit any unlawful use of a license or identification card issued to you.
- Create, publish or otherwise manufacture an Oklahoma or other state license or identification card or facsimile thereof or create, manufacture or possess an engraved plate or other such device for printing an Oklahoma or other state license or identification card or facsimile thereof, except as authorized by law.
- Display or cause or permit to be displayed or knowingly possess any state counterfeit or fictitious license or identification card.
- Display or cause to be displayed or knowingly possess any state license or identification card bearing a fictitious or forged name or signature.
- Display or cause or permit to be displayed or knowingly possess any state license or identification card bearing the photograph of any person, other than the person named as licensee.
- Display or represent as one's own any license or identification card not issued to you for the purpose of committing fraud in any commercial transaction or to mislead a peace officer in the performance of their duties.
- Use a false or fictitious name on any application for a license or identification card.

It's a felony for anyone who is authorized to issue licenses to knowingly participate in licensing someone not entitled to a license or who lies on the application or tries to use another person's picture.

A FAKE ID CAN GET YOU BEHIND BARS...



FOR THE NEXT 7 YEARS!

EVERY TIME YOU USE, CARRY, BORROW OR BUY A FAKE ID:

- It's a felony
- You could spend 7 years in prison
- You could face a $10,000 fine

CHAPTER 13

DRIVER'S RECORD

Some collisions, any Oklahoma court conviction for a traffic violation or any out-of-state court conviction will be put on your driving record. Your entire driving record will be maintained by Service Oklahoma and will be transferred if you apply for a license in another state. Service Oklahoma will release your 3-year driving record to you under the provisions of the Driver Privacy Protection Act upon completion of a records request form. To get a copy of a driving record:

1. Complete a records request form, which may be obtained at a licensed operator or on Service Oklahoma's website or by writing to Service Oklahoma, Records Management, P.O. Box 11415, Oklahoma City, OK 73136.
2. Records request form must be complete with your full name, date of birth and driver license number.
3. There is a $25.00 fee for a copy of your driving record. (Effective July 1, 2010)

Service Oklahoma will provide the driving record to people over 65 at no charge.

COMPLIANCE DIVISION



If you drive carelessly, if you disobey the law, if you have a drug or alcohol abuse problem that affects your driving or for any other reason you are not driving safely, you may be required to appear for a Compliance Hearing.

The Compliance Division of Service Oklahoma was created to work with drivers who will not or don't know how to drive in a safe manner. The program is designed to provide self-improvement and safer driving techniques to traffic violators and people involved in collisions.

People with physical conditions that affect their driving may be required to obtain the approval from the Compliance Division to get or retain a driver license. Oklahoma law authorizes a Medical Advisory Committee, composed of medical doctors, to recommend standards for the physical, emotional and mental capacity of license applicants and licensed drivers.

A safety course may be required that will include activities such as meeting with others for instruction or counseling, defensive driving techniques, identifying collision traps, how to decrease the risk of a collision and the importance of a proper attitude while driving.

When self-improvement does not occur or cannot be achieved, Service Oklahoma must suspend or cancel driving privileges for the safety of the individual and all other drivers on Oklahoma's streets and highways.

PROBATIONARY LICENSE

A license issued to drivers under 18 is considered probationary: You are on a trial period to show you can drive safely and legally. Service Oklahoma can, at its discretion, cancel or suspend your license for any moving traffic violation.

MANDATORY REVOCATION OF YOUR LICENSE



State law requires that the driving privilege be revoked (withdrawn) for 6 months to 3 years for a conviction of any of the following:

- Manslaughter or negligent homicide resulting from operating a motor vehicle.
- Driving or being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicants. (No additional suspension will be made if the driving privilege has already been revoked under the Implied Consent Law for the same incident. See Implied Consent Law on page 64.)
- Any felony in which a motor vehicle is used.
- Failure to stop and render aid if you are a driver involved in a collision resulting in death or personal injury (leaving the scene of a collision/hit-and-run).
- Perjury or making a false statement under oath to obtain a license or for any other legal matter relating to the ownership or operation of a motor vehicle.
- Any drug conviction (misdemeanor or felony) while using a motor vehicle.
- If under age 21, driving or being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle with any measurable quantity of alcohol.

OKLAHOMA MANDATORY POINT SYSTEM

The Mandatory Point System is a method by which Service Oklahoma monitors all driving records. Everyone starts with a clean record—no points. Each time you are convicted of a *pointable* traffic violation, you are assessed one or more points on your driving record. If you accumulate 10 or more points within 5 years, your license will be suspended.
Points can be reduced as discussed below.

A driver convicted of these offenses, in any court, anywhere, having authority over these violations, will be assessed as follows:

OFFENSE	
Violation of license restriction	2
Reckless driving	4
Careless driving	2
Speed	2
Speed in excess of 25 mph above posted limit	3
Failure to stop or remain stopped for a school bus loading or unloading	4
Following too close or improperly	2
Failure to obey stop sign or traffic light	2
Failure to yield right of way	2
Left of center or wrong way on one way	2
Operating a defective vehicle	1
All other violations (excluding the violations requiring suspension or revocation action)	1

Point Reduction

Two (2) points are deducted for each 12-month period in which there are no convictions of any *pointable* traffic violations. Points are reduced to zero if there are no traffic violation convictions for three consecutive years.

Two (2) points are deducted for successful completion of a Service Oklahoma-approved Driver Compliance or Defensive Driving Course. Credit for completing the course can be given once every 24 months. The point total cannot go below zero.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY—LIABILITY INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Chapter 3 discusses the Liability Insurance Law. It's so important that it will be repeated here:

Compulsory Liability Insurance—All Oklahoma drivers and/or vehicle owners are required by law to carry the minimum limits of liability for this state:

- $25,000 for injury or death of one person
- $50,000 for injury or death of two or more persons
- $25,000 for property damage
- All the minimum liability limits are per accident.

By law, you must show proof of insurance to a law enforcement officer or representative of Service Oklahoma when asked. If you are in a collision, you must show your proof of insurance to the other driver and to the other people involved.



FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY—PENALTY FOR NOT HAVING INSURANCE

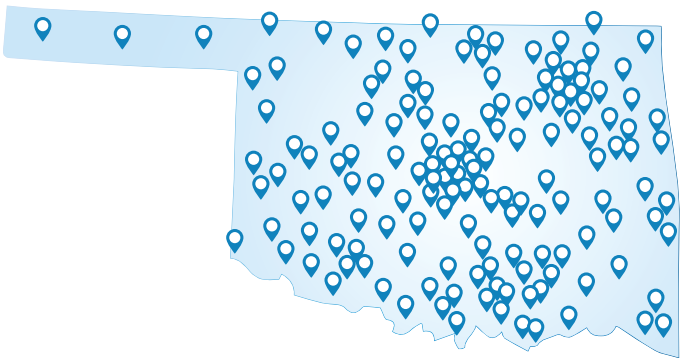
A fine of up to $250, 30 days in jail or both, PLUS suspension of license and registration upon conviction of failure to comply with the Compulsory Insurance Law or failure to produce proof of insurance to a law enforcement officer upon request.

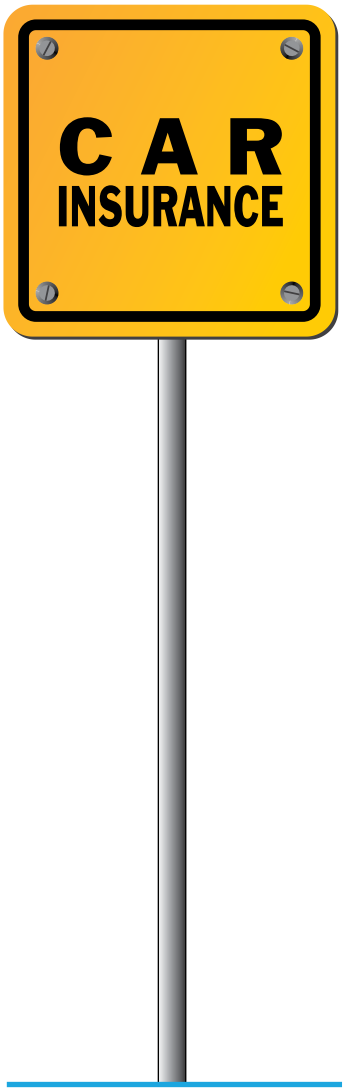
TESTING LOCATIONS

Service Oklahoma maintains driver testing facilities throughout the state. This is done to better serve the public.

Visit our website for locations where driver examinations are given. Personnel at these sites can supply information concerning the date and location of examinations within their area.

www.service.ok.gov





IMPORTANT

Service Oklahoma must have your current address on file. Failure to keep an updated address with Service Oklahoma could result in a suspension without your knowledge.

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For additional information, call **405.522.7000**.

SERVICE OKLAHOMA

Updated 11/24/25

