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## A Message from the Governor

Each year, motor vehicle crashes nationally claim nearly 42,000 lives, cause millions of injuries and cost Americans more than \$150 billion. Motor vehicle crashes, however, aren't accidents. They result from faulty decisions made by drivers.



You make some of the most important decisions before you turn the ignition key. For example, make the decision to buckle up on every ride. And make sure that everyone else in the vehicle is buckled up. Be sure that children are securely placed in a child safety seat, booster seat or safety belt, depending on their age and size.

Choose not to drink or use drugs and drive. And never ride with someone who has been drinking or using drugs. Decisions like these can literally be life savers, reducing the risk of death and serious injury if you are involved in a crash.

I am committed to reducing the number of highway fatalities in Virginia. But, I need your help. Join the Department of Motor Vehicles, Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia State Police, and local law enforcement agencies as well as many non-profit traffic safety partners in making Virginia's roads safe for everyone. Drive smart and arrive alive.

Visit us on the Internet at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com) as well.



Mark R. Warner  
Governor

## A Message from the Commissioner

Welcome to driving in Virginia. In this manual, you'll find all the information you need to obtain your driver's license.



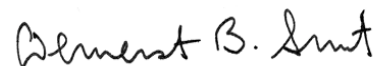
There are a few things you can do to ensure a smooth transaction when you apply for your driver's license at one of our customer service centers (CSCs) throughout the state. First, take the time to study this manual. Everything you need to know to pass the two-part knowledge exam is presented in this manual. Next, you can test your knowledge online by taking a sample knowledge exam at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com).

Pay special attention to Section I of the manual, describing the documents that you will need to prove your identity and Virginia residency. If you have questions about which documents to present, contact DMV before you visit.

[www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com)  
Toll Free: 1-866-DMV-LINE (368-5463)  
or 1-800-435-5137  
TDD: 1-800-272-9268

As you prepare to obtain your driver's license, remember that driving is a privilege that requires you to operate your vehicle in a safe and lawful manner. This manual will help you gain the knowledge necessary to fulfill that responsibility.

Don't forget – buckle up on every trip, make sure everyone in your vehicle is buckled-up, never drink and drive, and always obey the motor vehicle laws.



Demerst B. "D.B." Smit  
DMV Commissioner

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## Alternative Formats for Virginians With Special Needs

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) offers the Virginia Driver's Manual in alternate formats for Virginians with special needs in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act. Contact DMV toll free at 1-866-DMV-LINE (368-5463).

## A DMV-issued Personal Identification Number (PIN)

A DMV-issued PIN allows you to access your records and conduct transactions on DMV's web site, extraTeller and touchtone telephone system. Apply for your PIN at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com) or by telephone (1-888-337-4782) or at any extraTeller.

# The Driver Licensing Process... and Obtaining a Photo ID Card

The Department of Motor Vehicles wants to ensure your safety when operating a motor vehicle. One way to keep Virginia's highways safe is through the careful licensing of drivers. The following sections explain the steps that you will follow to obtain your Virginia driver's license, learner's permit or photo ID card.



## Qualifying for Your Virginia Driver's License

### First-time Drivers

#### At least 16 years and 3 months

You must be a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia and at least 16 years and 3 months of age to obtain a Virginia driver's license. To obtain a learner's permit, you must be at least 15 years and 6 months of age. No exceptions will be made to these age requirements.

#### Under age 18

If you are under age 18, you must provide written consent from one of your parents or your legal guardian unless you are married or emancipated.

#### Under age 19

If you are under age 19, you must complete a state-approved driver education program.

#### 19 years of age or older

If you are 19 years of age or older, and you have not previously held a driver's license, you must show proof that

- you passed a state-approved driver education course, or,
- you held a learner's permit at least 30 days before taking the DMV road skills test.

If you are under age 18, your learner's permit or driver's license application must be signed by your father, mother or spouse over age 18. If your parents are deceased or do not have legal custody of you, your application must be signed by your custodial parent, legal guardian or the judge of the juvenile and domestic relations court in your locality. A court order showing that you are an emancipated minor is acceptable in lieu of written consent. If you are a foreign exchange student, your host parents are not eligible to sign your application.

If you previously have been found not innocent of any offense by a juvenile and domestic relations court in Virginia or any other state, you must obtain approval to be licensed from that court or a court in the city or county where you live.

#### Under age 18

#### Juvenile and domestic relations court

## Section 1

## Section 1: The Driver Licensing Process... And Obtaining a Photo ID Card

### Learner's Permit

#### 15 years and 6 months

You may get your learner's permit when you reach 15 years and 6 months of age. It allows you to operate a motor vehicle when a licensed driver at least 21 years of age is seated beside you. The driver accompanying you may be 18 years of age if he or she is your legal guardian, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, step-brother or step-sister. The driver accompanying you must hold a valid driver's license, be alert and able to assist you and be legally permitted to drive.

When you apply for a learner's permit, you will also complete the application process for your driver's license and pay the fees for both the permit and license. You will be required to pass the two-part knowledge exam and a vision screening.

#### Under age 19

If you are under age 19, you must hold the permit for at least nine months or until you turn age 19 before you can receive a driver's license. You will receive a certificate when you complete a required state-approved driver education program. Your parent/guardian must also certify that you have driven at least 40 hours. Ten of the forty hours must be completed after sunset. You will not be required to take a road skills test at DMV to get your driver's license.

#### Home schooler

If you are a home schooler, refer to the "Home-Schooled In-Car Driver Education Information Sheet," HS-3, for the criteria you must satisfy to meet your driver's education requirements. This publication is available at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com) or at any DMV customer service center.

### Driver Education Requirements

#### Under age 19

If you are a Virginia resident under age 19, you must complete a state-approved driver education program and hold your Virginia learner's permit for at least nine months.

If you are a Virginia resident 19 years of age or older, you must hold a learner's permit for at least 30 days or show proof of completion of a state-approved driver education program.

Driver education programs are available statewide to students, adults and out-of-school youths. Public and private school programs are approved by the Department of Education. Commercial driver training schools follow the same course content and are licensed by DMV.

The program must present 36 classroom periods. It must include components about alcohol safety, drug abuse awareness, aggressive driving, distracted driving, motorcycle awareness and organ and tissue donation awareness. It must also include 14 in-car instruction periods—7 periods of driving and 7 periods of observation.

If you are a home schooler, the classroom and/or behind-the-wheel portions can be taught at home. Visit the DMV web site for suppliers of approved courses. Refer to the "Home-Schooled In-Car Driver Education Information Sheet," HS-3, for additional information.

You will receive a driver education completion certificate when you successfully complete a state-approved driver education program. A copy of your certificate will be sent by your school instructor to DMV for issuance of a permanent driver's license. If you are a home schooler, you must visit a DMV office and successfully complete the road skills test. Refer to the "Home-Schooled In-Car Driver Education Information Sheet," HS-3, for additional information.

If you currently hold a valid out-of-state license but do not have proof of driver education, you may be issued a Virginia six-month temporary license. This will give you time to obtain proof or to complete a state-approved driver education program.

**19 years of age or older**

**Driver education programs are available statewide**





## Getting your First License

### Your first license!

If you are under 18 years of age, your parent or legal guardian must sign the certificate to verify your academic standing and to authorize issuance of your driver's license. If you are between ages 16 years and 3 months and age 18, your driver education certificate (signed by your parent or legal guardian) and your valid learner's permit (held for at least nine months) allow you to drive without a licensed driver beside you.

### Licensing ceremony

After you have held your permit nine months, turned age 16 and 3 months and completed driver education, you will receive a notice that tells you when to appear in court for a licensing ceremony. You will receive your permanent driver's license at the licensing ceremony.

### Selective Service registration

Generally, males under age 26 must register with the Selective Service. If you are required by federal law to register with Selective Service, you must authorize DMV to send your personal information to Selective Service unless you have already registered. If you are under age 18, your parent or guardian must sign your application authorizing the Selective Service to register you when you turn 18. Law prohibits DMV from issuing any type of driver's license or photo ID card to an applicant who is required by federal law to register with the Selective Service but who refuses to authorize DMV to send his information to the Selective Service. If you have questions about Selective Service registration, call 847-688-6888, TTY: 847-688-2567.

## Restrictions

### Special Restrictions

If you have a mental or physical condition that may impair your ability to safely operate a motor vehicle, even temporarily, you must provide DMV with a medical statement from your doctor. Some of these conditions include loss of consciousness, seizures, vision changes, impairment of judgement or loss of motor functions. DMV will evaluate the medical information to determine if a driver's license may be issued or restricted.

### Mental or physical conditions

### Curfew Restrictions

Virginia's curfew laws prohibit drivers under age 18 who hold a learner's permit or driver's license from driving midnight to 4 AM. If you hold a driver's license you may drive during these hours:

### Midnight to 4 AM curfew



- in case of an emergency;
- when traveling to and from work or a school-sponsored event;
- when accompanied by a parent or other adult acting in place of a parent;
- when responding to an emergency call by volunteer firefighter and rescue squad personnel.

### Passenger Restrictions

If you are under age 18, you may carry only one passenger during the first year that you hold your driver's license. After you have held your license for one year, you may carry only three passengers until you reach age 18. Learner's permit holders may not carry more than one passenger under age 18. Passenger restrictions do not apply to family members. Violation of either the passenger or curfew restrictions can result in the suspension of your driver's license.



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### Cancellation of permit or license

While you are a minor and if you are unmarried or unemancipated, your father, mother, custodial parent, legal guardian or the judge of the juvenile and domestic relations court in your locality may ask DMV to cancel your permit or license. If cancelled, you cannot reapply for six months.

### Deny or suspend driving privileges

DMV can deny or suspend driving privileges for persons under age 18 if the juvenile is found delinquent by a court, in need of supervision, involved in an alcohol or drug-related offense, or needs court-assigned services or programs such as counseling.

### Out-of-State Students

If you are enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited school in Virginia and not employed, you may drive in Virginia with a valid out-of-state (or another country) driver's license and valid out-of-state license plates on your vehicle. If you are a full-time student and employed, you are considered a resident of Virginia for the purposes of motor vehicle laws only. This does not necessarily qualify you for in-state tuition rates. Therefore, you must apply for a Virginia driver's license and register your vehicle in Virginia. You must register the vehicle in Virginia even if it is owned by someone else.

### Enrolled as a full-time student

### New Residents

#### Already have a license from someplace else?

If you hold a valid driver's license issued by a U.S. state, territory, jurisdiction, a Canadian province, France or Germany, you may not be required to take the two-part knowledge exam or the road skills test, but you must pass a vision screening. Canadian or U.S. licenses must be surrendered when you apply for a Virginia driver's license. Be sure to photocopy your out-of-state driver's license—you may need it for insurance or licensing purposes.

If your license has been suspended or revoked by another state, a Virginia license may not be issued until your driving record in that state is cleared and you meet Virginia requirements.

### Non-residents

If you are a non-resident temporarily living in Virginia, you may drive with your home state or country driver's license and license plates for no more than six months. This does not apply to commercial vehicle drivers. Contact your local DMV customer service center for more information or call toll free 1-866-DMV-LINE (1-866-368-5463) or 1-800-435-5137.

### Temporarily living in Virginia

### Exchanging Your Out-of-State License (Juvenile Applicants Only)

DMV may exchange your out-of-state license for a Virginia license if you meet the following conditions:

### Exchanging your license

- You are at least age 16 and three months but under age 19 and hold a valid license; and
- You have successfully completed a driver education program while residing in another state and the program meets the minimum of 30 classroom hours and six in-car instruction hours and;
- You can present proof of identity, Virginia residency, and your social security number. After January 1, 2004, you will also need to show proof of legal presence.

### Active-duty members of the Armed Forces

#### Military Personnel

If you are an active-duty member of the Armed Forces stationed in Virginia, you, your spouse and dependent children 16 years and 3 months of age or older may drive with a valid driver's license issued by your home state or country. Vehicles registered in your name may be driven with valid out-of-state license plates if you are the sole owner. If the vehicle is co-owned, all co-owners must be active-duty members of the Armed Forces. You may register your vehicle in Virginia without obtaining a Virginia driver's license.

## Section 1: The Driver Licensing Process... And Obtaining a Photo ID Card

If you hold a current out-of-state driver's license but do not have proof of driver education, you may be issued a Virginia six-month temporary license. This will give you time to obtain proof or complete a state-approved driver education program.

### Local sticker or decal

- You must also obtain a local sticker or decal if required by the city or county in which you live. Contact the commissioner of the revenue, treasurer or director of finance for the city, county or town in which you live for more information. Some localities partner with DMV and you will pay your local registration fee at the same time you obtain your state registration and license plates.

### New Virginia residents

#### If you're a new Virginia resident,

Within **60** days of moving here, you must obtain a Virginia driver's license.

Within **30** days of moving here, you must:

- Title your vehicle in Virginia.
- Register your vehicle and obtain Virginia license plates.

Prior to registering your vehicle, you must:

- Obtain a Virginia safety inspection sticker. Your vehicle must pass a safety equipment state inspection and, in certain Virginia localities, your vehicle also must pass an emissions inspection.
- Insure your vehicle with a company authorized to do business in Virginia. At a minimum, your insurance policy must provide the following liability insurance coverage:
  - \$25,000 for injury or death of one person;
  - \$50,000 for injury or death of two or more people; and
  - \$20,000 for property damage.
- Insure your Virginia-registered vehicle during the entire registration period even if it is not driven or is inoperable. If the vehicle is not insured, you must cancel the registration and return the license plates to DMV.
- If your vehicle is not insured, you must pay a \$500 uninsured motor vehicle fee. This does not provide insurance coverage, but allows you to register and operate the vehicle in Virginia for a one-year period.

### Safety inspection

### Insurance

### Organ/Tissue Donation

- When you apply for your driver's license, learner's permit or photo ID card, you will be asked if you wish to become an organ donor. If you decide to become a donor, your choice will be noted on the front of your driver's license or photo ID card. If you wish to change your decision later, you must notify DMV and pay a \$10.00 fee. You may also complete this transaction on the Internet with a DMV-issued PIN number. Or, you may have the change made free of charge at your next renewal. The decision to become an organ/tissue donor is yours. Your decision will not affect your driving privileges.
- If you wish to become an organ/tissue donor, you must be at least 18 years of age. If you are under age 18, you must obtain your parent's or legal guardian's written consent.
- Need more information? Ask any DMV representative or call 1-800-847-7831.

**Voter registration or changing your voter registration mailing address**

## Applying to Register to Vote

You may apply to register to vote or to change your voter registration mailing address at any DMV office. Just fill out and sign the voter registration section of the driver's license application or ask your DMV representative for assistance.

To apply to register to vote in Virginia, you must be a United States citizen, a resident of Virginia, and be 18 years old by the next general election. You must have had your voting rights restored if you have been convicted of a felony or if you have been declared mentally incompetent and had your competency declared restored by a circuit court.

**Check your registration status online**

To check your voter registration status, visit DMV's website at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com). To protect your privacy, you must first obtain a DMV-issued Personal Identification Number (PIN). You may also call your local registrar or contact the State Board of Elections at 1-800-552-9745 or TDD 1-800-260-3466.

## Types of Virginia Driver's Licenses

### Commercial Driver's License

In addition to the driver's license and photo ID card, Virginia issues a commercial driver's license (CDL) which allows you to operate tractor-trailers, passenger buses, tank vehicles, school buses for 16 or more occupants, or vehicles carrying hazardous materials. For more information about obtaining a CDL, refer to the *Virginia Commercial Driver's Manual*, available at any DMV customer service center and at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com).

### School Bus Driver's License

If you wish to operate a school bus designed to carry 15 occupants (including the driver), you do not need to obtain a commercial driver's license.

However, you will need to take the commercial driver and school bus tests to obtain the school bus endorsement on your driver's license. You will be restricted to driving a bus designed to carry 15 occupants (including the driver). This restriction will be printed on your license. For information about licensing requirements to operate larger school buses, refer to the *Virginia Commercial Driver's Manual*.

### Motorcycle Driver's License

If you wish to operate a motorcycle in Virginia, you must pass the driver's license two-part knowledge exam, the motorcycle knowledge exam and the motorcycle road skills test. If you already hold a driver's license, you may add a Class M to your license. If you do not hold a driver's license, you may obtain a driver's license with a class M that only allows you to operate a motorcycle. For more information refer to the *Virginia Motorcycle Operator Manual*, available at any DMV customer service center or at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com).

### Motorcycle Learner's Permit

- You must pass the motorcycle knowledge exam.
- If you do not currently hold a valid learner's permit or driver's license, you must also pass the driver's license two-part knowledge exam.
- If you are under age 19, you must hold the motorcycle learner's permit for at least nine months.
- This learner's permit allows you to operate a motorcycle between one half hour after sunrise and one half hour before sunset. In other words, you may operate the motorcycle only during daylight hours.
- You are not allowed on limited access highways, such as interstate highways.
- You must wear an approved safety helmet.

**Always wear an approved safety helmet**



- You must be supervised by a person at least 21 years of age who is licensed to operate a motorcycle; alert and able to assist you and supervising from a separate accompanying motorcycle. Your parent, legal guardian or sibling may supervise if they are licensed to operate a motorcycle and are age 18 or older. No one, other than the operator, can be on the motorcycle.
- If you pass the Virginia Rider Training Program, the motorcycle skills test is waived.

### International Driver's License

#### Foreign translation

An international driver's license is a foreign translation of your existing DMV driver's license for use when driving a vehicle outside the United States. It is invalid alone and must be used along with your valid DMV license in order to operate vehicles when you are out of the country. These licenses are issued by your local AAA but are not issued to persons whose driving privilege is under suspension or revoked.

If you are visiting in the U.S. from a foreign country, you may drive using your driver's license issued by your home country. This license should be accompanied by an international driver's license which provides a translation of your license. International driver's licenses marketed by private sector businesses do not allow you to legally operate a motor vehicle.

### Obtaining a Photo ID Card

- You must be a resident of Virginia to obtain a photo ID card.
- You cannot hold an ID card if you hold any type of driver's license.
- ID cards have no age restrictions and are available for adults or children.
- ID cards are valid for five years from the date of issuance.
- Children's ID cards are valid for five years or until the child's 15th birthday, whichever occurs first.
- An ID card costs \$10.00.

**You cannot hold an ID card if you hold any type of driver's license**

### Steps to Obtaining Your Driver's License or Photo ID Card

#### Complete the Application Process

**Application forms**

When applying for an original learner's permit, driver's license or photo ID card, you must complete an application for a Virginia license (form DL 1M). For a child ID card (under age 15) complete the DL 5, Identification Card for Minors Application.

You may complete these forms before or after coming to DMV. Use your full legal name. Abbreviations and nicknames will not be accepted.

You cannot hold any type of driver's license while simultaneously holding a photo ID card. If you hold a learner's permit, driver's license, or commercial driver's license (CDL), you may not hold a photo ID card.

**You cannot hold a driver's license and a photo ID card**



## Section 1: The Driver Licensing Process... And Obtaining a Photo ID Card

### Learner's permit or driver's license

To apply for a learner's permit or driver's license, you must show

- Two proofs of identity;
- One proof of Virginia residency plus a piece of postmarked mail addressed to you at the address on your DMV application;
- Proof of your social security number (SSN) or a letter from the Social Security Administration stating that you do not have an SSN;
- After January 1, 2004, you will also be required to show proof of legal presence.

To apply for a photo ID card, you must show

- Two proofs of identity;
- One proof of Virginia residency plus a piece of postmarked mail addressed to you at the address on your DMV application;
- After January 1, 2004, you will also be required to show proof of legal presence.

### Photocopies will not be accepted

Photocopies will not be accepted. All documents must be originals and all documents may be subject to verification with the issuing authority prior to acceptance.

### Acceptable documents

Be sure to refer to "Acceptable Documents for Obtaining a Driver's License or Photo ID Card" (DMV 141) for a list of acceptable documents.

### Proof of identity

**Proof of Identity:** Documents submitted as primary proof of identity must show your full legal name and date of birth. Nicknames and abbreviations will not be accepted. You must present at least one document from the primary list of documents. The second proof of identity may come from either the primary list or the secondary list. If two of your proofs of identity are issued by the same entity, such as the same state agency, DMV may require additional proof of identity docu-

ments. If you are under age 19, you will need only one proof of identity but it must come from the primary list of identity documents.

A U.S. birth certificate or unexpired U.S. passport will serve as a primary proof of identity. Effective January 1, 2004, these documents will also serve as proof of your legal presence in the U.S.

**Social security number:** If you are applying for a learner's permit or driver's license, you will be required to provide proof of your social security number (SSN). If you do not have an SSN, you will be required to provide a letter from the Social Security Administration stating this. If you are applying for a photo ID card, you do not have to provide an SSN.

DMV will immediately verify all SSNs with the Social Security Administration. If the SSN you present does not match the SSN on file at the Social Security Administration, DMV will not issue you a driver's license or learner's permit.

DMV will assign you a customer number which will display on your driver's license or learner's permit. If you wish to change your DMV-assigned number in the future, you may be required to present documentation from law enforcement or the courts indicating that you may be a victim of identity theft.

**Proof of Virginia residency:** You must provide one proof of Virginia residency and you must provide DMV with the street address of your principal Virginia residence. You must also provide one piece of postmarked mail addressed to you at your principal Virginia residence. If you are under age 19, your parent or legal guardian may certify your Virginia residency.

### Social security number

### DMV-assigned customer number

### Proof of Virginia residency

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**Proof of legal presence**

*Proof of legal presence:* Effective January 1, 2004, all applicants for a driver's license or photo ID card must show proof of legal presence in the United States. A U.S. birth certificate or unexpired U.S. passport will serve as both proof of identity and proof of legal presence. For a list of other documents that you can use to prove your legal presence in the United States, refer to "Acceptable Documents for Obtaining a Driver's License or Photo ID Card" (DMV 141). This form is available at any DMV customer service center and also online at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com).

DMV with an alternate address in addition to your residence address. This alternate address must also be in Virginia.

If you change your residence or alternate address to a location outside Virginia, your driver's license or photo ID card will be cancelled.

Exceptions may be made for some individuals such as active duty military personnel and Virginia residents employed outside the U.S. Refer to "Re-establishing Your Virginia Residency or Qualifying for a Virginia Address Requirement Exception," DMV 143, for information about the exception process. This publication is available at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com) or at any DMV office.

**Outside of Virginia**

**Legal presence**

**Proof of Legal Presence**

A proof of legal presence document shows that you are in the United States legally. After January 1, 2004, all applicants for an original driver's license or photo ID card must show proof of legal presence, including individuals born in the United States.

Generally, if you were born in the U.S., you will prove your legal presence just once when you apply for your original driver's license or photo ID card. You can prove your legal presence with your U.S. birth certificate or your unexpired U.S. passport. There may, however, be some situations where you will be asked to show proof of legal presence again.

People who were born outside of the U.S. and who are not U.S. citizens can prove their legal presence in the U.S. with a wide array of documents. Refer to "Acceptable Documents for Obtaining a Driver's License or Photo ID card," DMV-141, for additional information about the documents you can use to prove your legal presence. This publication is available at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com) and at any DMV customer service center.

**Acceptable Documents**

Information about documents that DMV will accept as proof of identity, residency and social security number is presented in "Acceptable Documents for Obtaining a Driver's License or Photo ID Card" (DMV 141). This form is available at any DMV customer service center and also online.

Photocopies will not be accepted. All documents must be originals and all documents must be verified with the issuing authority.

DMV will not accept any document when there is reason to believe it has been altered, fraudulently obtained or is fake, forged, counterfeit or otherwise non-genuine or illegitimate. DMV may require additional documents.

Falsifying information on a driver's license, learner's permit or photo identification card application is a criminal offense. Altering or assisting a person with improperly or fraudulently obtaining a driver's license, learner's permit or photo ID card are also criminal offenses.

Documents accepted by DMV as proof of identity, social security number and Virginia residency and legal presence (after January 1, 2004) may change without prior notice.

**Be prepared. Bring acceptable documents with you when you visit DMV**

**Name and address**

All documents must show your name and the address of your principal residence as it appears on your application. A post office box or business address is not acceptable. However, if you do not want your residence address to appear on your driver's license or photo ID card, you may provide

## Section 1: The Driver Licensing Process... And Obtaining a Photo ID Card

### Take the Required Tests

Tests will include a vision screening and may include a two-part knowledge exam and a road skills test. A DMV representative will tell you which tests you need to take.

#### Vision screening, two-part knowledge exam and road skills test

*To screen your vision*, you will be asked to look into a machine and read the lines of letters or numbers to the DMV representative. This screening determines whether your eyesight and peripheral vision meet Virginia's standards to safely operate a motor vehicle.

#### Two-part knowledge exam

*The two-part knowledge exam* is given on a computer and tests your knowledge of traffic signs, motor vehicle laws, and safe driving techniques. Exam questions are taken from information in this manual.

All ten traffic sign questions in Part One must be answered correctly before you can take the 25-question general knowledge exam in Part Two. Part Two consists of 25 multiple choice questions. You must score at least 80 percent on these questions to pass Part Two.

#### If you fail

If you fail the exam and are under age 18, you must wait 15 days before you can retake the exam. If you are age 18 or older, you must pay the \$2.00 re-examination fee if you re-take the exam within 15 days.

#### Once per business day

The exam may be taken only once per business day. If necessary, the knowledge exam may be taken using a translator provided by you. Oral exams are given in all DMV customer service centers. The exam is also offered in Spanish.

#### Don't!

It is unlawful to

- receive assistance or to assist anyone while taking the knowledge exam;



- to attempt to secure or provide answers to any parts of the exam;
- to have unauthorized possession of an exam or exam answers; or
- to use a cell phone during the exam.

Go online at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com) to take a sample knowledge exam.

*You will need to take the road skills test* if you do not hold a valid out-of-state, Canadian, German or French driver's license. You must provide a vehicle for the road skills test. The vehicle must have a valid inspection sticker, license plates, registration card, and working brakes, safety belts, horn, lights, turn signals, mirrors and speedometer.

#### Road skills test

For applicants under 19, the road skills test will be given as part of the driver education course taken at a public, private or commercial driving school. If you are a home schooler, refer to the "Home-Schooled In-Car Driver Education Information Sheet," HS-3, for more information about taking the road skills test.

#### Applicants under 19

The road skills test will be administered by a DMV representative. Only the applicant and the DMV representative are allowed in the vehicle during the road skills test. The test may be taken only once per business day. You may only take the road skills test three times during a three-month period.

#### Once per business day





**Vision Standards**

The vision screening determines if you meet Virginia’s vision standards for operating a motor vehicle safely. It is not a medical exam. If you fail the vision screening, you may be asked to see an eye care professional.

If you need to wear glasses or contact lenses to pass the vision screening, you must wear them when you drive. Your license will show this restriction. To have this restriction removed after having laser surgery to correct your vision, you must visit a DMV customer service center and pass the vision screening without wearing glasses or contact lenses or submit a Vision Screening Report (MED4).



DMV’s vision screening is not an eye exam and is not intended to be an indicator of the health of your eyes. We strongly encourage all drivers to visit their eye care professional on a regular basis.

**Driver’s license:**

- 20/40 or better vision in one or both eyes, and
- 100 degrees, or better, horizontal vision in one or both eyes.

**Driving restricted to daylight hours only:**

- 20/70 or better vision in one or both eyes, and
- 70 degrees, or better, horizontal vision. If only one eye, 40 degrees or better temporal and 30 degrees or better nasal are required.

A restricted license permits you to drive only during the period of time beginning one-half hour after sunrise and ending one-half hour before sunset.

**Bioptic Telescopic Lenses:** If you wear bioptic telescopic lenses, contact DMV toll-free at 1-866-368-5463 (DMV-LINE) to find out about vision requirements.

**Make Your Payment**

**Cash,  
money  
order,  
check or  
major  
credit card**

You may pay the licensing fee with cash, money order, check or major credit card. Your Virginia driver’s license and learner’s permit always expire on your birthday and generally will expire when you reach an age that is divisible by five – 20, 25, 30, 35, etc. After January 1, 2004, the length of time that a driver’s license is valid may be affected by your legal presence status.

The licensing fee is \$4.00 per year; so, your fee will range from \$12.00 to \$28.00. A learner’s permit costs \$3.00 plus the yearly cost of a driver’s license.

Driver’s license.....	\$4.00 per year
Motorcycle class .....	\$2.00 per year
Learner’s permit .....	\$3.00 plus \$4.00 per year
Motorcycle learner’s permit .....	\$3.00
Replacement license.....	\$10.00
90-day temporary driver’s license.....	\$10.00
Re-examination fee.....	\$2.00 (if taken within 15 days)

For example, a five-year driver’s license will cost \$20.00. You may pay your fees with cash, money order, check, or major credit card.



## Section 1: The Driver Licensing Process... And Obtaining a Photo ID Card

### Complete the Process

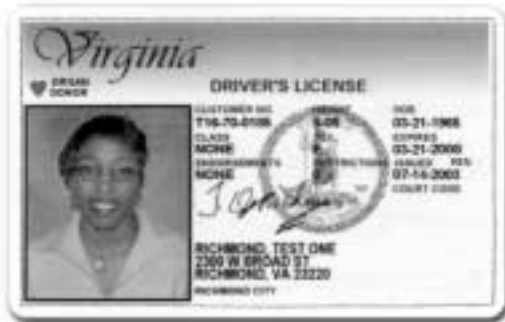
#### You passed!

Once you pass your required testing, a DMV representative will take your photograph and ask you to sign a signature pad.

In most circumstances, your photograph and information will be processed while you wait. Your name will be called when your driver's license or learner's permit is ready.

#### First-time driver's licenses

All first-time driver's licenses issued to persons under age 18 are sent to the judge of your local juvenile and domestic relations court. The court will notify you by mail about when and where you and your parent, custodial parent or legal guardian must appear to receive your license.



A vertical driver's license, learner's permit or photo ID will be issued to persons under age 21. Dates showing when the individual turns 18 and 21 are shown in red.



A horizontal driver's license is issued to persons age 21 and above. You may obtain a horizontal license when you turn age 21 for \$10.00.

### Replacing, Renewing or Updating Your Driver's License and Obtaining Your Driving Record

#### Renewing Your Driver's License

Your Virginia driver's license and learner's permit always expire on your birthday and generally will expire when you reach an age that is divisible by five--20, 25, 30, 35, etc. After January 1, 2004, the expiration date of your driver's license may be affected by your legal status in the United States. Your first driver's license will be valid for three to seven years, depending on your age when the license is issued. When you renew your license, it will generally be valid for five years. You may renew your driver's license as early as two years prior to the expiration date on your license.

You may be able to renew your driver's license every other renewal cycle at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com), extraTeller, by telephone 1-888-337-4782, or mail.

**Renew online, by mail or phone!**

However, you must complete your driver's license renewal at a DMV customer service center if any of the following conditions exist:

- you are required to take the two-part knowledge exam;
- you have received two or more traffic violations (one or more if you are under age 21) since your last renewal;
- your license has been expired for more than one year
- your license is suspended or revoked;
- you hold a CDL;
- you are under medical review; or
- other conditions may apply.

**SSN verification**

You must also renew in person if your social security number (SSN), name or date of birth on file at DMV does not match your information on file with the Social Security Administration or if you do not have an SSN on file. Your SSN, name and date of birth on file with DMV must match the information on file with the Social Security Administration before DMV will renew your driver's license. If you do not have an SSN, you must provide a letter from the Social Security Administration that verifies this.

**Eligibility requirements**

For a complete list of eligibility requirements, including social security number requirements, refer to "Acceptable Documents for Obtaining a Driver's License or Photo ID Card" (DMV 141), available online, or call 1-866-DMV-LINE (368-5463). Your renewal notice will indicate if you are eligible to use an alternative renewal method.

You cannot hold a photo ID card if you hold any type of driver's license. If you currently hold both a driver's license and a photo ID card, you will be required to surrender your photo ID card before you can renew your driver's license.

**Replacing Your Driver's License**

To obtain a replacement driver's license you must present two forms of identification (one primary and one secondary or two primary documents). Refer to "Acceptable Documents for Obtaining a Driver's License or Photo ID Card" (DMV 141) for a list of acceptable documents. Photocopies will not be accepted. DMV may verify any document with the issuing entity prior to replacing your driver's license.

You may also complete this transaction online at [www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com) using a DMV-issued PIN, unless you are under age 18, your license is suspended or revoked, you hold a Commercial Driver's License (CDL), or you are under medical review. Other conditions may affect your eligibility to replace your license online. The cost is \$10.00.

If you currently hold both a driver's license and a photo ID card, you will be required to surrender your photo ID card before you can receive a replacement license.

**Changing Your Address or Name**

You must notify DMV within 30 days if you change your address. You must provide DMV with the street address of your principal Virginia residence. A post office box or business address is not acceptable and your principal address must be in Virginia.

However, if you do not want your residence address to appear on your driver's license or photo ID card, you may provide DMV with an alternate address in addition to your residence address. This alternate address must also be in Virginia.

If you change your residence address or alternate address to a location outside Virginia, your driver's license or photo ID card will be cancelled. Exceptions may be made for some individuals such as active duty military personnel and Virginia residents employed outside Virginia.

**Address change:** You may visit any DMV customer service center to change your address and obtain a new vehicle registration card. You may purchase a new driver's license or photo ID card showing the address change for \$10.00, or a free change of address card (for your driver's license or photo ID card) will be mailed to you.

## Section 1: The Driver's Licensing Process... And Obtaining a Photo ID Card

You may also change your address by calling DMV toll-free at 1-866-DMV-LINE (368-5463), 1-800-435-5137 or by using the Internet ([www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com)). Each time you change your address with DMV, you will have an opportunity to apply to register to vote or to change your voter registration address with the State Board of Elections.

**Name change:** You may change your name on your driver's license or photo ID card at any DMV customer service center. Bring the following documents, as applicable. Photocopies will not be accepted.

- Marriage certificate.
- Divorce decree if the decree states the change from married name to maiden name.
- Original or teste copy of the court order granting the name change.



If you are applying for a driver's license or learner's permit for the first time and your name has changed, you must present two proofs of identification, one proof of residency plus a piece of postmarked mail

addressed to you and your social security number in addition to one of the documents listed above for proof of your name change. After January 1, 2004, you will also be required to show proof of legal presence.

If you are applying for a photo ID card, you must show two proofs of identification and one proof of residency plus one piece of postmarked mail addressed to you at your address on file at DMV. After January 1, 2004, you will also be required to show legal presence.

If your name has changed and you currently hold a valid Virginia-issued driver's license, learner's permit or photo ID card, you must present your Virginia driver's license, learner's permit or photo ID card in addition to one of the name change documents for proof of your name change.

If you cannot present your Virginia driver's license, learner's permit, or photo ID card, you must present one proof of identity from the primary document list (refer to "Acceptable Documents for Obtaining a Driver's License or Photo ID Card," (DMV 141) in addition to one of the name change documents listed above for proof of name change.

### Obtaining Your Driving Record

With proper identification, you may obtain a copy of your driving record by mail, by Internet using a DMV-issued PIN number or in person. Driving records cost \$8. A certified record costs \$13.

The information on DMV records is maintained and released based on federal and state laws. Law enforcement may obtain your complete driving record; employers receive seven years of data and insurance companies receive five years. DMV will not release your license photograph without your signed release except to law enforcement.

### Photo ID card

### Your driving record

### Release of DMV information



## Services for Drivers With Disabilities

### Customers with special needs

Customers with special needs or who require special assistance with applications or testing should notify a DMV staff member or manager upon arrival at any DMV location.

DMV offers parking permits for citizens with temporary or permanent disabilities that limit or impair their mobility. We also offer license plates for persons with permanent disabilities. These permits and plates entitle the holder to park in special parking spaces reserved for individuals with disabilities. Institutions and organizations who operate special vehicles equipped to carry persons with disabilities may also obtain parking permits entitling them to special parking privileges.

Parking permits, issued in the form of removable windshield placards and license plates, displaying the international symbol of access, provide authorization for special parking in all 50 states.

### Temporary parking placards

*Temporary parking placards* are valid for up to six months. Your physician must indicate the expected length of your disability. This placard may be renewed if your physician certifies an extension of your disability.

### Permanent placards

*Permanent placards* are issued to citizens with a disability that limits or impairs movement from one place to another, the ability to walk or that creates a concern for safety while walking, as defined in Va. Code §46.2-1240, and that has reached the maximum level of improvement and is not expected to change even with additional treatment. These placards are valid for five years and may be renewed without a physician's certification by Internet ([www.dmvNOW.com](http://www.dmvNOW.com)), mail or at a DMV customer service center.

*Institutional and organizational placards* are valid for five years and may be renewed. No physician certification is required.

*Placards* should be hung from the rearview mirror while the vehicle is parked in spaces authorized for the disabled. The side that shows the placard holder's identifying information must face the rear of the vehicle. Placard holders may use removable tape to cover their name and date of birth on the placard. The placard holder will have to remove the tape if requested by law enforcement for verification. Placards must be removed from the rearview mirror while the vehicle is in motion.

*License plates* must bear the International Symbol of Access (ISA) in order to entitle the holder to special parking privileges. When disabled parking plates are issued to a vehicle registered to multiple owners, the registration card for that vehicle will indicate which owner is disabled. Disabled parking plates may be renewed without a physician's certification.

*License plates for hearing impaired drivers* are available from any DMV office. No special privileges are given, but the plates help law enforcement officers recognize drivers who are hearing impaired. Hearing impaired citizens may contact DMV by teletypewriter at 1-800-272-9268.

*A driver's license indicator* is available for drivers who are hearing and speech impaired or who are insulin-dependant. One of these indicators is placed on the driver's license in order to identify the disability to law enforcement personnel.

**Institutions and organizations**

**Placards**

**License plates**

**License plates for hearing impaired drivers**

**Driver's license indicator**

## Section 1: The Driver Licensing Process... And Obtaining a Photo ID Card

### Disabled Parking Privileges

Disabled parking privileges entitle the holder to:

- park in any parking space designated for a disabled person;
- park for up to four hours without paying a fee in any time-restricted parking space during the hours allowed for general parking (unless prohibited by the locality).

Disabled parking privileges **DO NOT** entitle the holder to stop, stand or park in the following areas:

- where parking is prohibited;
- in spaces reserved for other special types of vehicles;
- where it would clearly present a traffic hazard.

Private parking facilities, such as parking lots at airports, may restrict the time and free parking provisions for vehicles displaying disabled parking permits or plates.

**Disabled Placard and Plate Holders May Not:**

- allow a non-disabled individual to use his or her placard or plate unless they are transporting the disabled individual.
- park in a space reserved for disabled individuals without displaying a placard or plate bearing the International Symbol of Access.

Persons convicted of these violations may be fined up to \$500 and, in some cases, may have their disabled parking privileges revoked for up to six months.

**It is also illegal to:**

- create or use a counterfeit replica of a disabled license plate or placard;

- alter a disabled license plate or placard;
- use another person's disabled license plate or placard;
- make a false statement about a disability in order to obtain or assist someone else in obtaining a disabled license plate or placard.

Convictions resulting from these offenses could result in fines up to \$1,000, up to six months in jail, and revocation of disabled parking privileges.

To report expired placards, suspected misuse or alteration of placards or plates, call (804) 367-6602.

### Your License and the Law

Whenever you drive, you must carry your driver's license with you. Any misuse of your driver's license is a misdemeanor. You could be fined, sentenced to jail, or your license may be suspended.

**Misuse of your driver's license**

For your own protection, do not:

- allow an unlicensed driver to operate your vehicle;
- lend anyone your driver's license;
- use anyone else's driver's license;
- display or possess a fraudulent driver's license;
- use a suspended or revoked driver's license.

**For your protection**

### License Suspension and Revocation

If you are underage, it is against the law to use a falsified or non-genuine license to obtain alcoholic beverages or tobacco products. Also, it is unlawful to knowingly allow anyone to get a driver's license in your name.

**If you are underage**

## Section 1: The Driver's License Process... And Obtaining a Photo ID Card

When you receive a driver's license, you accept responsibility for obeying Virginia's traffic and safety laws. If you repeatedly violate them, DMV is authorized to suspend or revoke your driver's license.

If you are convicted of any of the following offenses, your license will be revoked or suspended.

- Making a false statement to DMV
- Failing to stop and identify yourself at the scene of a crash if someone has been injured or killed
- Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Voluntary or involuntary manslaughter
- Committing a drug offense, regardless of whether or not a motor vehicle is involved
- Committing a felony involving the use of a motor vehicle
- Taking a driver's license examination for another person, or appearing for another person to renew a license. If convicted of this offense, your license will be revoked for ten years.
- Eluding police

**If you are convicted of a safety belt, child safety seat or demerit-point traffic violation committed when you were under age 18**, you will be required to satisfactorily complete a driver improvement clinic. No safe driving points will be awarded for attending the clinic. If you do not satisfactorily complete the clinic within 90 days, DMV will suspend your permit or license until the clinic is completed.

After your second demerit point conviction, DMV will suspend your permit or license for 90 days. The court may grant you restricted driving privileges so you can drive between your home and work place provided there is no other means of transportation.



After a third demerit point conviction, DMV will revoke your permit or license for one year or until you reach age 18, whichever is longer. The court can not grant restricted driving privileges.

### **Third conviction**

**If you are 18 or 19**, you will be required to complete a driver improvement clinic after your first demerit point conviction (including safety belt and child restraint violations).

**If you are age 18 or older** and you accumulate eight demerit points in 12 months (or 12 points in 24 months), you will receive an advisory letter that cautions you about the consequences of violating the law.

## Section 1: The Driver Licensing Process... And Obtaining a Photo ID Card

If you accumulate 12 demerit points in 12 months (or 18 points in 24 months), you will be required to complete a clinic. You must enroll in and satisfactorily complete the driver improvement clinic within 90 days or your driver's license will be suspended.

If you accumulate 18 demerit points in 12 months (or 24 points in 24 months), your driving privilege will be suspended for 90 days. Additionally, you must complete a driver improvement clinic before your privilege will be restored. Once your privilege is restored, you will be placed on a six month probation. You will not be granted restricted driving privileges.

**If you are under age 20**, a computer-based driver improvement clinic will not satisfy a driver improvement requirement. You must satisfactorily complete a clinic that provides classroom instruction.

**Your license also may be suspended or revoked if you:**

- Become delinquent in your child support payments by 90 days or \$5,000



- Fail to pay court fines and costs for traffic or criminal convictions within 15 days
- Fail to satisfactorily complete a required driver improvement clinic within the specified time
- Are convicted of making a bomb threat
- Are convicted of failing to pay for gasoline purchases
- Become physically or mentally unable to drive safely
- Give false information on a driver's license application
- Receive 18 or more demerit points in a 12-month period or 24 demerit points in a 24-month period
- Register an uninsured motor vehicle without paying the uninsured motor vehicle fee
- Operate or permit operation of your uninsured vehicle

If you are convicted of driving while your license is revoked or suspended, the court may revoke or suspend your license for the same amount of time for which it had previously been revoked or suspended. This will be in addition to any other penalties, possibly including jail time.

If your license is **suspended**, your privilege to drive has been withdrawn temporarily. You may pay the required fees and reinstate your license at the end of the suspension period unless your license expires during that period.

**Revocation**, on the other hand, means that your privilege to drive has been terminated. Your driving privileges may be restored if you reapply for a driver's license **after** the revocation period has passed. You must successfully complete the vision screening, two-part knowledge exam and road skills tests and pay the required fees when you reapply.



# Behind the wheel...

## Before You Get Behind the Wheel

It's your responsibility to ensure that the vehicle you are driving is:

### Properly registered

- **Properly registered.** If the vehicle is registered in Virginia, plates must be displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle. Decals indicating the month and year that the registration expires must be placed in the designated areas on the plates (except for vehicles displaying permanent plates). You must have the vehicle registration card with you when operating the vehicle. You must also register your vehicle in your locality if required.

### Insured

- **Insured** by a company authorized to do business in Virginia. If the vehicle is not insured, verify that the owner has paid the Uninsured Motor Vehicle Fee (UMVF). Vehicles registered in Virginia must remain insured during the entire registration period even if the vehicle is not driven or is inoperable.

### If not insured and you have not paid the UMVF

If the vehicle is not insured and you have not paid the UMVF, you must cancel the registration and return the license plates to DMV immediately. Failure to cancel the registration will result in suspension of your driver's license.



If you purchase plates for a vehicle that is inoperable, you must have liability insurance at the time you purchase the plates or pay the UMVF. You must maintain insurance on the vehicle during the entire registration period even though it remains inoperable.

### Inoperable vehicle

- **In good working order.** The vehicle must have a valid safety inspection sticker, license plates, and working brakes, safety belts, horn, lights, turn signals, mirrors and speedometer.

## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...

### Tinted windows

If your vehicle has tinted windows check with the Virginia State Police to make sure it is in compliance with Virginia's sunshading specifications. DMV is authorized to issue waivers to individuals with medical conditions that require protection from sunlight or bright artificial light.

### How you hold the wheel is important

#### 8 o'clock, 4 o'clock

Sit straight but relaxed. Place your hands on the steering wheel at the 8 o'clock and 4 o'clock positions. Hold the wheel with your fingers and thumbs. Avoid gripping it with your palms.



### Virginia Insurance Laws

If you drive in Virginia without liability coverage on your vehicle, you face a \$500 fine, suspension of your driver's license and vehicle registration, plus higher insurance premiums for the next three years.

### Inoperable vehicle

During the entire registration period, your vehicle must be covered by a liability policy issued by a company licensed to do business in Virginia - even if the vehicle is inoperable or not being used. Insurance companies notify DMV electronically when coverage is started or canceled.

If insurance is not an option, you must pay the \$500 uninsured motor vehicle fee. It allows you to register your vehicle but does not provide insurance coverage. If your vehicle becomes uninsured and you do not reinsure it or pay DMV the \$500 uninsured motor vehicle fee, you must cancel the registration and return the valid license plates to DMV immediately.

## Your Best Protection: Safety Belts, Air Bags and Child Safety Seats

Wearing safety belts can double your chances of surviving a crash and more than double your chances of avoiding serious injury. Virginia's safety belt law requires drivers and front seat passengers to use safety belts when traveling in a motor vehicle that is equipped with or required to be equipped with safety belts.

**Safety belts save lives and help to avoid serious injury**

Under Virginia law, the driver and all front seat passengers must wear a safety belt. A driver transporting anyone through age 15 must ensure that the child is properly secured in a safety belt, booster seat or child safety seat no matter where the child is seated in the vehicle.

Remember to wear your lap belt low on your lap and against your thighs. Wear your shoulder belt over your shoulder and across your chest. Never wear your shoulder belt behind your back or under your arm. Your shoulder and lap belts should be snug without any slack. Pregnant women are much safer if buckled up by wearing the belt as low on the pelvis as possible.

**Wear them correctly**

**Air bags** when used properly with safety belts, cushion occupants as they move forward in a front-end crash. By providing a cushion, the air bag keeps the occupant's head, neck and chest from hitting the steering column or dashboard.

- If your vehicle is equipped with air bags,
- Always buckle up and have all passengers in the vehicle buckle up.
  - Move your seat back so that you are at least ten inches from the steering wheel.
  - If your steering wheel is adjustable, tilt it downward. This points the air bag toward your chest instead of your head and neck.
  - Children ages 12 and under are safer buckled up in the back seat.
  - Never place a rear-facing infant seat in the front seat if the air bag is turned on.

For more information about air bags, including applying for an on/off switch, contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) on the web or toll-free hotline at 1-800-424-9393.

## Child safety seats

**Child Safety Seats:** Securing a child in a correctly installed child safety seat can significantly reduce the possibility of death or injury.

All children under age six must be properly secured in a child safety seat or booster seat when riding in a vehicle manufactured after January 1, 1968. Virginia law requires all children age six through age 15 to be properly secured in an approved child safety seat, booster seat or safety belt, no matter where the child is seated in the vehicle.

The driver is responsible for making sure that children are properly secured. If you are convicted of violating the child restraint law, you will be fined \$50.00.

### Tips for Traveling With Children

- Always secure children under age six in an approved child safety seat or booster seat, even if you are making only a short trip.

- The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration recommends restraining children by using a booster seat until they reach age eight.
- Children from birth to age 12 months ride facing the rear.
- Children ages one through five ride facing forward in a child safety seat or booster seat.
- The safest place to install a child safety seat is in the center of the back seat. NEVER place a rear-facing infant seat in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger-side air bag.
- Numerous child safety seat checks are held in localities across Virginia. Attend one of these checks to make sure that your child's safety seat is installed correctly.
- Never hold a child in your lap. In a crash, the child may be crushed between your body and the dashboard.
- Make sure that all car doors are securely closed and locked before driving. Don't allow children to play with door handles or locks. If you must open a door, pull the vehicle off the road and come to a complete stop.
- Never allow children to ride in the luggage area of hatchbacks, station wagons or vans.
- It is illegal to transport children under age 16 in the bed of a pick-up truck, even if equipped with a truck or camper shell.
- Never leave a hatchback open when a child is riding in the back seat.
- Children age six through age 15 must be properly secured in an approved safety seat, booster seat or safety belt no matter where the child is seated in the vehicle.

## Good Driving Practices

Use the three-second rule to determine if you are far enough behind the vehicle ahead of you.

Here's how it works.

- Watch the vehicle ahead pass a fixed point, such as an overpass, sign, fence, corner or other marker.
- Begin counting off the seconds it takes you to reach the same place in the road.
- If you reach the mark before you have counted off three seconds, you're following too closely. Slow down and increase your following distance.
- Remember, the three-second rule applies only in good weather and depends on the condition of your vehicle and the road. In bad weather conditions, heavy traffic, poor pavement or if your vehicle is in poor condition, add extra seconds to the three-second rule.

### Scanning

When driving, we gather 90 percent of the information about the road and our surroundings through our eyes. Scanning means looking at the entire scene for anything that might come into your path. As you scan the road, avoid a fixed stare. Keep your eyes moving and learn to read the road. Look ahead, to the sides and behind you.

**When driving in rural areas,** watch for hidden intersections and driveways, curves, hills and different road conditions. Watch for other vehicles, especially trucks, oversize and slow-moving farm vehicles and bicycles.

**Check from left to right before entering an intersection.** Whenever you reach a place in the road where other cars, people or animals may cross your path, look to both sides to be sure that the way is clear. These include intersections, crosswalks, shopping centers, construction areas and playgrounds. At any intersection, look to the left first, since cars coming from the left will be closer to you. Then look to the right and take one more quick look to the left before you drive through.

**Check from left to right**

**Look behind.** Use your rear-view mirror to check the traffic behind you frequently, about every 10 seconds. This will alert you if someone is moving up too quickly or tailgating you. Check the traffic behind you when changing lanes, backing up, slowing down quickly or driving down a long, steep hill. But, don't take your eyes off the road for more than an instant.

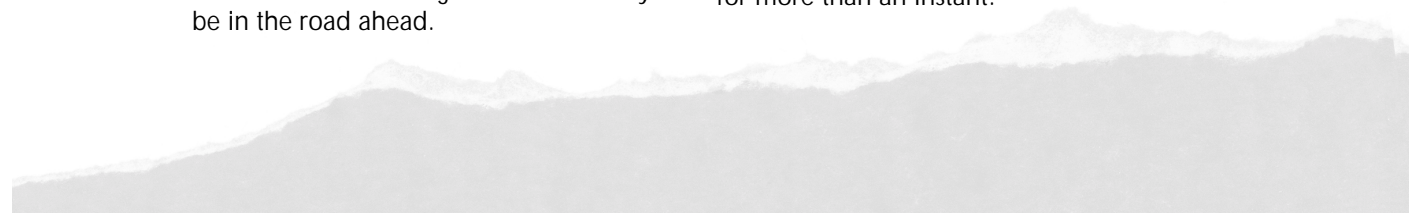
**Look behind**

**Scan ahead and to the sides**

**Scan ahead and to the sides.** Looking ahead will help you see things early and will allow you more time to react. Expert drivers try to focus their eyes 10 to 15 seconds ahead. In the city, that equals approximately one block. Avoid staring at the middle of the road, however. Scan from side to side, checking for directional signs, cars or people that might be in the road by the time you reach them.

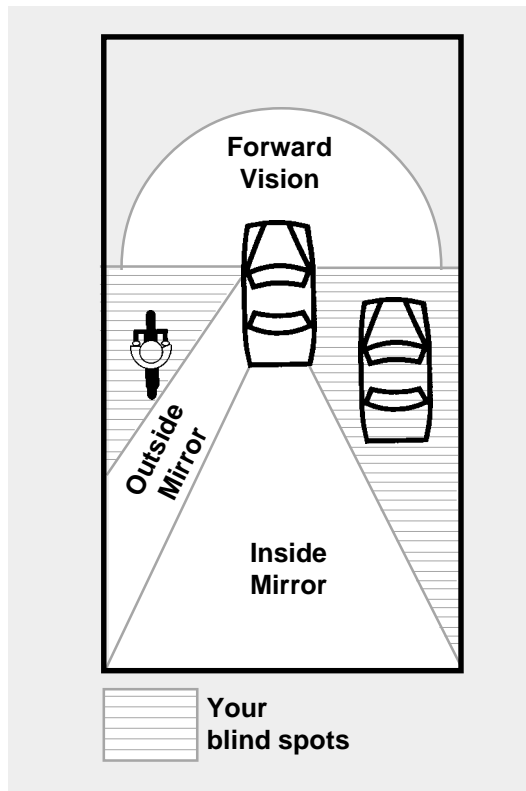
**Watch for clues**

**Watch for clues in the road.** Look for exhaust smoke, brake or back-up lights and turned wheels on vehicles. Clues like these indicate that the vehicles may pull into your path. Watch for pedestrians, bicyclists and other slow moving vehicles that may be in the road ahead.





## Blind spots



Avoid driving in someone else's blind spot. This can be just as dangerous as not checking your own. Speed up or drop back; but, don't stay in the other driver's blind spot.

## Sharing the Road

Drivers of passenger vehicles share the road with many other users: pedestrians, bicyclists, moped and motorcycle riders, trucks and buses, recreational vehicles and other passenger vehicles of all shapes and sizes. It is your responsibility to adjust your driving to avoid other drivers' mistakes and assure everyone's safety.

**Pedestrians:** Generally, there are three types of pedestrians most often involved in accidents: children, the elderly and adults under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

- Be careful around schools, playgrounds and in residential areas where small children may be playing or crossing the street.
- Look out for the elderly, who may have poor vision and hearing. Remember that they and people with disabilities will move slowly. Be aware of blind pedestrians crossing the street. Blind pedestrians usually carry a white cane or use a guide dog.
- Be especially aware of pedestrians when making a right or left turn on red. They have the right-of-way. Allow pedestrians to completely cross the street before beginning your turn.
- Be alert for pedestrians at all times. Slow down and be prepared to stop. Always yield the right-of-way.

**Bicyclists:** Bicycles are considered vehicles and have the same rights-of-way as motor vehicles. Bicyclists are also expected to obey the same traffic rules and regulations as vehicle drivers; however, many are children who may not know or obey the rules. Slow down when you approach bicyclists. Give them plenty of room when passing and be prepared to stop suddenly. Look for bicycles on all public roads except where prohibited by a sign.

**Mopeds:** Under Virginia law, a moped is a bicycle-like device with pedals and a helper motor. The motor cannot be rated at more than two horsepower or enable the moped to travel more than 30 MPH. Moped riders must be at least 16 years old and must obey all rules of the road. As a driver, treat moped riders with the same care given to any other vehicle driver.

## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...

Although you do not need a driver's license to operate a moped, you may not operate a moped if you have been declared a habitual offender and your license is suspended or revoked for driving while intoxicated.

**Motorcycles:** Approximately half of all fatal motorcycle crashes involve automobiles. Most of these crashes are caused by the motorist's failure to see a motorcycle in traffic.

- Look for motorcyclists. In more than half of all crashes involving motorcycles and automobiles, the other driver didn't see the motorcycle until it was too late. Motorists are conditioned to look for four-wheeled vehicles; but they don't expect to see two-wheeled vehicles. A motorcycle's small size also makes it difficult to see.
- Check your blind spots. A motorcycle's small size allows it to slip into your blind spot easily. Always check for motorcycles before you pull out, change lanes, turn, back up or proceed through an intersection.
- Never tailgate a motorcycle (or any other vehicle). Allow yourself plenty of braking distance by adding an extra second to the three-second rule. In inclement weather, double this distance.
- Anticipate the motorcyclist's movements. Although a motorcycle occupies only four feet of the lane, the rider will use the entire lane as traffic situations and road conditions change. A slight change or debris on the road surface can be a

major obstacle for a motorcyclist. Expect the motorcycle to make sudden moves within the lane. Never drive in the motorcyclist's lane.

- Yield to motorcycles. The small size of a motorcycle can cause you to misjudge the motorcycle's speed and distance. Before pulling out into traffic, check twice for motorcycles and use extra caution before you pull out in front of one.

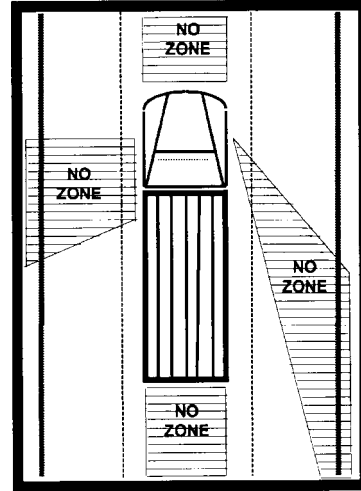


**Low Speed Vehicles:** These electrically powered four wheel vehicles have a maximum speed ranging from 21 to 25 MPH. Low speed vehicles may be operated on public highways with speed limits of 35 MPH or less by licensed drivers or learner's permit holders accompanied by a licensed driver.

Low speed vehicles must comply with all federal safety standards and must meet Virginia's requirements for passenger vehicle registration and insurance coverage. Golf carts are not classified as low speed vehicles.

## Trucks, Tractor-Trailers and RVs:

Trucks, tractor-trailers, buses and recreational vehicles (RVs)-- including motor homes, campers and travel trailers--are longer, higher and wider than other vehicles. They accelerate slowly and require greater stopping and turning distances. Plus, there are danger areas around these vehicles where crashes are more likely to occur. These areas are called No-Zones. No-Zones on the side, front and rear also include blind spots where your car disappears from the driver's view. Learning the No-Zones can save your life!



- **Side No-Zones:** Trucks, tractor-trailers, buses and RVs have big No-Zones on both sides which are dangerous because these vehicles must make wide turns. These No-Zones or blind spots are much larger than your car's blind spots. If you can't see the driver's face in his side view mirror, then he can't see you.
- **Rear No-Zone:** Trucks, tractor-trailers, buses and RVs have huge No-Zones directly behind them. The driver can't see your car behind his vehicle and you can't see what's happening in traffic ahead of his vehicle. If the truck, bus or RV brakes or stops suddenly, you have no place to go and could crash into the vehicle's rear-end. Always maintain a safe following distance.
- **Front No-Zone:** You could get rear-ended by a truck, bus or RV if you cut in front too soon after passing the vehicle. If you cut in front and then suddenly slow down, truck, bus and RV drivers are forced to slam on their brakes. These vehicles need nearly twice the time and room to stop as cars. A truck and its tow vehicle may be as long as 65 feet and it may take you more than half a mile of clear road to pass. When passing, look

for the entire front of the truck in your rearview mirror before pulling in front. And then, don't slow down!

- **Wide Turns:** Trucks, buses and RVs sometimes need to swing wide to the left or right in order to safely make a turn. They can't see the cars directly behind or beside them. In fact, their blind spots may stretch up to 20 feet in front of the cab and approximately 200 feet behind the truck. Trying to squeeze between a truck, bus or RV and the curb or another vehicle is an invitation to disaster.

## Maintaining a Space Cushion

Space around your vehicle gives you time to react in emergencies and avoid a collision. Create a space cushion around your vehicle by staying in the middle of your lane. Make sure there is enough room ahead of your vehicle and behind it for other vehicles to pass or stop safely.

- **Help the driver** behind you maintain a safe following distance by maintaining a steady speed. Use

## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...

a hand signal or tap your brakes to let the driver behind you know in advance when you plan to slow down or stop.

- **If the driver behind you** is following too closely, do not brake suddenly. If possible, move over to another lane. Or, when the way ahead is clear, flash your brake lights and slow down. This should encourage the tailgater to pass you.
- **In city traffic**, increase the amount of space between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead.
- **Avoid driving** in another driver's blind spot. If you can't see the inside rearview mirror of the car ahead, he probably can't see you.
- **Once you've established** a space cushion, if a vehicle cuts into the space ahead of you, just slow down and re-establish a safe following distance
- **Increase your following distance** when driving behind a large vehicle that blocks your vision. You should also increase your following distance when driving in bad weather, heavy traffic or when exiting an expressway. Increase your following distance if you are following a motorcycle or being tailgated.

If you are traveling slower than the traffic around you on a multi-lane highway, drive in the right-hand lane.

### Changing Lanes

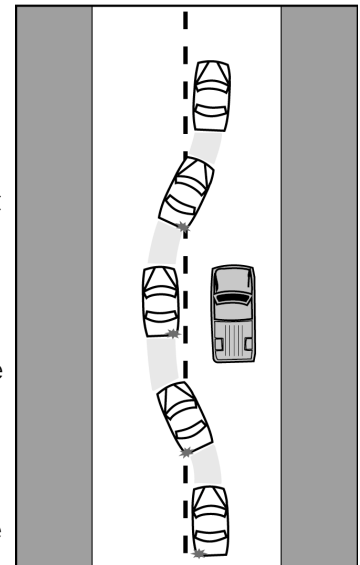
Before changing lanes, check your side and rearview mirrors for traffic approaching you from behind. Then, give a turn signal to communicate your intention to change lanes. Check for other drivers who also may

be moving into the same lane. Just before you begin moving into the other lane, quickly glance over your shoulder and check for any vehicles that may be in your blind spot.

Whether you are changing lanes, passing, entering or exiting an expressway, always use your turn signals and check traffic to the rear and sides. When driving on a multi-lane highway, stay in the right-hand lane if you are driving slower than the traffic around you.

### When passing another vehicle:

- Check the traffic ahead of you, behind you and in your blind spot before you attempt to pass. Signal and then accelerate to pass. Return to the right lane as soon as you can see the front of the passed vehicle in your rearview mirror.
- It is against the law to exceed the speed limit as you pass.
- Complete the pass before you reach a No Passing zone. If you're still in the left lane when you reach the zone, you're breaking the law.
- You may pass on the right if the vehicle you are passing has signaled and is making a left turn. Be cautious because the vehicle you are passing may be blocking your view or blocking the view of other drivers. You may not pass on the right if you must drive off the pavement or main portion of the roadway to get around the other vehicle.





- When approaching or passing a person riding a bicycle or moped, pass at a safe distance and at a reasonable speed.

***When being passed,***

- don't speed up. Maintain a steady speed or slow down.

***Passing is prohibited:***

- on hills, curves, at intersections or railroad crossings, except on roads with two or more lanes of traffic moving in the same direction;
- off the pavement or shoulder of the road;
- when a school bus is stopped to load or unload passengers on a public road (unless a physical barrier or unpaved median separates traffic going in either direction) or on a private road; and,
- whenever a solid line marks the left side of your lane.

## Backing

The most common mistake that drivers make when backing is failing to look both ways behind them. Mirrors do not give you a full view. To see as much as possible, turn your body and head to the right and look out through the rear window. Back up slowly and check for pedestrians and approaching traffic by glancing quickly to either side.

## Visibility

On a dry road, with good tires and brakes, it takes about 265 feet for a passenger vehicle traveling at 55 MPH to stop. If you can't see that far ahead, then you cannot drive safely at that speed. Adjust your speed for hills, curves, intersections or anywhere that visibility may be limited. In other words, slow down.

You will also need to adjust your speed when driving in the rain, fog or snow. If you cannot see more than 100 feet ahead, you cannot drive safely at any speed. Consider getting off the road until the weather breaks.

## Hazardous Conditions

Driving becomes hazardous when visibility is reduced or when the road surface is covered with rain, snow or ice. Reducing your speed should be your first response to decreased visibility and dangerous road conditions. Increase your space cushion by doubling your normal following distance from three seconds to six seconds (refer to Maintaining a Space Cushion for more information). Turn on your headlights.

### ***Night Driving***

**At sunset**, as soon as light begins to fade, turn on your headlights to make your vehicle more visible to others. You must use headlights from sunset to sunrise. In inclement weather such as rain, fog and snow, you must use your headlights whenever you use your wipers.

**Use low beams** when driving in cities and towns, except on streets where there is no lighting. Switch to low beams whenever you meet oncoming traffic to avoid blinding the other driver. When following, use low beams whenever you are within 200 feet of the vehicle ahead.

**Use high-beam** headlights on highways when no other vehicle is approaching within 500 feet. If the high beams of an oncoming car are not dimmed, avoid looking directly at the bright lights. Glance toward the side of the road, then look quickly ahead to determine the other vehicle's position. Keep doing this until you have passed the other vehicle. Even though the other driver does not dim his headlights, do not retaliate by turning on your high-beam headlights.

## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...

### **Fog**

**Fog reflects** light and can reflect your own headlights back into your eyes. Use low beam headlights only and look for road edge markings to guide you. Even light fog reduces visibility and your ability to judge distances, so slow down.

### **Rain**

**Driving in heavy rain** can be as hazardous as driving in fog, especially if the wind is blowing. Other vehicles to the rear and in blind spot areas are especially difficult to see through rain-spattered windows.

**Use your low-beam** headlights to see and be seen. Wait a short time after the rain begins before using your windshield wipers because the blades may smear.

**Be extra careful** during the first half hour after rain begins. Grime and oil on the road surface mix with water to make the road slippery.

### **Snow**

**Before you start driving**, remove snow and ice from your entire car, including the roof, hood and rear of the vehicle. Be sure to clear all your windows, side view mirrors and front and rear lights of snow or ice so you can see and communicate with other drivers.

**Equip your car** with all-weather snow tires or chains to help prevent skidding and reduce stopping distance.

**Slow down** before stopping or turning. Driving on packed snow is similar to driving on ice. When you brake, apply the brakes gently.

**On slippery surfaces**, you have the most traction and control when the front tires are rolling. Therefore, your vehicle will respond more effectively to steering than braking.

**Watch for ice** on bridges and in shady areas. Bridges freeze before other road surfaces.



### **How many feet does that equal?**

Sometimes it's difficult to judge distance. Here are a few comparisons to help you.

- 100 feet roughly equals the length of two tractor-trailers parked one behind the other.
- 250 feet roughly equals the height of a 25-story building.
- 350 feet is slightly longer than the playing area of a football field.

## **Communicating With Other Motorists**

### **Lights**

Virginia law requires motorists to use headlights during inclement weather such as rain, fog, snow or sleet when visibility is reduced to 500 feet. You must use your headlights whenever you use your windshield wipers as a result of bad weather. Refer to Hazardous Conditions for more information.

**Be seen in inclement weather**

## Turn Signals

### Develop a good habit

When you plan to make a turn or to enter or exit a highway, first give the proper turn signal, which is required by law. Develop a good habit and use turn signals or hand signals even if no other traffic is on the road. Signal when making turns, changing lanes, entering or exiting highways and always let the other driver know what you intend to do.

### 3 or 4 seconds

Signal three or four seconds before you change direction so other drivers will have time to react. If you plan to turn after clearing an intersection, don't signal until you reach the intersection; otherwise, drivers on the road ahead may pull out in front of you. After you complete your move, be sure the turn signal stops flashing. Remember, always signal before changing lanes.

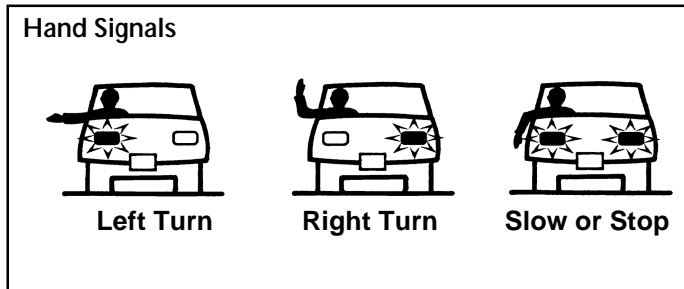
**If the speed limit is more than 35 MPH,** signal at least 100 feet before you reach the turning point.

**For speeds less than 35 MPH,** signal at least 50 feet in advance.



When they're behind the wheel of their vehicles, these high risk drivers take out their frustrations on other motorists. Their frustration level runs high while their concern for fellow motorists runs low. They run stop signs and red lights, speed, tailgate, weave in and out of traffic, pass on the right (including on the shoulder and unpaved portions of the road), make improper and unsafe lane changes, make hand and facial gestures, scream, honk and flash their lights.

Protect yourself. If you see an aggressive driver, stay out of the way. Don't challenge the aggressive driver by speeding up or trying to out-manuever him. Avoid eye contact and ignore his gestures and shouting.



## Dangerous Driving Behaviors

### Aggressive Driving

This dangerous driving behavior is defined by Virginia law as the intent to harass, intimidate, injure or obstruct another person while committing one or more traffic offenses such as failure to stop or yield the right-of-way, evasion of a traffic control device or failure to give way to an overtaking vehicle.

### Distracted Driving

Driver distraction is reaching epidemic proportions in drivers of all ages, but especially in young, inexperienced drivers. Consider all the things inside and outside the vehicle that can distract the driver. A university study conducted in 2002 found that looking at crashes and vehicle breakdowns, driver fatigue and looking at scenery were the three leading causes of distracted driving in Virginia. Other distractions included passengers and

## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...

children, adjusting the radio or changing the CD player, using a cell phone, eating and drinking and adjusting vehicle controls.

Annually, driver distraction accounts for roughly 13 percent of all traffic crashes in Virginia. Why is distracted driving so deadly? Because while the driver is distracted, the vehicle moves into a high-risk situation. The driver loses precious seconds before recognizing the situation and making an emergency maneuver. Young drivers are even more susceptible because they often over-correct and because they lack experience in controlling a vehicle during an emergency situation. Don't let this happen to you. Take the following precautions.

- Keep your eyes on the road and your hands on the wheel at all times.
- Set or adjust the controls on the vehicle and other devices as soon as you get in the car and before you begin driving.
- Keep your body alert; sit straight, but relaxed. Look in the direction that you want to go.
- Avoid using a cell phone.
- Anticipate the traffic and environment around you by scanning ahead and checking your rearview mirrors.
- Maintain the speed limit; but, reduce your speed and increase your following distance in bad weather and heavy traffic.
- Always fasten your safety belt and make sure everyone in your vehicle is securely buckled up.

### Drinking and Driving

#### ***Driving Under the Influence (DUI):***

Legally, you are considered to be driving under the influence if your blood alcohol content (BAC) is 0.08 percent or higher. If

your driving is impaired, you can be convicted of driving under the influence with a blood alcohol content lower than 0.08 percent.

#### ***Administrative License Suspension (ALS):***

If you register a 0.08 or higher BAC or refuse to take a breath test, your driver's license will be suspended for seven days immediately after arrest. If you are under age 21 and you register a BAC between 0.02 and 0.08, your driver's license will be suspended for seven days immediately after arrest.

#### ***Vehicle Impoundment:***

Your vehicle will be impounded immediately for 30 days if you are caught driving after your license has been suspended for an alcohol-related offense. The court can impound the vehicle for an additional 90 days if you are convicted.

#### ***Zero Tolerance:***

If you are under age 21, you cannot purchase, possess or consume alcohol. If you are convicted of driving after illegally consuming alcohol, and your BAC was at least 0.02 percent but less than 0.08 percent, you can be fined up to \$500 and have your driver's license suspended for six months.

#### ***Allowing Another Driver to Operate Your Vehicle:***

You can be charged with a Class 1 misdemeanor if you knowingly allow operation of your motor vehicle by someone whose license has been revoked or suspended for an alcohol-related offense.

#### ***Open Container***

You may be charged with a Class 4 misdemeanor if you are stopped by law enforcement and you have an open container of alcohol (and the contents have been partially removed), in the passenger area of the vehicle. The passenger area means the area designed to seat the driver and passengers and any area within the driver's reach, including an unlocked glove compartment.



**If The Police Stop You**

If the police have probable cause to stop you and suspect that you have been drinking or using drugs, they will ask you to take a breath or blood test. This test analyzes the amount of alcohol and drugs in your body. Under implied consent laws, if you operate a motor vehicle on Virginia's public roads, you agree to take a chemical test upon request.

You are required to take the test. If you refuse, your license will be immediately suspended for seven days and it may be suspended for one year, whether or not you are convicted of driving under the influence. If you are convicted of DUI, the suspension period for refusing the test will be added to the DUI revocation period.

**Alcohol and You**

Researchers estimate that between the hours of 10 PM and 2 AM one out of every ten drivers is intoxicated. More than one-third of these drivers have been drinking at someone else's home. Nearly 50 percent of the drivers arrested for driving under the influence (DUI) are social to moderate drinkers. Don't think that it won't happen to you. In your lifetime, there's a 50-50 chance that you'll be involved in an alcohol-related crash.

**Just one** alcoholic drink can affect your driving ability because even a small amount of alcohol affects the brain's higher functions - particularly vision, judgment, and coordination.

**Because alcohol affects** your judgment and driving ability, your chances of being in a crash are seven times greater if you drive after drinking than if you drive sober.

**Judgment** -- your ability to think clearly and make quick, safe decisions--is the first important driving ability affected by alcohol.

**Eye muscles** are relaxed by alcohol and cannot focus properly. Because the eyes provide almost 90 percent of the information used in driving, any reduction in vision can cause disastrous results.

**A 12-ounce glass** of beer, a five-ounce glass of wine and a shot of liquor have the same amount of alcohol.

**It takes about one hour** for the blood stream to rid itself of one ounce of alcohol.

**Alcohol concentration** in the body depends on the amount of alcohol consumed, the time spent drinking and your body weight.

**Only time** can decrease intoxication. Coffee, cold showers or exercise will not have a sobering effect.

National crash reports show that approximately 16,000 people are killed each year because of drivers who have been drinking. Over one-third of all fatal crashes involve drinking drivers. Alcohol-related crashes are also a leading killer of teenagers who are inexperienced with both alcohol and driving.

**Avoiding the Risks**

***Alcohol-related crashes are not accidents.***

They can be prevented. If you are planning a night on the town, decide before you start drinking that you are not going to drive. Remember, alcohol affects your judgment. It's a lot more difficult to make the decision not to drive after one or two drinks. Use the following tips to keep from drinking and driving and still have a good time.

***Drive to social events in groups*** of two or more and have the driver agree not to drink.

## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...

**Arrange to ride** with a friend who is not drinking.

**Before you start drinking**, give your vehicle keys to someone who isn't drinking and who won't let you drive after drinking.

**Arrange to stay** overnight at the place where you are drinking.

**Call a taxi** or use public transportation.

**If someone offers** you a drink and you plan to drive, simply say, "No thanks, I'm driving."

Combining alcohol with other drugs usually multiplies the effects of both and can have a disastrous effect on your ability to drive. One drink taken when you are taking another drug--even an aspirin, simple allergy or cold remedy--could have the

same effect on your driving ability as having several alcoholic beverages.

Almost any drug can reduce your ability to drive safely. It's not just illegal drugs that cause problems. Many over-the-counter medications and prescription drugs for headaches, hay fever, cold, allergies or nervous conditions can cause drowsiness and dizziness. This includes syrups, drops, sprays, pills and tablets. They often affect driver alertness and slow reaction time.

Read the label before taking any drug or medicine. Look for warnings about side effects. If you're uncertain about the effects of a drug, ask your pharmacist or doctor for advice. Remember that, while the effects may vary among users, no drug is harmless. Taking any drug against medical direction or without a doctor's supervision is dangerous.

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## Rules of the Road

### Speed Limits

A speed limit is the maximum legal speed you can travel on a road under ideal conditions. You may drive slower than the posted speed, but it is illegal to drive any faster. By law, you must drive slower if conditions make the posted speed unsafe.

It is illegal to use a radar detector in Virginia. However, you may legally possess one if the device has no power source and no one in the car can access it.

Maximum speed limit for passenger vehicles and motorcycles (unless posted otherwise)	
Type of highway or zone	Limit
Interstate highways in designated rural areas	65 MPH
Interstate highways in areas not designated as rural	55 MPH
Limited access and non-limited access highways	55 MPH
Secondary routes which include all public roads and streets not designated as part of the interstate or primary system	55 MPH
School, business and residential zones (You are required to travel 25 MPH in a school zone only when indicated by a sign or signal. Otherwise, maintain the posted speed.)	25 MPH

### Stopping

**You must always stop your vehicle:**  
*when approaching* from any direction on a public or private road a stopped school bus with flashing red lights and extended stop sign. Stop and remain stopped until all children are clear and the bus moves again. If you are traveling on the opposite side of a divided highway separated by a physical barrier or unpaved median area, you are not required to stop.

*before the crosswalk* at all stop signs, red traffic lights and flashing red signals.

*when entering* a street or crossing over a sidewalk from a driveway, alley, building or parking lot.

*at railroad crossings* with flashing signals or flaggers.

*when signaled by* flaggers at construction sites.

*for blind persons* attempting to cross a street.

*at the direction* of a police officer.

*at the scene* of a crash in which you are involved.

Both **reaction distance** and **braking distance** are affected by weather, visibility and your mental and physical condition. Braking distance is further affected by the speed at which your vehicle is traveling, the condition of your brakes and tires and the pavement condition. For example, wet pavement can double your braking distance.

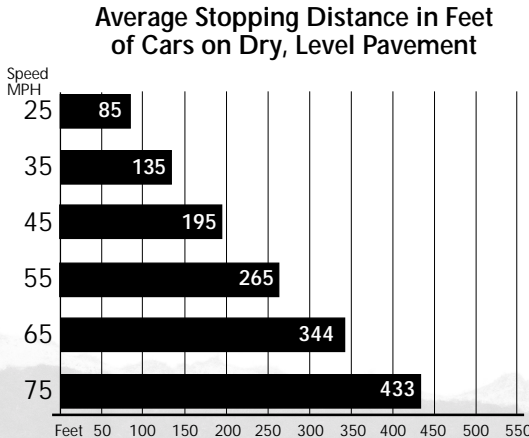
When driving on wet roads, reduce your speed by one-third. For example, slow down from 55 MPH to 35 MPH. When driving on packed snow, reduce your speed by one-half.

### Two factors determine the distance that it takes to stop your vehicle:

**Reaction distance:**  
The distance your vehicle travels between the time you recognize a problem and the time you apply the brake.

**Plus**

**Braking distance:**  
The distance your car travels after you apply the brakes and before the car stops.



Source: Code of Virginia § 46.2-880

## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...

No matter how quickly you react, on the average, it takes 344 feet-- more than the length of a football field--to stop an automobile going 65 MPH on a dry, level, hard-surface highway. It's not a matter of luck or skill; it's a law of physics. The chart on the preceding page gives you average stopping distances for automobiles on dry level pavement.

If your vehicle is equipped with antilock brakes, be sure that you understand how they work. Check your owner's manual and practice braking before you go out on the road. Remember, never pump antilock brakes.

### Right-of-Way

When two vehicles approach an intersection not controlled by traffic lights or signs or when two vehicles approach an intersection controlled by four stop signs, neither vehicle has the right-of-way. Virginia law states that when two or more vehicles approach an intersection from different directions at the same time, the driver on the LEFT must yield to the driver on the right.

The law does not give the right-of-way to anyone. It only states which driver must yield to another.

Yield also means to stop if you cannot merge safely into the flow of traffic.

### Emergency Vehicles

When approaching a stopped emergency vehicle, you must change lanes, where reasonable. If changing lanes is unreasonable or unsafe, you must proceed with caution.

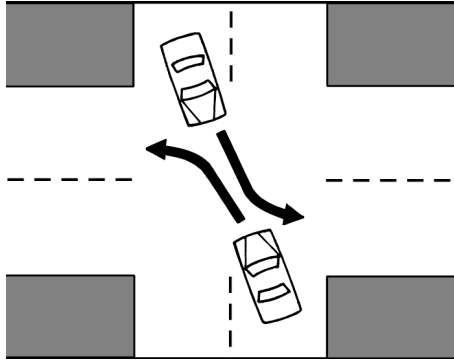
Violations can result in court suspension of your driver's license and demerit points on your driving record.

Additionally,

- You must yield the right-of-way to police, fire, rescue vehicles and ambulances using a siren, flashing lights or both.
  - Never follow any emergency vehicle closer than 500 feet.
  - When police, fire and rescue vehicles or ambulances approach you using a siren, flashing light or both, you must immediately yield the right-of-way. Pull over to the right edge of the road and stop until the emergency vehicle has passed. Don't follow any emergency vehicle any closer than 500 feet.
  - Regardless of your direction, on an undivided highway, you must pull over to the edge of the road and allow an emergency vehicle to pass.
- ### At uncontrolled intersections
- Drivers entering an interstate from an entrance ramp must yield the right-of-way to traffic already on the highway.
  - Drivers entering any intersection or traffic circle must yield to traffic already in it.
  - From a private road or driveway, you must stop before crossing a sidewalk or entering a public street. You must yield to all oncoming traffic and pedestrians.
- You may not park within 500 feet of where fire trucks or equipment are stopped answering an alarm.



- When two vehicles are approaching each other and signaling to turn left, both vehicles should take the inside path, the lane closest to the center. They will complete the turn by turning in front of each other.



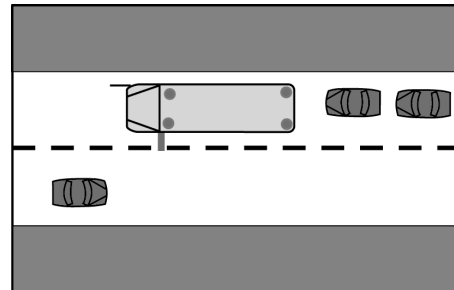
- You must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians who are crossing a street within a clearly marked crosswalk or at an intersection.
- You must always yield to visually handicapped pedestrians who are crossing a public street or highway. Visually handicapped pedestrians usually carry a white cane or are aided by a guide dog.
- You must yield to funeral processions. Do not cut through, join or interfere with a funeral procession. Unless accompanied or led by a police escort, the lead vehicle in a funeral procession must obey all traffic signs and signals. Other drivers in the procession may follow carefully without stopping and may use hazard lights (flashers) to indicate they are in the procession.
- You must yield to all military convoys. Never cut through or join a military convoy.
- Police officers directing traffic should be obeyed over all other signs or signals.

Remember that turns on red are especially hazardous to pedestrians. Regardless of who has the right-of-way, avoid conflict with pedestrians and permit them to cross the street safely.

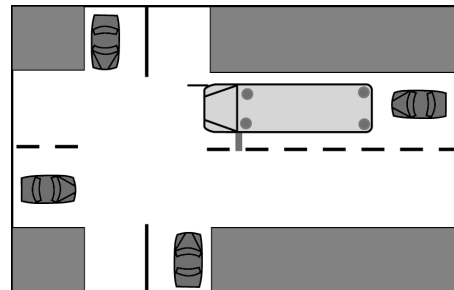


**In illustration, the shaded vehicle must stop and remain stopped until all children are clear of the roadway and the bus moves again.**

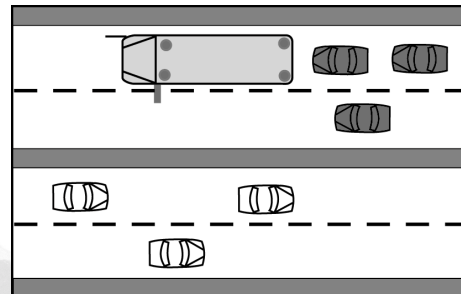
- When approaching a school bus with flashing signals or flashing signals and an extended stop sign on a public or private road, you must stop and remain stopped until all children are clear of the roadway and the bus moves again.



- You must also stop if the bus is loading or unloading children and the signal devices are not functioning properly.



- You do not have to stop, however, if you are traveling in the opposite direction on roadways separated by a physical barrier or unpaved median area.



## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...

### U-Turns

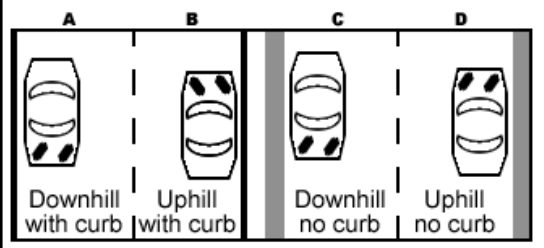
U-turns are not legal everywhere. So before you make a U-turn, check for signs prohibiting them. In business districts, cities and towns, U-turns are allowed only at intersections. Never make a U-turn on an expressway. When making a U-turn, give a left-turn signal, stop, check for approaching traffic. Proceed into the outside or right hand lane traveling in the opposite direction.

### Parking

When parking on a public road, move as far from traffic as possible. If you park on a road-side shoulder, pull as far on to it as possible. If you park next to a curb, pull close to it. You may not park more than one foot from the curb. Always park on the right side of the roadway unless it is a one-way street.

#### Parking on hills

When parking on a hill with a curb, turn the front wheels of your vehicle to prevent it from rolling into the street. Refer to illustrations A and B. If there is no curb, turn the front wheels so that if the vehicle rolls, the rear of the vehicle will roll away from traffic. Refer to illustrations C and D.



You may not park:

- beside another parked vehicle (double parking);
- on crosswalks or sidewalks;
- in front of driveways;
- within areas where parking is prohibited by curbs painted yellow or No Parking signs;

- in a parking space reserved for disabled persons;
- on the hard surface of a road when no curb is present;
- within 15 feet of a fire hydrant;
- within 20 feet of an intersection;
- within 15 feet of the entrance to a fire, ambulance or rescue squad station;
- within 500 feet of where fire trucks or equipment are stopped answering an alarm;
- within 50 feet of a railroad crossing; or,
- in such a way that you block or create a hazard for other vehicles in a designated traffic lane.

### Traffic Crashes

If you are involved in a traffic crash, you must:

- **Stop** at the scene of the crash or as close to the scene as possible without blocking traffic. You may move the vehicles before the police arrive if the vehicles create a traffic hazard.
- **Give any help** you can if someone is injured. Do not attempt to move an injured person from a wrecked vehicle unless you have the necessary medical training or there is an immediate danger such as fire.
- **Report the crash** to the police as quickly as possible. Motor vehicle crashes involving property damage, personal injury or death must be reported to the police.

- **Exchange information** with other people involved in the crash as soon as possible. Be sure to get the following information:
  - name, address and driver's license number of other drivers;
  - license plate numbers of other vehicles;
  - name and address of anyone who was injured;
  - name and address of each witness;
  - name, address and insurance policy number of other vehicle owners.
- **Notify** your insurance company immediately.

Law enforcement officers are required to forward a written crash report to DMV when a traffic crash results in injury or the death of any person or total property damage in excess of \$1,000. All crash information will be recorded on the DMV records of each driver involved in the crash.

You must make a reasonable effort to find the owner of an unattended vehicle or other property damaged in a crash. If you cannot locate anyone, leave a note that can be found easily at the scene of the crash. Include your name, address, telephone number, driver's license number, the date and time of the crash and an estimate of the damage. You must also report the crash to the police within 24 hours.

## Reading the Road

### Pavement Markings

Road markings guide and warn drivers as well as regulate traffic. Markings may be either red, blue, yellow or white. They may be used alone or in combinations. Each has a different meaning.

**Red markings** designate roadways that shall not be entered or used.

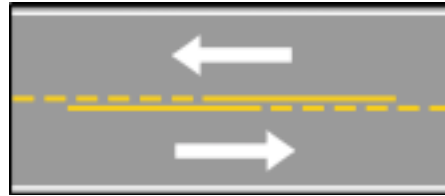
**Blue markings** designate parking spaces for persons with disabilities.

**Yellow center lines** indicate two-way traffic, flowing in opposite directions.

**Broken yellow center lines** indicate that passing on the left is permitted in either direction when the way ahead is clear.



**A broken yellow line alongside a solid yellow line** indicates that passing is permitted on the side of the broken line, but not on the side of the solid line.

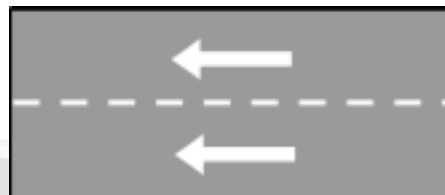


**Double solid yellow lines** mark the center of the road and separate oncoming traffic. Passing is not allowed in either direction. You may not cross the lines unless you are making a left turn.

**Yellow lines** also mark the left edge of divided highways and one-way roads.



**Broken white lines** separate lanes of traffic going in the same direction. You may cross with caution.



## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...

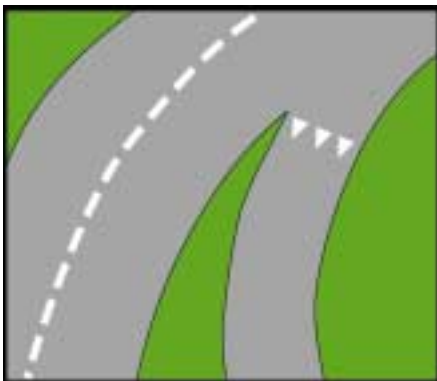
Many two-lane roads in Virginia do not have lane markings to separate the lanes. You may pass a slow moving vehicle on the left if there are no signs prohibiting passing. Make sure that the way is clear and observe the laws pertaining to passing. Refer to the passing information in this manual.

**Solid white lines** designate turn lanes and prevent lane changes near intersections. Solid white lines also mark the right edge of pavement. Arrows used with white lines indicate which turn may be made from the lane. Stop lines, crosswalks and parking spaces also are marked by white lines.



**Yield ahead symbol** is an outline of a triangle painted in the lane approaching a place where you must yield.

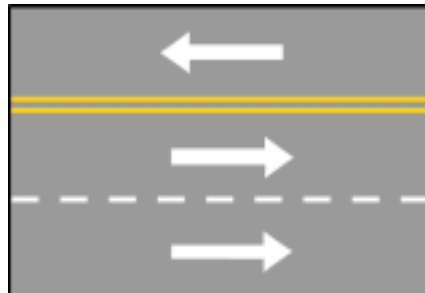
**Yield line** is a line of triangles extending across the roadway that show the point at which you must stop in a yield lane before safely proceeding into traffic.



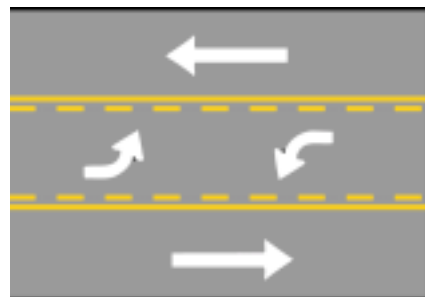
**On three-lane roads** with traffic moving in both directions, road markings indicate when drivers may use the center lane for making left turns or for passing.

**If the center lane is marked by a single broken yellow line on both sides**, motorists traveling in either direction may use the lane for passing.

**If one side of the center lane is bounded by double solid yellow lines**, drivers traveling next to the double yellow lines in either direction may not cross them except to make a left turn.



**If both sides of the center lane are marked by a solid yellow line and a broken yellow line**, drivers traveling in either direction may use the lane for making left turns. However, they may not travel further than 150 feet in this lane.



If you are in a lane marked with a curved arrow or a curved arrow and the word ONLY, you must turn in the direction of the arrow. If your lane is marked with both a curved and straight arrow, you may either turn or go straight.





**High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes** are designated on highways by a diamond-shaped marking in the center of the lane. HOV lanes may also be special lanes separated by a barrier. During heavy traffic periods, HOV lanes are reserved for buses, vanpools, carpools, motorcycles and other high occupancy vehicles. Road signs indicate the minimum number of passengers a vehicle must carry to use the HOV lanes and the times that HOV restrictions are in effect. If the lanes are separated by a barrier, they are reversible. This means that during certain times of the day, traffic flows one way. During other times of the day, traffic flows in the opposite direction. This diamond-shaped marking may also indicate that the lane is reserved for use as a bike lane or bus lane.

**Painted Curbs**

A painted curb means that you must follow special rules to park there. Check with the local jurisdiction for specific meanings. Generally, the colors on the curb mean:

**White**

Stop only long enough to pick up or drop off passengers.

**Yellow**

Stop only long enough to load or unload. Stay with your car.

**Red**

Do not stop, stand or park.

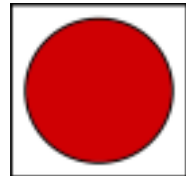
**Blue**

Parking is reserved for persons with disabilities.

**Traffic Signals**

Traffic signals apply to drivers, motorcycle riders, bicyclists, moped-riders and pedestrians. You must obey the signals unless a police officer is directing traffic. It is unlawful to avoid a traffic signal, sign or control device by driving off the roadway and onto or across public or private property.

**Stop**--At a steady red light, come to a complete stop before you reach the intersection, stop line or crosswalk. Remain stopped as long as the light is red unless turns are allowed on red.



**At a flashing red light**, you must come to a complete stop and yield to oncoming traffic and/or pedestrians. You may go when the way is clear. At a railroad crossing, you must come to a complete stop even though the train is not present.



**Right turn on red:** At some intersections you may turn right while the traffic light is red. Before turning, you must come to a complete stop. Look both ways and yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic. Be sure to check for less visible vehicles such as bicycles and mopeds. Regardless of traffic conditions, you may not turn right if signs are posted at the intersection which read "No Turn on Red."

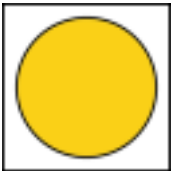
**Left turn on red:** You may turn left at a red light if you are on a one-way street and turning left onto another one-way street. Come to a complete stop and proceed with caution. You may not turn while the light is red if a sign prohibits it. You must yield to all oncoming traffic and pedestrians.

Note: If you are traveling in another state, make sure you know their laws for right turns and left turns on red.



Some states prohibit right and left turns on red at red arrow lights unless a sign is posted permitting these turns.

## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...



**Caution**--a steady yellow light or arrow warns that the light is about to change. If you have not entered the intersection, you should come to a stop. If you are already in the intersection, continue moving in order to clear it. Speeding up to beat the light could cause a crash.



**At a flashing yellow light**, slow down and proceed with caution. You'll find yellow lights at locations with higher-than-normal hazard conditions.



**Go**--At a green light you may proceed in the direction indicated by the signal or arrow if the roadway is clear. If you are turning, you must yield the right-of-way to oncoming vehicles or pedestrians in the intersection.



### Lane Use Signals

Lane use signals indicate lanes where you can and cannot drive during different hours of the day. These signals are used frequently to reverse a lane's direction. They provide additional lanes for heavy early morning traffic and evening traffic.



#### Red X

Never drive in a lane marked with a red X signal.



#### Yellow X

A steady yellow X signal means that you should move out of the lane as soon as safely possible.

### Green Arrow

You are permitted to drive in a lane marked with a green arrow signal.



### Steady White 2-Way Left Turn Arrows

Two-way left turn arrows means you may use the lane for a left turn; however, vehicles coming from the other direction may also use the same lane for left-turning.



### Steady White Left Turn Arrow

A steady white arrow indicates that you may use the lane for a left turn. (No vehicles coming from the the opposite direction may use the same lane for left-turning.)



## Traffic Signs

### Sign Shapes

The shape of a traffic sign communicates important information about the sign's message. In poor visibility conditions, such as heavy fog, you may be able to make out only the shape of a sign. Part one of DMV's driver licensing knowledge exam consists of a 10-question test on traffic signs. You must answer all ten questions correctly before you can take part two. The traffic sign questions are selected from the following information.

### Octagon: Stop

The octagon (eight-sided) shape always means stop. You must come to a complete stop at the sign, stop line, pedestrian crosswalk or curb. Then, yield the right-of-way to any vehicle or pedestrian approaching from either direction.



At some intersections you'll find a plaque beneath the stop sign that says "All Way" or "4 Way." At these intersections all vehicles on all roads leading in to the intersection must stop. The driver on the left must yield to the driver on the right.



**Triangle: Yield**

Slow down to a speed reasonable for the conditions and yield the right-of-way. Stop if necessary.



**Rectangle: Regulatory or Guide**

Vertical signs generally give instructions or tell you the law. Horizontal signs may give directions or information.



**Diamond: Warning**

These signs warn you of special conditions or hazards ahead. Drive with caution and be ready to slow down. (Pedestrian and bicycle signs may also be displayed in fluorescent yellow-green.)



**Pentagon: School Zone and School Crossing**

The pentagon (five-sided) shape marks school zones and warns you about school crossings. Signs may display horizontal lines indicating the point at which a crosswalk exists. Signs may have a

separate downward-pointing arrow plaque which indicates the actual location of the crosswalk. (Signs may also be displayed in yellow-gold.)



**Crossbuck and Circle: Railroad Crossing**

Both of these signs indicate that you are approaching a railroad crossing. Slow down, look and listen for trains.

**Regulatory Signs**

These signs inform you of the law; therefore, you must obey their instructions. Remember that a red circle with a slash means NO--the symbol inside the circle tells you what is prohibited.

**Speed Limit**

This indicates the maximum legal speed that you may travel on the road where this sign is posted assuming weather conditions are favorable. During rain, snow and ice, you may receive a ticket for overdriving the conditions even if you are driving at or less than the posted speed limit.



**Do Not Enter -- Wrong Way**

These signs are used often in combination and identify a one-way street, expressway ramp or the wrong direction or wrong side of a divided highway. Do not drive past either of these signs -- turn around.



**One Way**

Traffic flows only in the direction of the arrow.



**No Left Turn**

Left turns and U-turns prohibited. In Virginia U-turns are considered as two left turns and are prohibited if this sign is posted.



**No Right Turn**

Right turns prohibited.



**No U-Turn**

U-turns prohibited.



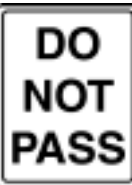


## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...



### No Turn on Red

You may not turn during the red light. Wait for the signal to turn green.



### No Passing

This sign marks the beginning of a no passing zone. You may not pass cars ahead of you in your lane.



### Left Turn Yield on Green

This sign is used in combination with a traffic signal. It emphasizes that traffic turning left on the circular green light does not have the right-of-way and must yield to oncoming traffic.



### Keep Right

A traffic island, median or obstruction is ahead. Keep to the side indicated by the arrow.



### Lane-Use Control

These signs are used where turning movements are required or where special turning movements are permitted for specific lanes.



### High Occupancy Vehicle

Indicates lanes reserved for buses and vehicles with the minimum number of occupants specified on the sign.



### Disabled Parking

Parking spaces marked with these signs are reserved for individuals with disabled parking privileges.



### Warning Signs

Warning signs alert you to possible hazards ahead. Slow down and watch for other signs or signals that may follow.

### Advisory Speed

Indicates the maximum safe speed for an entrance or exit on the expressway.



### Signal Ahead

Traffic signals are ahead. Slow down and be ready to stop.



### No Passing

This sign marks the beginning of a no passing zone. You may not pass cars ahead of you in your lane.



### Merge

Two lanes of traffic are about to become one. Drivers in both lanes are responsible for merging smoothly.







**Lane Reduction**

The right lane ends soon. Drivers in the right lane must merge left when space opens up. Drivers in the left lane should allow other vehicles to merge smoothly.



**Divided Highway Begins**

The highway ahead is split into two separate roadways by a median or divider and each roadway is one-way. Keep right.



**Divided Highway Ends**

The highway ahead becomes a single roadway with traffic going in both directions. Keep right.



**Slippery when Wet**

When pavement is wet, reduce your speed. Do not brake hard or change direction suddenly. Increase the distance between your car and the one ahead. These actions are needed on all wet roads and especially on roads where this sign is posted.



**Low Clearance Sign**

The overpass ahead has a low clearance. Do not proceed if your vehicle is taller than the height indicated on the sign.



**Hill**

A steep grade is ahead. Check your brakes.



**Low Ground Railroad Crossing**

Steep grade adjoining railroad bed may create a hang-up situation for vehicles with low ground clearance and a long wheel-base.



**Deer Crossing**

Deer regularly cross the highway in this area. Slow down and be ready to stop.

**Pedestrian Crossing**

Watch for people crossing your path. Be prepared to slow down and stop. Signs may display horizontal lines indicating the point where a crosswalk exists.



Signs may have a separate downward-pointing arrow plaque which indicates the actual location of the crosswalk.



**Bicycle Crossing/Bike Path**

Bicycles regularly cross or ride beside traffic in this area. Drive with caution. Signs may have a separate downward-pointing arrow plaque which indicates the actual location of bike crossing. (Signs may also be displayed in yellow-gold.)



**School Zone -- School Crossing**

Slow down -- the speed limit is usually 25 MPH. Watch out for children crossing the street or playing. Be ready to stop. Obey signals from any crossing guards. Signs may display horizontal lines indicating the point where a crosswalk exists. Signs may have a separate downward-pointing arrow plaque which indicates the actual location of the crosswalk. (Signs may also be displayed in yellow-gold.)



**Open Joints**

Slow down—open section joints on bridges or ramps could be of sufficient size to cause rider to lose control of motorcycle.



**Crossroad**

A four-way intersection is ahead. Watch for cross-traffic. Be ready to yield the right-of-way.



## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...



### Side road

A road joins from the right. Be alert for vehicles entering the roadway you are traveling on.



### Y Intersection

You must bear either right or left ahead.



### T Intersection

The roadway you are traveling on ends ahead. Signal before turning right or left.



### Right Curve/Side Road

The road ahead curves right and a side road joins from the left within the curve. Be alert for vehicles entering the roadway you are traveling,



### Sharp Right Turn

Be prepared for a sharp turn to the right in the road ahead.



### Sharp Right and Left Turns

The road ahead turns sharply right, then left.



### Right and Left Curves

The road ahead curves right, then left.

### Right curve (with safe speed indicator)

The road ahead curves right. Slow down to the safe speed indicated.



### Winding Road

The road ahead winds with a series of turns or curves.



On all curves, slow down for better control.

Many localities and the Virginia Department of Transportation use electronic message boards mounted above the roadway or on the shoulder of the road to indicate hazardous driving conditions ahead (such as crashes, delays or road construction). Watch for these messages and obey the warning.

### Work Zone Devices

The lives of highway construction workers depend on drivers like you obeying the posted speed limits in work zones. If you are convicted of exceeding the speed limit in a highway work zone, you may be fined up to \$500. Remember, the color orange marks a work zone and means slow down.



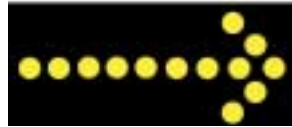
### Road Construction Ahead/Detour

These signs indicate unusual or potentially dangerous conditions and guide drivers along a different route.



**Flashing Arrow Panels**

Large flashing arrow panels or flashing message signs in work zones guide drivers into designated traffic lanes and inform them that part of the road ahead is closed.



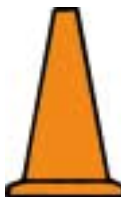
**Flaggers**

Flaggers normally wear orange or yellow vests, yellow-green shirts or jackets. They use STOP/SLOW paddles and red flags to direct traffic through the work zone and to let workers or construction vehicles cross the road.



**Channelizing Devices**

Barricades, vertical panels, concrete barriers, drums and cones are the most common devices used to guide drivers safely through work zones. When driving near the devices, keep your vehicle in the middle of the lane and obey the posted speed limit. As you leave the work zone, stay in your lane and maintain your speed. Don't change lanes until you are completely clear of the work zone.



**Railroad Crossings**

**Railroad Crossing Sign**

Advance warning signs are placed before the crossing. These signs warn you to look, listen, slow down and be prepared to stop.



**Railroad Crossbuck**

If there is more than one track, the sign below the crossbuck will indicate the number of tracks at the crossing. Slow down and be prepared to stop.

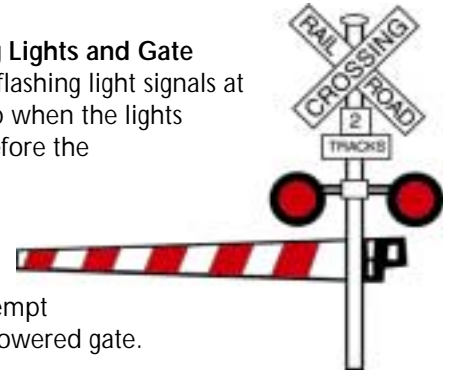
**Railroad Crossbuck and Flashing Lights**

Flashing lights may be used with crossbuck signs. Always stop when the light begins to flash and be alert for approaching trains. Do not proceed until all trains have passed, the tracks are clear, and the lights are no longer flashing. Be especially alert at multi-track crossings because a second train could be approaching from the opposite direction.



**Crossbuck, Flashing Lights and Gate**

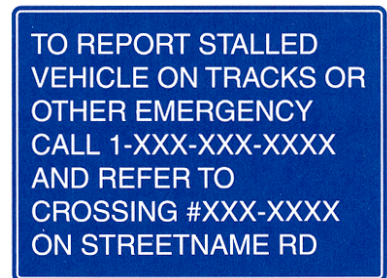
Gates are used with flashing light signals at some crossings. Stop when the lights begin to flash and before the gate lowers. Remain stopped until the gates are raised and the lights stop flashing. Do not attempt to drive around the lowered gate.



Pavement markings, consisting of an X and RR, may be painted on the pavement at the approach to some crossings.

When approaching railroad tracks, be alert. Trains may approach the crossing at any time and from either direction. Never start across the tracks unless there is room for your vehicle on the other side. Don't cross the tracks until the vehicle ahead of you is completely off the tracks.

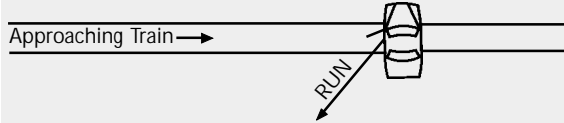
If a dangerous condition exists at a highway rail crossing, call the number listed on the emergency notification sign. This will allow the rail company to stop or reroute approaching rail traffic until the hazard is removed.





## Section 2: Behind the Wheel...

**If your car stalls on the tracks, don't hesitate. Get out of the car and run diagonally away from the tracks in the direction of the oncoming train.**



### Message Boards

You may see portable or permanent message boards along the highway. They may provide information about traffic, road, weather or other hazardous conditions. Always obey any directions posted on these message boards. For information about road conditions or road construction, visit the VDOT web site at [www.virginiadot.org](http://www.virginiadot.org).

### Slow Moving Vehicle

#### Slow Moving Vehicle

Vehicles which travel at 25 MPH or less -- such as farm equipment and horse-drawn vehicles -- must display these emblems when using a public highway. Be prepared to adjust your speed or position when you see a vehicle with one of these placards.





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## **Virginia Traffic Laws at a Glance**

- Virginia license plates must be displayed on the vehicle so that all wording, numbers and decals are completely visible and readable.
- You must use your headlights during inclement weather, or whenever you use your windshield wipers.
- You must signal before you change lanes, make a turn or pull in front of another vehicle.
- Radar detectors and radar jamming devices are illegal in Virginia.
- It is unlawful to operate a motor vehicle, moped or bicycle on Virginia roadways while using earphones or headphones in both ears.
- Bicycles are considered vehicles and have the same rights-of-way as motor vehicles; bicycles must also yield the same rights-of-way as motor vehicles.
- If you change your address, you must notify DMV of your new address within 30 days.
- All children under age six must be properly secured in an approved child safety seat or booster seat.
- All children age six through 15 must be properly secured in an approved child safety seat, booster seat or safety belt no matter where the child is seated in the vehicle. It is unlawful for persons under age 16 to travel in the bed of a pick-up truck.
- The driver and front-seat passenger must wear safety belts.
- Do not cut through, join, or interfere with a funeral procession. You must yield the right-of-way to the procession.
- Pull to the curb and yield the right-of-way to all approaching emergency vehicles. When approaching a stopped emergency vehicle, you must change lanes or proceed with caution.
- Never drink or use drugs and drive.
- Failure to pay any motor vehicle-related or other court fine can result in suspension of your driver's license.
- Failure to pay the local vehicle license fee or personal property tax will prohibit you from renewing your vehicle registration(s).



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