

**Manual**



# VI. DRIVING ENVIRONMENTS & THEIR CHARACTERISTICS

Lessons and Hints to Work With Your New Teen Driver

Residential

Part 6

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Institute for  
Rural Health & Safety

START SIMPLE

WORK SLOWLY

PRACTICE, REPEAT

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible

Start Simple  
Work Slowly  
Practice, Repeat

## RESIDENTIAL DRIVING LESSONS

Use the idea of :

- “Start Simple, Work Slowly, Practice, Repeat”
- Don’t overwhelm the new driver (or yourself) with too much, too soon.

Because of their complex features, rural roads, highways or expressways are not good starting areas.

Start with simple tasks in simple areas and move to more complex areas as the new driver becomes more competent.

Use the idea of :

“Start Simple, Work Slowly, Practice, Repeat”  
Don’t overwhelm the new driver (or yourself) with too much, too soon.

Because of their complex features, rural roads, highways or expressways are not good starting areas.

Start with simple tasks in simple areas and move to more complex areas when new driver becomes more competent.

## RESIDENTIAL DRIVING LESSONS

After your new driver has gotten more familiar with the vehicle and driving procedures in a safe, open area, the next step will be to introduce them into the Residential Driving Environment.

Driving in this area with its characteristics (low speeds, sparse traffic, straight roads, etc.) is safer and allows for:

- Developing skills to reduce risk such as search habits, identifying a path of travel, avoiding hazards, lane position and space to the sides, and speed control and adjustments.
- Allows you (the mentor driver) to react quickly enough to student errors, and question the student to what they observe.

After your new driver has gotten more familiar with the vehicle and driving procedures in a safe, open area, the next step will be to introduce them into the Residential Driving Environment.

Driving in this area with its characteristics (low speeds, sparse traffic, straight roads, etc.) is safer and allows for:

Developing skills to reduce risk such as search habits, identifying a path of travel, avoiding hazards, lane position and space to the sides, and speed control and adjustments.

This allows you (the mentor driver) to react quickly enough to student errors, and question the student to what they observe.

## DRIVING LESSONS

### • TAKE BREAKS AS NEEDED

Lesson length usually shouldn't be more than 30 minutes. They can be lengthened as you and the student become more experienced.

During breaks:

- Talk about what the student has done well, and what needs to be improved.

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible

Driving lessons

### TAKE BREAKS AS NEEDED

Lesson length shouldn't be more than 30 minutes without some sort of break.

During breaks:

Talk about what the student has done well, and what needs to be improved.

## DRIVING LESSONS

### • STAY CALM IN HAZARD SITUATIONS-TAKE CONTROL

- Guide steering with right hand to avoid collisions as needed.
- Bump gear selector to neutral, pull hand brake if needed.

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible

Driving lessons

### STAY CALM IN HAZARD SITUATIONS-TAKE CONTROL

As needed guide steering with right hand to avoid collisions  
Bump gear selector to neutral, pull hand brake if needed

## DRIVING LESSONS

Be aware of:

What the student driver is doing:

- Doing what you directed?
- Slowing and braking soon enough?
- Signaling and steering incorrect direction?

What they see and their reaction to:

- signs, signals,
- other users,
- roadway, space conditions.

AND

What is happening ahead, to the side and behind you.  
Constant search, awareness, anticipation.

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible

You must be aware of:

What the student driver is doing:

Doing what you directed?

Slowing and braking soon enough?

Signaling and steering incorrect direction?

What they see and their reaction to

signs, signals,

other users,

roadway, space conditions.

AND

What is happening ahead, to the side and behind you.

Constant search, awareness, anticipation.

## RESIDENTIAL STREETS



- **Two way or one way streets**
  - Vary in width
  - Alley ways
- **Minimal traffic**
  - Passenger vehicles
  - School Buses
  - Delivery, Recycling, Garbage
  - PEDESTRIANS
  - JOGGERS, WALKERS, CYCLISTS



Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible

Two way or one way streets

Vary in width

Alley ways

Minimal traffic

Passenger vehicles

School Buses

Delivery, Recycling, Garbage

PEDESTRIANS

JOGGERS, WALKERS, CYCLISTS

## RESIDENTIAL STREETS

### Characteristics

- **Low Speeds-**
  - Maximum of 25 mph
  - Un-posted in PA is 25 but can be posted lower.
- **Few traffic controls**
  - **Possibly Signs**
    - STOP
    - Speed Limit, Warning
  - **Lane markings**
    - No center lines or edge lines
    - Possible crosswalks and stop lines
    - Possible curb markings

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible

Residential Streets

Characteristics

Low Speeds-

Maximum of 25 mph

Un-posted in PA is 25 but can be posted lower.

Few controls

Possibly Signs

STOP

Speed Limit, Warning

Lane markings

No center lines or edge lines

Possible crosswalks and stop lines

Possible curb markings

## RESIDENTIAL STREETS

### **Special Hazards With Pedestrians**

- **Children**-unpredictable, unaware
- **Pets**-unpredictable, unaware
- **Elderly**-diminished reactions, abilities, & awareness
- **Hearing impaired or blind**
  - **May Be A Warning Sign**
  - **Identify Blind Pedestrian**
    - White cane, Guide Dog or both
    - Driver is REQUIRED TO YIELD TO BLIND PEDESTRIAN AT ALL TIMES

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible

Special Hazards With Pedestrians

Children

Pets

Elderly

Hearing impaired or blind

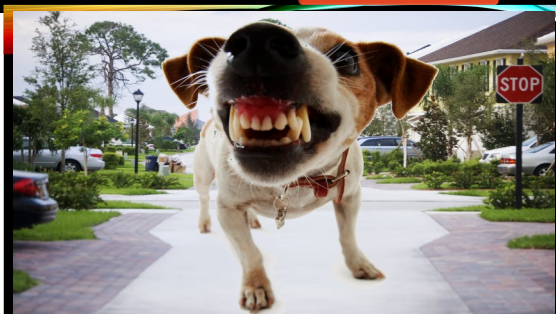
May Be A Warning Sign

Identify Blind Pedestrian

White cane, Guide Dog or both

Driver is REQUIRED TO YIELD TO BLIND

PEDESTRIAN AT ALL TIMES



## RESIDENTIAL STREETS

Sightlines vary. May be blocked by:

- Buildings, vehicles
- Trees, Shrubs, Hedges, Fences

**BLIND INTERSECTIONS AND DRIVEWAYS**

- **EYES SCAN TO BLIND INTERSECTIONS**

**BROADEN YOUR SEARCH**

- **SCAN THROUGH, OVER, UNDER, AROUND AND BETWEEN**

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible

Residential Streets

Sightlines vary. May be blocked by:

- Buildings, vehicles
- Trees, Shrubs, Hedges, Fences

**BLIND INTERSECTIONS AND DRIVEWAYS**

**EYES SCAN TO BLIND INTERSECTIONS**

**BROADEN YOUR SEARCH**

**SCAN THROUGH, OVER, UNDER, AROUND AND BETWEEN**



**SIGHTLINES VARY**

Buildings

Trees, Shrubs, Hedges, Fences

Blind intersections and driveways

**BROADEN YOUR SEARCH**

**SCAN THROUGH, OVER, UNDER, AROUND AND BETWEEN**



Residential Streets

**SPACE TO SIDES VARIES**

VEHICLES MAY BE PARKED ON BOTH SIDES

CROSS PARKING-HAZARDOUS (ILLEGAL)

REMEMBER RIGHT OF WAY LAWS

**SEARCH FOR CLUES**

EXHAUST FUMES

TAIL LIGHTS, REVERSE LIGHTS

DRIVER OR PASSENGER IN VEHICLE- OPEN

DOOR IN TO YOUR PATH



## NO PARKING

No-Parking Zones — There are many areas where you cannot park. Check for signs that may prohibit or limit parking. Some parking restrictions are indicated by colored curb markings. Do not park:

- in an intersection
- on a crosswalk or sidewalk,
- in a construction area if your vehicle will block traffic,
- within 30 ft. of a traffic signal, stop sign or yield
- within 15 ft. of a fire hydrant,
- within 50 ft. of a railroad crossing,
- more than 1 ft. from the curb,
- within 20 ft. of a fire station driveway on the same side of the street or within 75 ft. of a driveway on the other side of the street,
- blocking a driveway, alley, private road or area of the curb removed or lowered for access to the sidewalk.

No-Parking Zones — There are many areas where you cannot park.

Check for signs that may prohibit or limit parking.

Some parking restrictions are indicated by colored curb markings.

Do not park:

- in an intersection
- on a crosswalk or sidewalk,
- in a construction area if your vehicle will block traffic,
- within 30 ft. of a traffic signal, stop sign or yield
- within 15 ft. of a fire hydrant,
- within 50 ft. of a railroad crossing,
- more than 1 ft. from the curb,
- within 20 ft. of a fire station driveway on the same side of the street or within 75 ft. of a driveway on the other side of the street,
- blocking a driveway, alley, private road or area of the curb removed or lowered for access to the sidewalk,

## NO PARKING

- on a bridge or overpass or in a tunnel or underpass,
- on the wrong side of the street,
- in a space marked for the handicapped, unless you have a handicap license plate, tag or sticker,
- on the road side of a parked vehicle (double parking),
- on railroad tracks, or
- wherever a sign says you cannot park.
- Other parking restrictions are indicated by curbs painted:
  - White - indicates that only short stops are permitted,
  - Yellow - indicates a loading zone or some other restriction.

### No Parking

- on a bridge or overpass or in a tunnel or underpass,
- on the wrong side of the street,
- in a space marked for the handicapped, unless you have a handicap license plate, tag or sticker,
- on the road side of a parked vehicle (double parking),
- on railroad tracks, or
- wherever a sign says you cannot park.
- Other parking restrictions are indicated by curbs painted:
  - White - indicates that only short stops are permitted,
  - Yellow - indicates a loading zone or some other restriction.

# RESIDENTIAL DRIVING LESSONS

Step 1: Inform driver of characteristics:

## RESIDENTIAL ROUTE

### Characteristics

- MINIMAL TRAFFIC
- LANE WIDTHS VARY
- POSTED SPEEDS– UP TO 25 MPH
- MINIMAL SIGNS AND MARKINGS
  - POSSIBLY NO CENTER LANE MARKINGS
  - STOP, FEW WARNING. CROSS WALKS
- INTERSECTIONS, DRIVEWAYS, ALLEY WAYS
  - BLIND & OPEN VIEWS
- "RESIDENTIAL" ACTIVITIES
  - =WALKING, JOGGING, CYCLISTS,
- CHILDREN, PETS

**Step 2:  
Inform driver of lesson objectives.  
Work with a few at a time as needed.  
Then move on.**

## Residential Route

Step 1: Inform driver of characteristics:

### Characteristics

Minimal amounts of traffic, usually local residents

Posted speeds– up to 25 mph

Minimal signs and markings

STOP, some warning signs. Cross walks

Intersections, driveways, alley ways, one-way streets

Blind & open views

"Residential" activities

=Walking, jogging, cyclists,

Children, pets

# RESIDENTIAL DRIVING LESSONS

## OBJECTIVES-ACTIVITIES/SKILLS PRACTICE

### THE STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:

- ENTER ROADWAY FROM CURB  
STRESS= REAR CHECK >SIGNAL >BLIND SPOT CHECK
- ADJUST TO CONDITIONS AND ACTIVITIES
- I.D. HAZARDS-AWARENESS & AVOIDANCE  
MAKE SPEED & LANE POSITION ADJUSTMENTS TO AVOID CONFLICTS  
STRESS = SEARCH TECHNIQUES
- IDENTIFY INTERSECTION TYPES AND SIGNS
- IDENTIFY SIGNS AND CROSSWALKS
- I.D INTERSECTION TYPES  
UNCONTROLLED, 1-2-3-4-WAY STOP
- IDENTIFY STOPPING POINTS @ INTERSECTIONS  
IN FRONT OF: CROSSWALK, STOP LINE, SIDEWALK, EDGE OF ROAD
- COMPLETE /SMOOTH STOPS. 2ND STOPS AS NEEDED
- CROSS INTERSECTIONS & TURNS-
  - LEFT & RIGHT TURNS  
MAKE MOVING & STATIONARY TURNS  
TIME TO AVOID CONFLICT  
RIGHT OF WAY  
SELECT GAP,  
CORRECT LANE ENTRY,  
STEERING TECHNIQUES ( 2ND GLANCE, SCAN THROUGH TURN, MIRROR
  - MOVING TO CURB OR SIDE OF STREET  
=SEARCH, SIGNAL, BLIND SPOT
  - PARKING & SECURING  
= PARKING BRAKE, SHIFT TO PARK, SHUT DOWN, SAFELY EXIT
- REGULAR ROUTINE MIRROR USE:  
WHEN SLOWING AND STOPPING  
AFTER ENTERING ROADWAY

## OBJECTIVES-Activities/SKILLS practice

Step 2: Inform driver of lesson objectives. Work with a few at a time as needed. Then move on.

# RESIDENTIAL DRIVING LESSONS

## OBJECTIVES-ACTIVITIES/SKILLS PRACTICE

### THE STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:

- ENTER ROADWAY FROM CURB  
STRESS= REAR CHECK >SIGNAL >BLIND SPOT CHECK
- ADJUST TO CONDITIONS AND ACTIVITIES
- I.D. HAZARDS-AWARENESS & AVOIDANCE  
MAKE SPEED & LANE POSITION ADJUSTMENTS TO AVOID CONFLICTS  
STRESS = SEARCH TECHNIQUES
- IDENTIFY INTERSECTION TYPES AND SIGNS
- IDENTIFY SIGNS AND CROSSWALKS
- I.D INTERSECTION TYPES  
UNCONTROLLED, 1-2-3-4-WAY STOP
- IDENTIFY STOPPING POINTS @ INTERSECTIONS  
IN FRONT OF: CROSSWALK, STOP LINE, SIDEWALK, EDGE OF ROAD
- COMPLETE /SMOOTH STOPS, 2ND STOPS AS NEEDED

### CROSS INTERSECTIONS &TURNS-

- LEFT & RIGHT TURNS  
MAKE MOVING & STATIONARY TURNS  
TIME TO AVOID CONFLICT  
RIGHT OF WAY  
SELECT GAP,  
CORRECT LANE ENTRY,  
STEERING TECHNIQUES (  
2ND GLANCE, SCAN THROUGH TURN, MIRROR
  - MOVING TO CURB OR SIDE OF STREET  
=SEARCH, SIGNAL, BLIND SPOT
  - PARKING &SECURING  
= PARKING BRAKE, SHIFT TO PARK, SHUT DOWN,  
SAFELY EXIT
- REGULAR ROUTINE MIRROR USE:  
WHEN SLOWING AND STOPPING  
AFTER ENTERING ROADWAY

## OBJECTIVES-ACTIVITIES/SKILLS PRACTICE

### THE STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:

#### ENTER ROADWAY FROM CURB

STRESS= REAR CHECK >SIGNAL >BLIND SPOT CHECK

#### ADJUST TO CONDITIONS AND ACTIVITIES

#### I.D. HAZARDS-AWARENESS & AVOIDANCE

MAKE SPEED & LANE POSITION ADJUSTMENTS TO AVOID CONFLICTS  
STRESS = SEARCH TECHNIQUES

#### IDENTIFY INTERSECTION TYPES AND SIGNS

#### IDENTIFY SIGNS AND CROSSWALKS

#### I.D INTERSECTION TYPES

UNCONTROLLED, 1-2-3-4-WAY STOP

#### IDENTIFY STOPPING POINTS @ INTERSECTIONS

IN FRONT OF: CROSSWALK, STOP LINE, SIDEWALK, EDGE OF ROAD

#### COMPLETE /SMOOTH STOPS, 2ND STOPS AS NEEDED

## CROSS INTERSECTIONS &TURNS-

### LEFT & RIGHT TURNS

MAKE MOVING & STATIONARY TURNS  
TIME TO AVOID CONFLICT  
RIGHT OF WAY

SELECT GAP,

CORRECT LANE ENTRY,  
STEERING TECHNIQUES (

2ND GLANCE, SCAN THROUGH TURN, MIRROR

MOVING TO CURB OR SIDE OF STREET

=SEARCH, SIGNAL, BLIND SPOT

PARKING &SECURING

= PARKING BRAKE, SHIFT TO PARK, SHUT DOWN,

SAFELY EXIT

REGULAR ROUTINE MIRROR USE:

WHEN SLOWING AND STOPPING  
AFTER ENTERING ROADWAY



- LESSON /RESIDENTIAL EXTRAS
- OBJECTIVES & SKILLS PRACTICE
- TURNABOUTS-
- · STRESS SIMPLICITY & SAFETY
- = EYES UP-SEARCH FOR TRAFFIC
- 3-POINT TURN
- U-TURN
- 2 POINT
- EMERGENCY EXERCISES
- · ENGINE STALL & MOVING RESTART
- PROCEDURE
- BENEFITS OF CONTINUED FORWARD MOTION
- PROBLEMS OF STOPPING
- · ACCELERATOR STICK / UNINTENDED

## ACCELERATION

- · ABS BRAKING /EVASIVE STEERING
- · COUNTERSTEER FOR REAR WHEEL TRACTION LOSS
- · BRAKE FAILURE (MAY NOT BE ABLE TO DO W/ELECTRONIC
- Emergency brake)
- PARKING SKILLS
- PERPENDICULAR
- DIAGONAL
- UP-HILL/DOWN-HILL W/W/O CURB

## LESSON /RESIDENTIAL EXTRAS

### OBJECTIVES & SKILLS PRACTICE

#### TURNABOUTS-

- · STRESS SIMPLICITY & SAFETY
- = EYES UP-SEARCH FOR TRAFFIC

3-POINT TURN

U-TURN

2 POINT

#### EMERGENCY EXERCISES

- ENGINE STALL & MOVING RESTART
- PROCEDURE

BENEFITS OF CONTINUED FORWARD MOTION

PROBLEMS OF STOPPING

- ACCELERATOR STICK/ UNINTENDED

## ACCELERATION

- ABS BRAKING /EVASIVE STEERING
- COUNTERSTEER FOR REAR WHEEL TRACTION LOSS

- BRAKE FAILURE (MAY NOT BE ABLE TO DO W/ELECTRONIC
- Emergency brake)

#### PARKING SKILLS

PERPENDICULAR

DIAGONAL

UP-HILL/DOWN-HILL W/W/O CURB

## • Anticipated Problems

- Failing to check blind spots on lane changes
- Failing to check mirror(s) at least once per block
- Improper lane position for intersection maneuver from both two-way and one-way streets
- Failing to stop for pedestrian crosswalk
- Not coming to a complete stop when required
- Waiting to make a left turn with wheels turned
- Failing to use the "second glance" technique
- Failing to sight through turns
- Not following the radius of the curb on right turns
- Dry steering on turnabouts

## **Anticipated Problems**

Failing to check blind spots on lane changes

Failing to check mirror(s) at least once per block

Improper lane position for intersection maneuver from both two-way and one-way streets

Failing to stop for pedestrian crosswalk

Not coming to a complete stop when required

Waiting to make a left turn with wheels turned

Failing to use the "second glance" technique

Failing to sight through turns

Not following the radius of the curb on right turns

Dry steering on turnabouts

## Lessons and Hints to Work With Your New Teen Driver

- This resource is based on a behind the wheel program that is used by trained driver education teachers.

### Purpose :

- to give adults supervising practice driving with a teen driver, an orderly, standard routine.
- To provide objectives and methods similar to those used by in-car driving instructors that may:
  - reduce stressful situations for adult and teen.
  - reduce risk by allowing the teen driver to gradually progress through skill levels and driving environments.

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible

## Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible

This series was produced by the Novice Driver Statewide Program and the IUP Institute for Rural Health and Safety through a grant from the PA Highway Safety Office

Videos and Photos: IRHS/NDSP

Other Photos , 3-D models: Creative Commons and MS online resources

- Eventually, you both will be ready to move on to the next driving environments.

## NEXT: OPEN HIGHWAY DRIVING

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Responsible

Eventually, you both will be ready to move on to the next , more complex driving environments.

