

# Driver's Handbook

*Working with drivers  
to make our roads safer*



**Manitoba  
Public Insurance**

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This handbook is for general information only. For specific information, see *The Highway Traffic Act* and/or *The Drivers and Vehicles Act* and regulations. All charges, additional premiums and fines in this handbook are subject to change.

## Establishing your identity

The first time you apply for a Manitoba driver's licence, identification card or enhanced identification card you will be asked to show documents that prove your identity.















This requirement under Manitoba law is aligned with North American standards. Verifying identity before we issue a driver's licence or identification card helps to protect all Manitobans from identity theft. It also ensures that Manitoba drivers' licences or identification cards are issued only to those who are in our country legally, whether as citizens, permanent residents or visitors.

To prove your identity, you will need to produce supporting documents that satisfy the following six key requirements:

- birth date
- legal names
- signature
- photograph
- Manitoba residence
- entitlement to be in Canada

For more information on the documents required to prove your identity, please see the *Establishing Your Identity* brochure at [mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca).

# The Class Licence System

Manitoba Licence Class	Allows the Licence Holder to Operate	Minimum Age	Medical Requirements	Requirements	Test Charges
1 	semi-trailer <sup>1</sup> trucks including all vehicles in Classes 2, 3, 4 and 5	18	must meet medical and vision standards  medical report required on initial application and periodically thereafter based on the age of the driver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• must hold a minimum Class 5I (Intermediate Stage) licence or Class 5A (Authorized Instruction Stage) licence to obtain authorized instruction in Classes 1–4</li> <li>• must pass knowledge test</li> <li>• requires supervising driver for Authorized Instruction</li> <li>• must pass road test [For Classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 (buses and trucks only), the test includes a pre-trip inspection of vehicle (and air brake system if applicable) by the applicant]</li> </ul>	Class 1 Road Test <b>\$50</b>
2  	buses <sup>2</sup> having a seating capacity of over 24 passengers (while carrying passengers), school buses <sup>3</sup> having a seating capacity over 36 passengers (while carrying passengers), includes all vehicles in Classes 3, 4 and 5				Class 2 Road Test <b>\$45</b>
3  	trucks with more than two axles, including any combination of vehicles, OR a truck with two axles towing a vehicle with a registered gross vehicle weight of more than 4,540 kilograms (but does not include a semi-trailer truck <sup>1</sup> ), includes all vehicles in Classes 4 and 5				Class 3 Road Test <b>\$45</b>
4   	taxis, ambulances and other emergency vehicles, buses <sup>2</sup> with a seating capacity between 10 and 24 passengers (while carrying passengers) and school buses <sup>3</sup> with a seating capacity between 10 and 36 passengers (while carrying passengers), includes all vehicles in Class 5				Class 4 Road Test <b>\$35</b>
5    	passenger cars, a bus while not carrying passengers, trucks with two axles, and any combination of vehicles consisting of a truck with two axles and a towed vehicle with a registered gross vehicle weight of <b>up to 4,540 kilograms</b> may operate Class 3 vehicles if registered as a farm truck and the driver holds a Class 5I (Intermediate Stage) licence or 5F (Full Stage) licence may operate a moped <sup>4</sup> , if 16 years of age or older Note: A person must hold a valid minimum Class 5I (Intermediate Stage) licence to operate a special mobile machine, implement of husbandry or tractor on a provincial highway, or a highway within the municipal boundaries of a city, town, village or urban municipality. For further information please call 204-985-7000 or toll-free 1-800-665-2410.	16  or 15½ if enrolled in high school driver education course currently in progress	medical report required when requested  must meet vision standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• must pass knowledge test for Class 5L (Learner Stage) licence (must wait seven days for re-tests)</li> <li>• requires supervising driver for Class 5L (Learner Stage) or Class 5A (Authorized Instruction) license</li> <li>• requires supervising driver for a Class 5I (Intermediate Stage) licence if carrying more than one passenger between the hours of midnight and 5 a.m.</li> <li>• must pass road test to advance to the Intermediate Stage (minimum 15 months) (must wait 14 days for re-test)</li> </ul>	Class 5 Road Test <b>\$30</b>
					Knowledge Test <b>\$10</b>
6 	motorcycles	16	medical report required when requested  must meet vision standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• driver must hold a valid licence of any class and stage</li> <li>• must pass knowledge test (must wait seven days for re-tests)</li> <li>• must obtain Class 6M (Motorcycle Training Course Stage) licence in order to complete motorcycle training course [The course is required before Class 6L (Learner Stage) licence is issued. Contact Safety Services Manitoba for motorcycle course scheduling and fees.]</li> <li>• minimum nine-month Learner Stage</li> <li>• must pass road test to advance to the Intermediate Stage (minimum 15 months) (must wait 14 days for re-test)</li> </ul>	Class 6 Road Test <b>\$30</b>
					Knowledge Test <b>\$10</b>
Air Brake Endorsement 	air brake endorsement—permits the holder to drive vehicles equipped with air brakes in the class of vehicle for which the person is licensed  Note: Drivers of a Class 3 truck registered as a farm truck equipped with air brakes are exempt from this requirement.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• must pass knowledge test</li> <li>• must pass Air Brake practical test for "A" (Authorized) endorsement</li> <li>• must pass adjustment of the manual slack adjusters for "S" (Slack Adjuster) endorsement</li> <li>• no additional charge for the Air Brake practical test if it is completed at the same time you are road-tested for a higher class of licence</li> </ul>	Practical Test <b>\$30</b>
					Knowledge Test <b>\$10</b>

1. A semi-trailer truck is a truck tractor and semi-trailer combined.

2. A bus is any vehicle with a seating capacity of at least 11 persons (including the driver) used primarily to carry passengers. It excludes vehicles used for personal transportation by the owner or with the owner's permission.

3. School bus certificate is required. For further information contact Manitoba Education, Training and Youth, Pupil Transportation at 204-945-6900.

4. Mopeds are not allowed to be driven on highways with a speed limit exceeding 80 km/h but may cross these highways.

# Basic Class 5 licensing requirements

## Who must take a driver test

You must take a driver test for the class of vehicle you wish to drive if you:

- have never been licensed for that class of vehicle
- have not held a Manitoba licence within the past four years
- hold a licence from outside Canada, the United States or other jurisdictions whose licences are not exchangeable

You may be required to be re-tested if you:

- have been involved in traffic accidents or convictions
- have had your licence suspended
- have a disease or disability that may affect your ability to drive safely

## Graduated Driver Licensing

Drivers who applied for their first Class 5 driver's licence on or after April 1, 2002 are in the Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Program and are subject to the GDL stages and restrictions.

Manitoba Class 5 driver's licence stages are:

- L** Learner Stage (minimum 9 months)\*
- I** Intermediate Stage (minimum 15 months)\*\*
- F** Full Stage

*\*Supervising driver must be a fully licensed driver for at least 36 months and have less than .05 blood alcohol concentration.*

*\*\*A driver is only required to complete the Intermediate Stage once. Therefore, time served in the Intermediate Stage in Class 6 will be applied to the Intermediate Stage in Class 5.*

## Application and test requirements

An applicant for a Class 5L licence (Learner Stage) must be a minimum of 16 years of age. At age 15½, an applicant may apply for a Class 5L licence if enrolled in a high school driver education course that is currently in progress.

Consent of either a parent or legal guardian is required if the applicant is under 18 years of age.

### A) Knowledge test

- i) For a Class 5 licence: Before taking the test, you must register as a Manitoba Public Insurance customer and provide proper identification documents. The most convenient way to register is through an Autopac agent. The test assesses your knowledge of traffic laws, safe driving practices and recognition of road signs. (It is not an open book test and cellular phones or electronic devices cannot be used during the test.) The test charge is \$10 per test.\*

If an applicant is under 18 years of age, parent or legal guardian approval is required to take the knowledge test. (See *Forms* section.) Driver education students under the age of 16 must provide a completed driver education form before taking the knowledge test for a driver's licence.

- ii) After passing the knowledge test and meeting the visual and medical standards, in order to drive you will be required to purchase a licence for \$20 plus base driver premium charges of up to \$45, plus any applicable additional driver premium.

*\*Charges for the Driver Education Program include one knowledge test.*

### B) Visual and medical requirements

Applicants who fail to meet minimum vision standards, with or without corrective lenses, cannot obtain a driver's licence. If corrective lenses are required for driving, this will be indicated on your licence. Applicants who fail to meet the minimum medical or vision standards may have their licence suspended until further information is filed. A vision and/or medical report may be required.

Before taking a knowledge test, an applicant for a driver's licence who has a disease or disability that may affect their ability to drive safely must inform Medical Compliance and Assessments, Box 6300, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 4A4, 204-985-1900 or toll-free at 1-866-617-6676.

If a medical report is required, it must be approved by Medical Compliance and Assessments before you can take the knowledge test or enrol in the driver education course.

Manitoba Health will **not** pay for third party requests for a medical report including any related examinations, tests or telephone calls to the physician. Applicants are responsible for these costs.

### C) Road test

The Class 5 road test not only measures your ability to operate a Class 5 vehicle, it also identifies errors that need to be corrected. You will be required to operate your vehicle in typical traffic situations in a safe and legal manner. You will be judged on your driving skills.

Only authorized Manitoba Public Insurance employees may ride with you during the test.

Please ensure you check in 15 minutes before your appointment time.

You must supply a vehicle in good working order and a Vehicle Registration Certificate confirming the vehicle is properly registered and insured. The vehicle must have adequate seating for the driver examiner. Failure to do so will result in the cancellation of the road test with your fees not being refunded. Road tests will not be conducted in heavy or agricultural equipment.

Applicants for a driver's licence who have not held a driver's licence any time prior to April 1, 2002, from any jurisdiction, are subject to a nine-month learning period before they are eligible to take a road test. Applicants who demonstrate dangerous driving during their road test may have to obtain permission from the Registrar of Motor Vehicles before attempting another road test.

The following process applies to applicants who currently hold an out-of-country licence:

1. You can hold an out-of-country licence and operate a vehicle under the conditions of that licence for the shorter of three months or until the home licence expires or until you receive your Manitoba Class 5 Learner's (5L) or Authorized Instruction (5A) Stage licence.
2. Once the 5L or 5A Stage licence has been issued, you must surrender the out-of-country licence and drive according to the conditions of the Manitoba licence stage. This means you will require a supervising driver.

### Change of name or address

You are required to notify your Autopac agent or Manitoba Public Insurance within 15 days of any change in your name or address.

For more information visit [mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca) or call us at 204-985-7000 (in Winnipeg) or 1-800-665-2410 (outside Winnipeg).





# Test appointments

## Scheduling your knowledge or road test

- All knowledge and road tests are by appointment only. Visit any Autopac agent\* to pay for your test and to schedule your test appointment.
- Both knowledge and road tests are conducted during weekdays only (with the exception of holidays) at the locations below. Saturday appointments are available in Winnipeg at the Barnes Street, Lexington Park and Main Street locations. For hours of operation please visit [mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca) or contact an Autopac agent.
- Your Autopac agent can provide you with details of available appointments at any testing location.
- You can schedule your test appointment up to eight weeks in advance.
- Knowledge and road tests are available in English and French. Knowledge tests for Class 5 licences are also available in more than 20 other languages. Specify your language preference when booking your appointment.

\*For a list of Autopac agents, visit [mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca).

## Test locations

### Winnipeg

- 15 Barnes Street (at Bison Drive)
- 125 King Edward Street East
- 40 Lexington Park (at Gateway Road)
- 1284 Main Street
- 1103 Pacific Avenue
- 930 St. Mary's Road (French Language Services available)

### Outside Winnipeg

- Arborg | 323 Sunset Boulevard
- Beausejour | 848 Park Avenue
- Brandon | 731 1st Street
- Dauphin | 217 Industrial Road
- Portage la Prairie | 2007 Saskatchewan Avenue West
- Selkirk | 1008 Manitoba Avenue
- Steinbach | 91 North Front Drive (French Language Services available)
- The Pas | 424 Fischer Avenue
- Thompson | 53 Commercial Place
- Winkler | 355 Boundary Trail

## Mobile Test Units

Mobile Test Units serve rural customers living outside the previously listed locations. Mobile Test Unit locations and schedules are available from any Autopac agent or online at [mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca).

## Key points about your tests

### Cost\*

- A knowledge test costs \$10.
- Costs for road tests:
  - Class 1 licence: \$50
  - Class 2 or 3 licence: \$45
  - Class 4 licence: \$35
  - Class 5 licence: \$30
  - Class 6 licence: \$30
  - Air brake: \$30\*\*

\*Cost may change.

\*\*There is no additional charge for the air brake test if you are taking a road test for a Class 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 licence and the vehicle you are using for the test is equipped with air brakes.

### General testing information

- Please check in 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time.
- There is a 30-minute time limit to complete a knowledge test.
- The knowledge test is not an open book test.
- Cellular phones and electronic devices are not allowed in the test area.
- Only one knowledge or road test of the same class may be completed per day.
- There is a 14-day waiting period between the issuance date of your Learner Stage licence and the road test date for Class 1, 2, 3 and 4 licences.
- If you are in the Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Program and are not successful on your knowledge test, there is a seven-day waiting period before you may take the test again.
- If you are not successful on your road test, there is a 14-day waiting period before you may take the test again.

### For additional information or assistance, call your Autopac agent or the following numbers:

- in Winnipeg call 204-985-7000
- outside Winnipeg call 1-800-665-2410

#### Note:

- For specific testing information on motorcycles, please see the Motorcycle Handbook.
- For specific testing information on commercial vehicles, please see the Professional Driver's Manual.
- For specific testing information on air brakes, please see the Air Brake Manual.

# Graduated Driver Licensing

## Graduated Driver Licensing

The Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Program is a three-stage licensing process that is designed to help new drivers, regardless of age, acquire the knowledge and skill needed to safely operate a motor vehicle.

Whether you are 16 or 60 years old, GDL enables new drivers to gain experience under conditions where the risk of having a collision is lower.

The three stages of GDL are the Learner Stage, the Intermediate Stage and the Full Stage. Each stage has specific restrictions for new drivers that reduce the opportunity and likelihood for risky driving behaviour.

### Class 5L Licence (Learner Stage) (minimum 9 months)

The first licence for a new driver is a Learner Stage licence. To be eligible to apply for a Learner licence, you must be at least 16 years of age, or a minimum of 15½ years of age and enrolled in a high school driver education course that is currently in progress. Parental consent is required if you are under 18 years of age. You must pass a knowledge test and meet the vision and medical standards.

Learner drivers must follow these restrictions:

- maintain zero blood alcohol concentration
- be accompanied by a qualified supervising driver as the only front seat passenger (The supervising driver must hold a valid licence and have held a Class 5F licence for at least three years. The supervising driver must have less than .05 blood alcohol concentration.)
- restrict other passengers to the back seat(s) up to the number of functioning seatbelts in the back seat of the vehicle
- no towing of vehicles
- no operating of Class 3 motor vehicles registered as a farm truck
- no operating of off-road vehicles (ORVs) along or across highways

### Class 5I Licence (Intermediate Stage) (minimum 15 months)\*

To graduate to this stage, you must pass a road test. While in the Intermediate Stage, you must follow these restrictions:

- maintain zero blood alcohol concentration
- restrict passengers between 5 a.m. to midnight to one passenger in the front seat and passengers in the back seat(s) up to the number of functioning seatbelts in the back seat of the vehicle
- restrict passengers between midnight to 5 a.m. to either one passenger or a qualified supervising driver in the front seat and passengers in the back seat(s) up to the number of functioning seatbelts in the back seat of the vehicle

Drivers in the Intermediate Stage may tow vehicles, operate a Class 3 motor vehicle registered as a farm truck, and operate ORVs along or across highways.

*\*A driver is only required to complete the Intermediate Stage once. Therefore, time served in the Intermediate Stage in Class 5 will be applied to the Intermediate Stage in Class 6 and vice-versa.*

### Class 5F Licence (Full Stage)

After spending a minimum of 15 months in the Intermediate Stage, you will graduate to the Full Stage. For the first 36 months you must continue to maintain zero blood alcohol concentration. You are eligible for a Full Class 1–4 driver's licence after passing appropriate tests, are at least 18 years of age and meet medical standards. You may supervise novice drivers after three years in the Full Stage.

# Graduated Driver Licensing Class 5

## Zero Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) Restriction

Class 5L (Learner)	Class 5I (Intermediate)	Class 5F (Full)
Minimum 9 months	Minimum 15 months	36 months
pass knowledge test →	pass road test →	graduate to Full Stage →
<p><b>Learner Stage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimum age 16 (15 1/2 if in a high school driver education course currently in progress)</li> <li>• must pass knowledge test</li> <li>• minimum nine months in this stage, excluding licence interruptions</li> <li>• zero BAC</li> <li>• only supervising driver as front seat passenger</li> <li>• supervising driver must be a fully licensed driver for at least three years and must have less than .05 BAC</li> <li>• may carry passengers up to the number of functioning seatbelts in the rear of the vehicle</li> <li>• no towing permitted</li> <li>• may not operate a Class 3 motor vehicle registered as a farm truck</li> <li>• may not operate off-road vehicles along or across highway</li> <li>• may not obtain Authorized Instruction in Classes 1–4</li> <li>• may operate heavy and agricultural equipment while accompanied by a supervising driver</li> </ul>	<p><b>Intermediate Stage*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• must pass Class 5 road test</li> <li>• minimum 15 months in this stage, excluding licence interruptions</li> <li>• zero BAC</li> <li>• passenger limits:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• from 5 a.m. to midnight: one passenger in the front seat and additional passengers in the back seat(s) up to the number of functioning seatbelts</li> <li>• from midnight to 5 a.m.: one passenger or, when accompanied by a qualified supervising driver in the front seat, additional passengers up to the number of functioning seatbelts in the back seat(s)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• towing permitted</li> <li>• may operate heavy and agricultural equipment</li> <li>• may operate a Class 3 motor vehicle registered as a farm truck</li> <li>• may operate off-road vehicles along or across highway</li> <li>• may apply for Authorized Instruction in Class 1–4 if at least 18 years of age and meet medical standards</li> </ul> <p><i>*Time served in the Intermediate Stage in Class 6 will be applied to the Intermediate Stage in Class 5. Therefore, a driver is only required to complete the Intermediate Stage once.</i></p>	<p><b>Full Stage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• zero BAC for first 36 months</li> <li>• may upgrade to Class 1F–4F after passing appropriate tests</li> <li>• may supervise after three years in Full Stage</li> </ul>

### Keep your licence valid!

The Manitoba driver's licence is valid for up to five years. The driver's licence charge and base driver premium are assessed annually and due for payment on your anniversary date, which is four months less one day after your birthday. For example, if your birthday is Sept. 21, your

anniversary date is Jan. 20. If drivers in the Learner or Intermediate Stage do not keep their licence active, they will not earn credit for the period of time they are not licensed. If you own a vehicle, your Autopac will be renewed and expire at the same time as your driver's licence.

## Authorized Instruction (A Stage) (non-GDL Learner Stage)

An Authorized Instruction Stage applies to:

- drivers who held a Learner's licence prior to April 1, 2002
- experienced drivers whose licence has been de-classed
- experienced drivers transferring to Manitoba and requiring driver examinations
- drivers who are learning to operate Class 1–4 vehicles
- operators of heavy and agricultural equipment

### Drivers with a Class 5A licence must:

- be at least 16 years of age
- maintain zero blood alcohol concentration
- be accompanied by a qualified supervising driver, as the only front seat passenger (The supervising driver must hold a valid licence and have held a Class 5F licence for at least three years. The supervising driver must have less than .05 blood alcohol concentration.)
- not operate a Class 3 motor vehicle registered as a farm truck
- not operate off-road vehicles along or across highways

For Classes 1–4 Authorized Instruction, you must hold a minimum Class 5A or a Class 5I licence and:

- be a minimum of 18 years of age
- pass the knowledge test and meet the vision and medical standards
- complete a minimum two week learning period
- maintain zero blood alcohol concentration if you are restricted to zero blood alcohol concentration in Class 5
- be accompanied by a qualified supervising driver who holds a valid licence, has held a Class 5F licence for at least three years, and a licence in the class of vehicle being driven for at least two years (The supervising driver must have less than .05 blood alcohol concentration.)

# Manitoba's one-piece driver's licence

When you are issued a new Manitoba driver's licence, you will be provided with a temporary driver's licence certificate (valid for up to 45 days). You must carry your temporary driver's licence certificate with you at all times until you receive your permanent, one-piece driver's licence in the mail. When you get your first driver's licence, you will be photographed at your Autopac agent or at a Manitoba Public Insurance Service Centre. You'll need a new photo every five years.

Please note: The Manitoba one-piece driver's licence cannot be used to cross the United States border. If you are seeking a licence to drive that you can also use to cross the United States border (by land or water only), you will require the Manitoba Enhanced Driver's Licence. Information is available at [mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca).

Your driver's licence must be in your possession at all times while driving and must be produced, along with the vehicle registration certificate, when requested by a peace officer.



Manitoba's one-piece driver's licence



Drivers under the age of 18 years are issued driver's licences that show the exact date of the driver's 18th birthday.

## About the renewal process

With our convenient driver's licences and Autopac policies, you'll only need to visit an Autopac agent once every five years, unless you want to change or cancel your driver's licence or policy between renewals.

You will receive a renewal notice once every five years when it's time to renew your driver's licence and/or vehicle insurance. You need to visit an Autopac agent to review your coverage and renew your driver's licence and/or vehicle insurance before it lapses.

However, you still pay for your driver's licence and vehicle insurance every year. In years between renewals (reassessment years), you will receive an annual statement of account, telling you what you owe.

In your reassessment years, you can choose to pay:

- online at [mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca) with VISA or MasterCard
- online or by telephone through your financial institution
- in person with cash, cheque, debit, VISA or MasterCard wherever Autopac is sold

## Keep your licence valid

Your licence expiry date is printed on the front of your licence. It is your responsibility to know when your licence expires and when to renew it.

Each year your licence will be reassessed. You will be required to pay for your driver's licence every year on your anniversary date, which is four months less a day after your birthday. For example, if your birthday is Sept. 21, your anniversary date is Jan. 20.

If you do not pay the assessed charges for your licence by the anniversary date, your licence can be suspended. You will also not earn credit in the Learner or Intermediate Stage for the period of time you are not licensed.

## Illegal use of driver's licence

You may be fined and your driver's licence suspended if you misuse a driver's licence by:

- allowing someone else to use your driver's licence
- misrepresenting yourself when applying for a driver's licence



- using an outdated or otherwise invalid driver's licence
- altering, in any way, a registration certificate, a driver's licence, a motor vehicle liability insurance card or a certificate of insurance
- providing false identification when applying for a driver's licence or permit
- holding, at any time, more than one valid driver's licence from Canada or the United States

## Operating heavy and agricultural equipment

A valid Class 5I licence (Intermediate Stage) or higher is required to operate heavy and agricultural equipment on provincial highways and roads in urban areas. These types of vehicles include tractors, self-propelled farm equipment such as combines, and heavy equipment such as front-end loaders, cranes, forklifts and graders. Provincial highways and urban roads do not include rural municipal roads, service roads or winter roads controlled or maintained by a local government, such as a rural municipality.

Any person whose driver's licence is prohibited, suspended and/or disqualified for any reason can be charged with driving while suspended/disqualified if they are operating heavy or agricultural equipment on provincial highways and roads in urban areas. A conviction for this offence may result in a further suspension of their driving privileges for up to and including lifetime.

Any driver who is subject to a zero blood alcohol concentration restriction while operating a Class 1-5 motor vehicle will also be subject to this restriction while operating heavy and agricultural equipment on any roadway.

If you have any questions about operating heavy or agricultural equipment, please call the Manitoba Public Insurance Contact Centre:

In Winnipeg: 204-985-7000

Outside Winnipeg (toll-free): 1-800-665-2410

# Occupant restraints

## Seatbelts

All drivers and passengers must wear the complete seatbelt assembly, where a seatbelt assembly is provided, unless exempted by law.

Ensure the seatbelt is worn properly:

- It must be snug over the shoulder and across the hips.
- The seatbelt fabric must be flat and not twisted.
- The seatbelt must be kept over the shoulder and not under the arm as this could cause serious injury in a collision.

It is the driver's responsibility to ensure that every minor in the vehicle is properly secured.

Automatic seatbelt assemblies should not be used to restrain children in infant/child car seats or booster seats situated in the front passenger seat. This refers to a seatbelt that automatically locks into place when the door is closed. Consult your owner's manual regarding the securement of infant or child restraints in this seating position.

No person shall operate a motor vehicle where the seatbelt assembly has been removed or has been modified to reduce its effectiveness.

Vehicle accidents are the leading cause of the head injuries suffered by thousands of Manitobans every year. Seatbelts play a significant role in reducing head injuries and saving lives.

## Infant and child car seats

### Rear-facing infant car seats

Use a rear-facing seat from birth until your baby reaches the maximum weight and height limits listed in the car seat manual. Some car seats are made for children up to 20 kg (45 lb.).

Rear-facing seats offer the best protection because they distribute the impact of a collision along the back of the car seat, which protects your baby's fragile head and neck.

### Installation

- The safest position for a car seat is the vehicle's rear middle seat. If you have more than one child, place the youngest in the middle as their smaller bodies are not strong enough to withstand the impact of a crash.

- Use a seatbelt or Universal Anchorage System (UAS) to install the seat. Do not use both.
- Check the tension where the UAS or seatbelt is routed through the car seat. You should not be able to move it more than one inch in any direction.
- At least 80 per cent of the infant car seat must be in contact with the vehicle seat.
- Check the level indicators to ensure the infant car seat is at a 45 degree angle.

### Check the fit

- ✓ The harness straps should be in the slot that is **level with** or **below** your child's shoulders and fit snugly so you can fit only one finger between your baby's collarbone and the straps. The straps should lay flat.
- ✓ The straps should be **at or below** the shoulders to prevent your baby from sliding out of the car seat.
- ✓ The **chest clip** should be at armpit level.

### Forward-facing child car seats

Once your child reaches the weight and height limits of their rear-facing seat, they can move into a forward-facing seat. Look for a forward-facing seat that will meet the weight and height requirements of your child for as long as possible. Some seats are made for children up to 30 kg (65 lb.).

The harness straps in a forward-facing seat are designed so the impact is taken where your child's body is strongest — the shoulders and chest, and then directed down to the hips.

### Installation

- The safest position for a car seat is the vehicle's rear middle seat. If you have more than one child, place the youngest in the middle, as their smaller bodies are not strong enough to withstand the impact of a crash.
- The tether strap must always be used to secure the top of the car seat to the vehicle.
- Use a seatbelt or UAS to install the seat. Do not use both.
- Check the tension where the seatbelt or UAS is routed through the car seat. You should not be able to move the car seat more than one inch in any direction.

### **Check the fit**

- ✓ The harness straps should be in the slot that is level with or above your child's shoulders and fit snugly so that you can fit only one finger between your child's chest and the straps. The straps should lay flat.
- ✓ The middle of your child's ears should not come past the top of the seat.
- ✓ The chest clip should be at armpit level.

### **Booster seats**

Once your child reaches the weight and height limits of their forward-facing seat, they can move into a booster seat. Because weight limits can vary among forward-facing seats (some can accommodate children up to 30 kg or 65 lb.), please check the manual for the weight limits of your specific car seat.

Provincial law requires children to remain in booster seats until they are at least 145 cm (4'9"), 36 kg (80 lb.) or nine years old.

Without a booster seat, a seatbelt rides too high on a child's stomach and neck and can cause serious injuries. Research shows that booster seats protect children from serious injury by more than 60 per cent.

### **How to choose a booster seat**

If your vehicle does not have a head rest, choose either:

- a high-back booster seat that provides head and neck support. Some models convert from a forward-facing seat with a harness to a high-back booster seat.
- an adjustable booster seat that provides adjustable head and neck support as your child grows

If your vehicle has a head rest, choose a backless booster seat, an adjustable booster seat or a backless booster seat that has a seat base and arm rests.

### **Installation**

- The safest position for a car seat is the vehicle's rear middle seat. If you have more than one child, place the youngest in the middle, as their smaller bodies are not strong enough to withstand the impact of a crash.
- Keep an empty booster seat buckled up to prevent it from moving and hitting you in a sudden stop or crash.

### **Check the fit**

- ✓ The shoulder strap should fit over the shoulder and across your child's chest.
- ✓ The lap belt should sit snug on their hips.
- ✓ The middle of your child's ears should not come past the top of the vehicle's head restraint. The head restraint ensures your child has adequate head and neck protection in a collision.
- ✓ The bend of your child's knees should be in line with the vehicle seat.
- ✓ Never use just a lap belt to secure a child in a booster seat. Always use a shoulder and lap belt.
- ✓ Never allow your child to place the shoulder belt under their arm or behind their back as this can cause serious injury.

### **Seatbelts**

For your child's safety, provincial law requires children to remain in booster seats until they are at least 145 cm (4'9"), 36 kg (80 lb.) or nine years old.

It's important not to rush to using a seatbelt alone because it's not designed for a child — the shoulder strap rides too high and could cause serious injuries.

### **Check the fit**

- ✓ Sitting up straight, the seatbelt should fit across your child's shoulder and chest and sit low across the hips.
- ✓ The middle of your child's ears should not come past the top of the vehicle's head restraint. Adjust the head restraint to ensure your child has adequate head and neck protection in a collision.
- ✓ The bend of your child's knees should be in line with the vehicle seat.
- ✓ Never allow your child to place the shoulder belt under their arm or behind their back as this can cause serious injury.

**The chances of being fatally injured in an accident can be decreased by as much as 70 per cent if you wear a seatbelt. Shoulder belts further increase your safety.**

# Section 1

## Safe and legal driving practices

# 1. Signs and signals

Signs, signals and pavement markings help indicate the rules of the road designed for the safe movement of vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists. As a driver, you are required to know them. The shapes of signs enable you to identify them in darkness, fading light, fog, rain or snow.

## Sign shapes and colours



Fluorescent yellow-green **pentagon** indicates **school area**. Drive cautiously. Children could be crossing the street.



**Diamond** warns you of possible **dangerous conditions**, either on or near the roadway (e.g., a sharp curve, turn, side road, intersection, narrow bridge). Slow down to keep full control of your vehicle.



**Octagon** is used only for **stop signs**. Always come to a complete stop.



**Triangle with the tip pointing down** means you must **yield** the right-of-way. Slow down and, if necessary, stop.



**Triangle with each tip cut off** indicates a **slow-moving vehicle**.



**Crossbuck** indicates a **railway crossing**. Always slow down and look both ways for trains before crossing the tracks. You must yield the right-of-way to trains.



**Square or Rectangular signs regulate** traffic and **direct** the driver.



**Note:** Times listed on signs follow the 24-hour clock so that:

0:00 = midnight	15:00 = 3 p.m.	20:00 = 8 p.m.
1 a.m. to noon remains the same.	16:00 = 4 p.m.	21:00 = 9 p.m.
13:00 = 1 p.m.	17:00 = 5 p.m.	22:00 = 10 p.m.
14:00 = 2 p.m.	18:00 = 6 p.m.	23:00 = 11 p.m.
	19:00 = 7 p.m.	

## Warning signs

These signs warn of possible dangerous conditions immediately ahead.



Very sharp right turn ahead



Divided highway begins ahead



Sharp right curve, maximum recommended speed 40 km/h



Divided highway ends ahead



Pedestrian crosswalk ahead



Two-way traffic ahead



Winding road ahead



Right lane ends ahead



Road ends, exit right or left



Left lane ends ahead



Bump ahead



Merging roadways ahead



Steep hill ahead



Hidden intersection ahead



## Warning signs



Bridge ices



School area indicated by fluorescent yellow-green pentagon



Narrow bridge ahead



Hazard marker showing an obstruction



Stop ahead



Low structure clearance 4.1 metres



Traffic signals ahead



Right curve ahead



Playground ahead



School crosswalk ahead



Deer crossing area ahead



Railway crossing advance warning, track position indicates the angle the railway tracks cross the road



Road slippery when wet



Traffic island ahead



Roundabout ahead



Pavement ends



Maximum recommended speed on exit 40 km/h



Maximum speed limit change ahead



Reserved Bus Lane ahead



Reserved Lane located in curb lane of cross-street, if turning right, enter the second lane from the curb



Reserved Lane located in median lane of cross-street, if turning right, enter the curb lane



Prepare to stop. When the amber lights on the sign are flashing, approaching drivers should be prepared to stop, as the traffic signal ahead is red or about to turn red.



Railway Crossing Sign: This railway crossing sign is equipped with warning lights and bells. When the lights are flashing and the bells are ringing, be prepared to stop as they warn you of an approaching train.

The number on the square sign under the railway crossing sign indicates the number of train tracks. Refer to the *Railway Crossing* section for further information.

## Construction and maintenance signs

These signs warn you of road construction and maintenance areas ahead. **Slow down to a safe speed.** At some locations maximum speed limits are posted.

Drivers must **watch for and obey** the instructions of flag persons.



Designated construction zone: speed fines double



Construction zone ends



Maximum speed 40 km/h when meeting traffic



Detour ahead



Overhead wires



Barricade ahead



Flying stones



Part of roadway has been removed



Construction area



Trucks entering on the right



Flagperson ahead



Road work



Bump ahead



Pavement edge drop-off

## Regulatory signs

These signs regulate your driving, informing you about speed limits, permitted turns, stopping and parking rules.



No turns allowed



No U-turn allowed



No right turn



All traffic must turn right



No left turn



No trucks allowed



Do not enter



Truck route



No right turn on red signal



All traffic must turn left



Keep right of this sign



No right turn during the times shown



Reduced speed school zone



Maximum speed 60 km/h ahead



Maximum speed 90 km/h



Reduced speed school zone (restricted hours)



Reduced speed school zone ends

## Regulatory signs



Parking permitted as indicated



Parking for disabled persons only



Snow Route:  
No stopping during a declared "snow emergency"



Do not enter  
Except buses and cyclists



Two-way traffic



Do not pass



Passing permitted



Overhead mounted sign indicating that the curb lane is reserved for buses and cyclists during the times shown



Slower traffic keep right



Keep right except to pass



Speed fines are doubled in designated construction zones



Parking is prohibited



Do not stop to wait



Pedestrian Corridor



Pedestrian Crosswalk



School Crosswalk



Stop here for red traffic signal



This lane of traffic must turn right during the times shown, except buses and cyclists



This lane of traffic must turn left



This lane of traffic may go through or turn right only



Through traffic is not permitted to use this lane. Traffic, having entered this lane, must turn left at the next intersecting private approach or public street.



One Way: Proceed in direction of arrow only



Buses only

## Guide and information signs

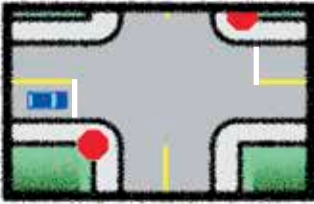
These tell you where you are, what road you are on or how to get to certain places. There are many different types of these signs, such as service signs, location signs, route marker information and distance signs. They vary in size and colour.

	<p>Eastbound Trans-Canada Highway</p>		<p>Hospital</p>
	<p>"A" indicates an alternative route that will return to the route you are on</p>		<p>Camping site</p>
	<p>Westbound Provincial Trunk Highway</p>		<p>Travel Information</p>
	<p>Southbound Provincial Road</p>		<p>Picnic site</p>
	<p>Northbound City Route turns right</p>		<p>Access for disabled persons</p>
	<p>Cul-de-sac (Dead end with turnaround)</p>		<p>Stop for school bus when signals flashing</p>
	<p>Airport with scheduled service</p>		

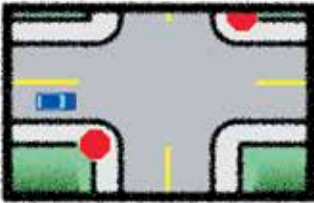
## Stop signs

At a stop sign, you must come to a complete stop at the appropriate places illustrated below. Before proceeding from a stopped position, you must check and yield the right-of-way to pedestrians wanting to cross the street. When pedestrians are clear, you may then slowly move forward for a better view of traffic and, when safe to do so, you may then proceed to turn or cross the street.

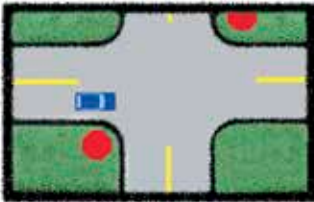
The following diagrams indicate the correct places for stopping.



Stop before the stop line.



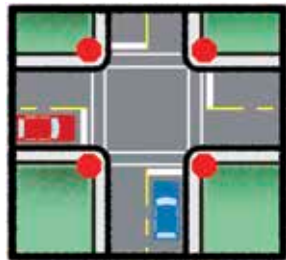
Where there is no stop line, stop just before the sidewalk.



If there is no stop line or sidewalk at the intersection, stop just before the intersecting highway.

## Four-way stop signs

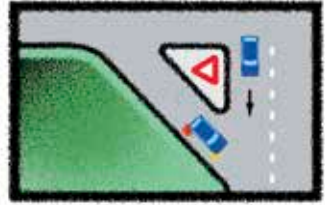
At an intersection controlled by a four-way stop sign, the vehicle that stops first should go first. After stopping and yielding to any pedestrians wanting to cross, roll slowly forward to show your intent to proceed. If two or more vehicles stop at the same time, the vehicle on the left should yield to the vehicle on the right.



## Yield right-of-way signs

A yield sign means slow down as you near an intersection. Check for pedestrians and traffic. If there is traffic or pedestrians, **stop** and yield right-of-way.

Yield signs are usually located where a lane or road merges with another lane or road. You must slow down and be prepared to stop. Be careful when checking for traffic so that you do not run into the car ahead of you.



## Traffic control signals

**Red** — Stop in front of the marked crosswalk or, if there is no marked crosswalk, before the sidewalk out of the way of pedestrians and vehicles. Unless a sign shows otherwise or vehicle/pedestrian traffic does not permit, you may, after stopping completely, turn right. You may also turn right or left from a one-way street to another one-way street.

**Amber** — An amber light is a warning that the light is going to turn red. Slow down and stop — **never accelerate to “make the light.”** If you are already in the intersection when the light turns amber, continue through.

**Green** — You may proceed, but you must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians in the crosswalk and to other vehicles already in the intersection. To turn left, you may enter the intersection on a green light, but you must yield to pedestrians and oncoming traffic. You may have to complete the turn during an amber or red light.



Horizontal



Vertical



**Flashing Red** — Come to a complete stop, proceeding only when safe.

**Flashing Amber** — Slow down and be prepared to stop. You must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.

**Amber Arrow** — A steady amber arrow may be shown after a green arrow. The amber arrow is a warning that oncoming traffic may next receive a green signal. Slow down and stop. If you are already in the intersection when the amber signal appears, continue and complete your turn.

**Green Arrow** — You may proceed only in the direction of the arrow, either steady or flashing, providing you are in the proper lane.

**Flashing Green Left-Arrow** — You may proceed only to make a left turn, unless facing another signal that indicates other movements are allowed. (Flashing left-arrows may be shown together with steady red, amber or green lights.)

**Green U-Turn Arrow** — You may proceed to make a U-turn after yielding to pedestrians and other vehicles already in the intersection.

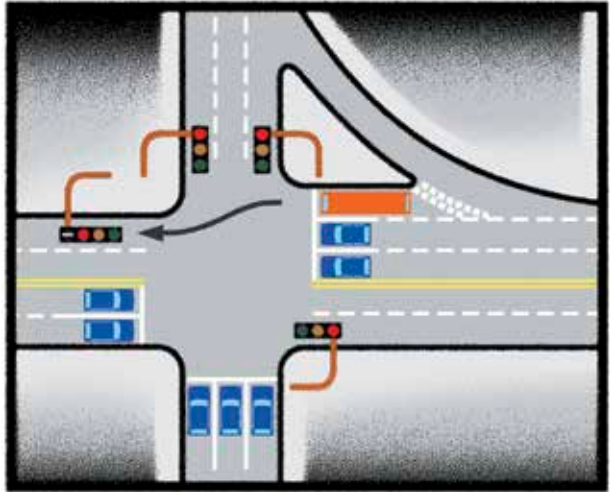
**Green Left-Arrow with Red Light** — When a green left-arrow is shown with a red light together you may proceed and make a left turn only. It is illegal to make a right turn at an intersection when a green left-arrow is shown with a red light, even if there is no sign indicating a right turn is prohibited on a red light. Under no circumstances are you allowed to turn right or drive straight through when a green left-arrow is illuminated with a red light. If a green left-arrow is illuminated alone (the red light is not on) you may turn right if it is safe to do so and no sign prohibits it.





## Transit priority signal

A signal light with a white vertical bar on a black background allows transit buses to proceed before other traffic. Only public-transit vehicles (buses) may proceed when the Transit Priority Signal is shown, while other vehicles must remain stopped. (The Transit Priority signal is always accompanied by a steady red light).

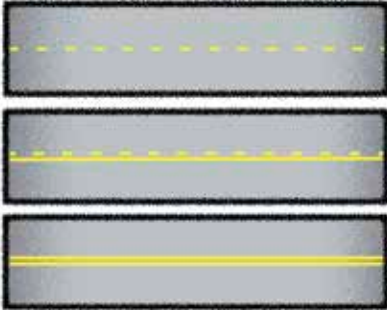


## Pavement markings

A solid line on the left of your lane means you must not pass or change lanes. A broken line means you may pass or change lanes if safe from both front and rear to do so. It is permissible to turn left over a single or double solid line onto a public thoroughfare, private road or driveway.

### Yellow lines

**Yellow** lines indicate traffic moving in opposite directions.



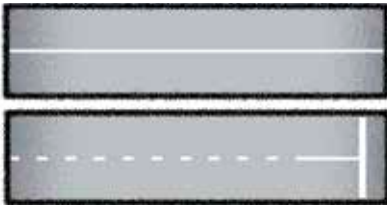
**Broken line** —  
Passing is permitted.

**Solid and broken line together** —  
Passing is not permitted if the solid line is on your side of the highway.

**Double solid line** — Passing is prohibited for traffic going either way.

### White lines

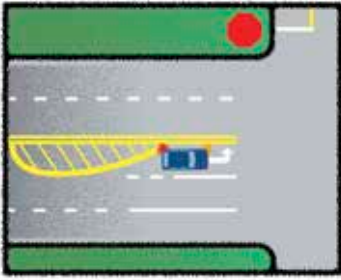
**White** lines indicate traffic moving in the same direction.



**Solid line** —  
Lane changing is not permitted.

**Broken line** —  
Lane changing is permitted.

**Stop line** —  
You must stop before this line.



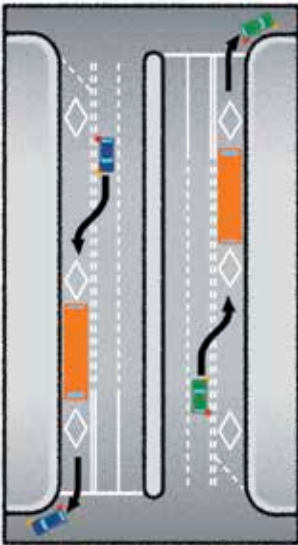
No traffic is permitted within Painted Left-Turn Islands, which are commonly used in rural areas to channel traffic into turning lanes.



## Reserved lanes

In some urban centres, to improve the safety and flow of designated vehicles, certain traffic lanes have been reserved for specific uses. Traffic signs identify the vehicles or actions that the lanes are reserved for. The reserved lanes are marked by double broken lines and white diamond patterns.

The following are some examples of how reserved lanes are used:



### 1. With-Flow Reserved Lane

A curb lane is reserved for use by designated vehicles only. Motorists making right turns are permitted to enter the reserved lane at any point in the block preceding their turn.

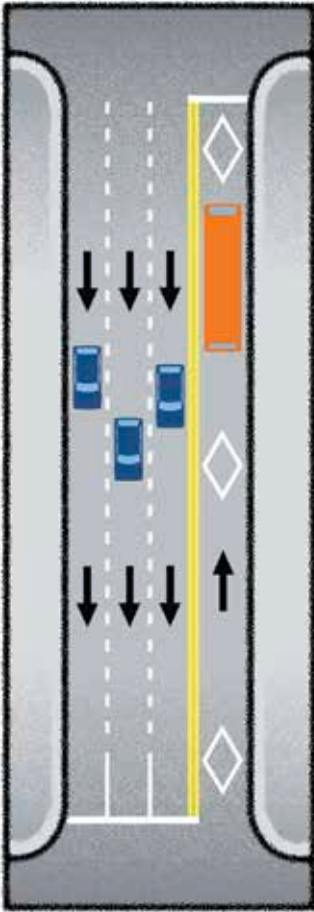
#### Pavement Markings

Double broken white lane lines and diamond symbols designate the reserved lane.

#### Turning Right onto a Reserved Lane

If you are turning right onto a street with a Diamond Lane in the curb lane, you must turn as close as practicable to the curb and into the first lane. You should then signal, check and change lanes out of the Diamond Lane into the adjacent

lane as soon as it is safe to do so. If you are driving parallel to a Diamond Lane and need to turn right, you can enter the Diamond Lane but you must turn right at the next intersection. Always be watchful and respect the rights of cyclists using the Diamond Lanes.



## 2. Contra-Flow Reserved Lane

A curb lane on a one-way street is reserved for use by designated vehicles only. Designated vehicles travel in the opposite direction of traffic.

### **Pavement Markings**

Double solid yellow lane lines and white diamond symbols designate the contra-flow lane.

## Cycling pavement markings

### 1. Bicycle lanes

These on-road painted lanes are intended to provide cyclists with a defined space and help organize the flow of traffic. They are also a visual sign to motorists that cyclists have a right to the road.

Motor vehicles can occupy space on both sides of the bike lane and are able to cross the lane at any time. Most bike lanes are located to the left of the parking lane and as such require motorists to cross the bike lane when entering or leaving a parking spot. Motorists also must cross the bike lane when turning at an intersection, lane or driveway. Motorists need to be alert for cyclists already in the lane, in particular at intersections.

Cyclists are not limited to the use of a bike lane when it is provided. While the bike lane offers a defined space for cyclists, there are times when they may have to leave the bike lane in order to change lanes, make a turn or leave the roadway. Motorists should always be aware of cyclists on the road and note that the solid line on each side of the lane does not mean the cyclist cannot leave the bike lane.

#### **Pavement markings**

White lane lines and a diamond symbol with a bicycle designate a bicycle lane.



## 2. Sharrows

Sharrows are pavement markings painted on a roadway to encourage cyclists and motorists to share the road. They are generally intended for use on roadways with lanes that are wide enough for side-by-side bicycle and vehicle operation. However, motorists should always pass cyclists at a safe distance and should not assume that the sharrow indicates that they can pass within the travel lane. Depending on the positioning of the cyclist, it may be necessary to change lanes in order to pass safely.

Sharrows do not designate a bicycle lane and should not be treated as such. While some cyclists will ride down the center of the arrow, in many locations, the sharrow marking simply indicates cyclists and motorists are to share the lane and is not an indication of where a cyclist rides within the lane.

### **Pavement markings**

A chevron and bicycle symbol designate a sharrow lane.



## 2. Starting from a parked position, lane changing, curves and turning

### Starting Out

#### **Steering — Hand Position**

Most vehicles are equipped with power steering and adjustable steering wheels that make operating the vehicle easier and more comfortable for the driver. It is recommended that the steering wheel be held with your hands at the 9 o'clock and 3 o'clock positions. This will allow for good control and, in the event of an accident and the vehicle is equipped with an airbag, it will inflate without injuring or being obstructed by the driver's arms. The driver of a vehicle should never turn the steering wheel with one hand (palming the wheel) or with one finger as they may not have full control of the vehicle.

#### **Accelerator**

To set a vehicle in motion, you have to accelerate smoothly and gradually to avoid jerking the vehicle. The driver's foot should lie flat on the accelerator with the heel on the floor. For optimal engine performance, the driver should avoid abruptly applying and releasing the accelerator.

Drivers should accelerate slowly and steadily when starting from a stop. By doing this, drivers have more control over the vehicle. If the vehicle is over-accelerated, particularly on poor or slippery road surfaces, the wheels can lose traction, which could cause loss of control.

#### **Automatic transmission**

Many vehicles have transmissions that change gears automatically in response to speed and acceleration, by means of mechanical, electrical or hydraulic controls.

Drivers of such vehicles can also shift down to a lower gear for increased braking power when descending a hill. Downshifting prevents the transmission from automatically changing into a higher gear, keeping the vehicle speed slower. This can be very helpful in keeping the vehicle's brakes cooler as they will not have to be used as often when descending a steep hill.



This is an example of how the gears on an automatic transmission could be used:

- P (park): for starting the engine, stopping for an extended length of time and parking
- N (neutral): for starting the engine, disengages the engine from the drive wheels
- R (reverse): for backing up (bring the vehicle to a complete stop before changing from a forward gear to reverse and vice versa)
- D (drive) or 2–5: for normal forward driving conditions
- 2–3/2–4: lower gears for driving with heavy loads
- 2: for driving on slippery surfaces or up or down steep inclines
- 1: for driving very slowly when off the highway

### **Manual (standard) transmission**

Shifting gears in a vehicle equipped with a manual transmission is a skill which requires considerable practice. The driver operates a clutch pedal with the left foot while manually selecting the desired gear range by moving a gear shift lever with the right hand.

The clutch is used to make, or break, the connection between the vehicle's engine and its transmission. When the pedal is up, the connection is engaged and the power of the engine can then be transmitted to the drive wheels of the vehicle.

When the clutch pedal is pressed down, the connection is disengaged which prevents the transfer of engine power. It is while the connection is disengaged that the driver will change gears.

As the driver begins to let up on the clutch pedal, the re-establishment of the connection will be felt before the pedal is fully released. The point where this first occurs is called the "friction point."

It is at this friction point that the driver must coordinate the further release of the clutch pedal with the use of the gas pedal to achieve a smooth shift and prevent engine stalling.

Shifting patterns vary as do the number of available gears. Your owner's manual will describe the shifting pattern for your vehicle.

With the ignition switch in the off position, you can practice moving the gear shift lever into its various positions until you are sure of the locations and can find each gear without looking.

When starting the engine of a vehicle equipped with a manual transmission, your selector lever should be in the neutral position and your clutch pedal should be fully depressed.

When driving manual-transmission vehicles, it is important to select the proper gear so your engine neither lugs (moves the vehicle in rough, bumpy fashion) nor races (revs the engine but does not move the car effectively). If the engine begins lugging, you must shift to a lower gear. If it starts to race, a higher gear range must be selected. Your owner's manual will provide you with the approximate speeds at which you should shift.

Once you have the vehicle in motion and have completed shifting gears, be sure to remove your foot from the clutch pedal. Leaving your foot on the clutch pedal unnecessarily is called "riding the clutch" and can cause excessive clutch wear.

When you are required to brake or come to a stop, you should avoid depressing the clutch too soon to avoid coasting to your stop.

When turning corners, be sure that your vehicle is in the proper gear for the speed at which you are turning.

### **Clutch**

The clutch makes it possible to disengage the transmission and the engine. By pressing the clutch pedal, the connection is broken between these two components, allowing the driver to change gears. The clutch pedal must be pressed with the left foot and held to move the gear lever. Avoid releasing the clutch too quickly. This can damage components leaving the vehicle inoperable. Also, do not let the clutch out too slowly or release it only enough to hold the vehicle from rolling on a hill when stopped. This will cause the clutch to heat excessively and wear out prematurely.

## Starting

Before starting out from a parked position on a street, the driver must first turn on the signal furthest from the curb or use the appropriate hand signal and then shoulder check before moving. This warns drivers about to turn into that lane that the parked car intends to move from a parked position. These cars have sometimes been struck by other cars whose drivers were surprised by the parked car suddenly moving.

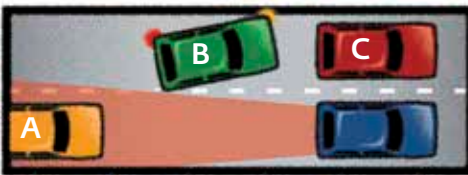
## Lane changing

Before changing lanes, check your rearview mirror for traffic and signal your intention to move to the right or left. Check blind spots by shoulder checking before changing lanes. Move into another lane only when safe. When changing across multiple lanes, it is acceptable to make one shoulder check and signal to change over a number of lanes at one time, as long as the movement can be completed safely. If you must use mirrors only to check to the side and rear (unable to shoulder check), you can only change one lane at a time.

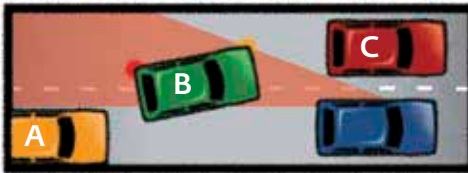
Remember:

- Never change lanes at intersections.
- Signals and checks are required before moving away from a straight line such as when maneuvering past parked vehicles.

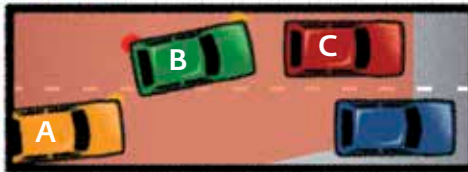
## Blind spots



1. With the inside rearview mirror:  
You can see A.  
You can't see B or C.



2. With the sideview mirror:  
You can see B.  
You can't see A or C.



3. With both mirrors and a shoulder check:  
You can see A.  
You can see B.  
You can see C.

## Hand signals

If your vehicle signals don't work, use these hand signals:



**Left Turn:**

left arm extended straight out



**Right Turn:**

left arm out and bent upwards



**Stop:**

left arm extended out and bent downwards

## Curves

Slow down before entering a curve and avoid braking in the curve.

If you do enter a curve too fast, don't jam on the brakes. Instead, apply them carefully to keep control. When entering a left-hand curve, steer toward, but not over, the centre of the road. When entering a right-hand curve, steer toward the right side of the road.

Beware of drivers who may have strayed into part of your lane.

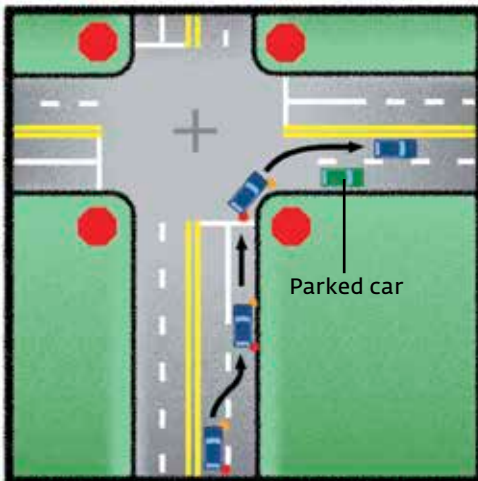
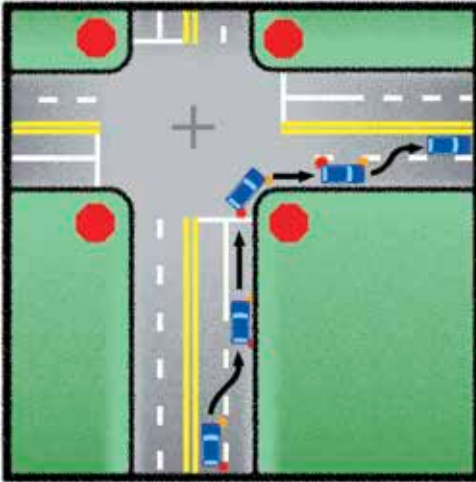
## General rules of turning

1. Decide well in advance where you are going to turn and move into the appropriate lane, following the correct lane-change rules.
2. Once you are in the proper lane, signal at least 30 metres before the turn. Outside cities, towns or villages, signal at least 150 metres before turning.
3. For cars with manual transmissions, shift to the proper gear before turning.

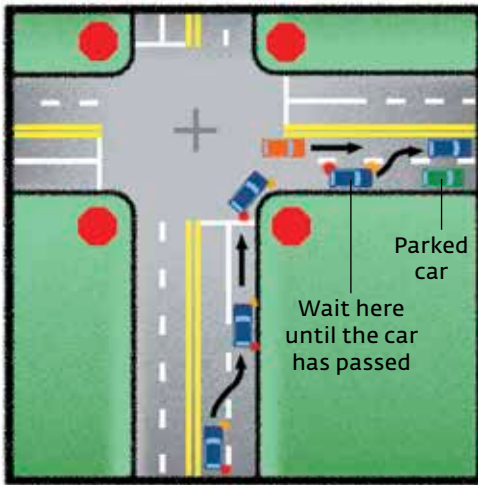
## Right turns

Right turns must be made from the right lane nearest the curb into the right lane nearest the curb of the other road, unless it is blocked within 30 metres of the intersection. In that case, you can turn into the next lane nearest the right if no other traffic is approaching in that lane, such as a vehicle coming from the opposite direction also turning onto that street.

### Making right turns correctly



## Making right turns correctly



## Making right turns in towns and villages

Some communities have a white line on the right side of the road. The area to the right of this line is the shoulder of the road. Stay to the left of the white line to make your turn (refer to Figure A). Extra caution should be taken when turning right as there may be someone driving illegally on the shoulder. On wide roads without white lines on the right side, keep well over to the right if you are turning right (refer to Figure B).



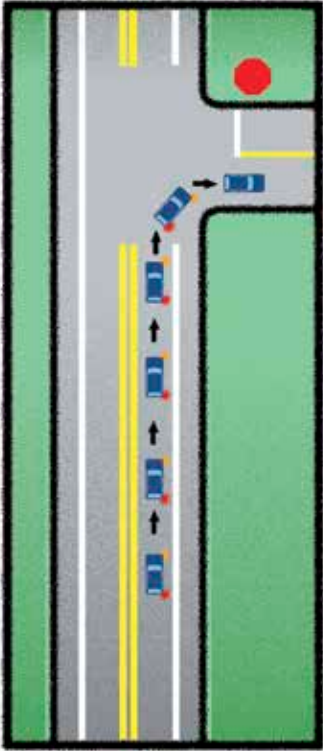
Figure A



Figure B

### **Making right turns on highways in high-speed areas**

On highways outside towns and villages, solid white pavement markings identify the edge of the road, and the area to the right of this line is identified as the shoulder. The shoulder may be gravel or pavement. Do not drive on shoulders as they are intended as a safe place for stopped or disabled vehicles. A careful driver, however, should make a reasonable effort to get off the travel lanes as quickly as possible when turning right while being followed by high-speed through vehicles.



## Left turns

Left turns are more dangerous than right turns because of oncoming traffic. Different types of streets require different left turn procedures. Only make a left turn when it is legal and safe.

When approaching the intersection, check for signs that may prohibit or restrict turns. Before making a left turn, enter the proper lane well before the intersection.

When approaching the intersection, signal for the turn and watch for:

- pedestrians at the crosswalk
- traffic coming from your left and right
- any vehicles established in or blocking the intersection
- traffic approaching from the opposite direction

Never enter any intersection:

- if it is not safe to do so
- if you will not be able to clear the intersection because traffic is backed up in the lane you wish to enter
- if the intersection is blocked

### **Making left turns on a green light**

If you have stopped at a red light, when the light turns green, you must move into the intersection if it is safe. Before moving ahead, you must check:

- for pedestrians crossing in front of you
- for traffic coming from left and right (watch for vehicles attempting to race the amber light)

If you are approaching an intersection and the light is green, you must check:

- to make sure the intersection is clear
- that it is safe for you to enter
- that the light is still green

When it is safe, move ahead to just before the centre of the intersection and just to the right of the directional oncoming line.

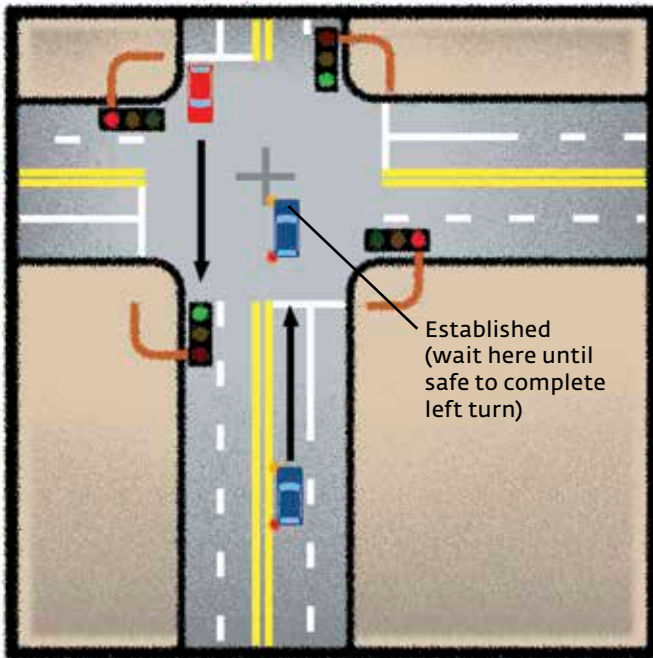


### **Making left turns on a green light**

Once established in the intersection, you may clear the intersection when it is safe and if:

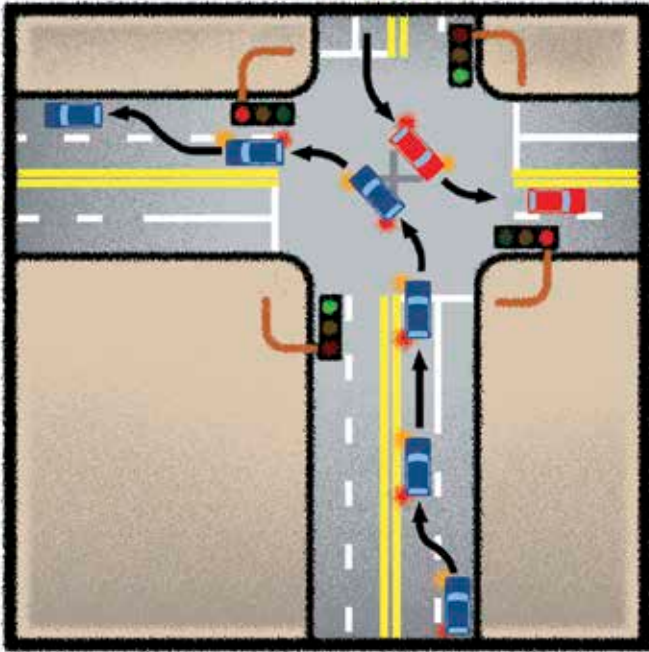
- there is no pedestrian traffic crossing the lanes you wish to turn into
- there is a break in traffic big enough to complete your turn safely without interfering with oncoming vehicles
- no other vehicles are approaching

If the light turns yellow or red while you are established in the intersection, watch for traffic slowing down to stop and complete your turn when it is safe. Always be alert to drivers attempting to race an amber light. (If you are not already established in the intersection, you must not attempt the left turn when the light changes from green.)



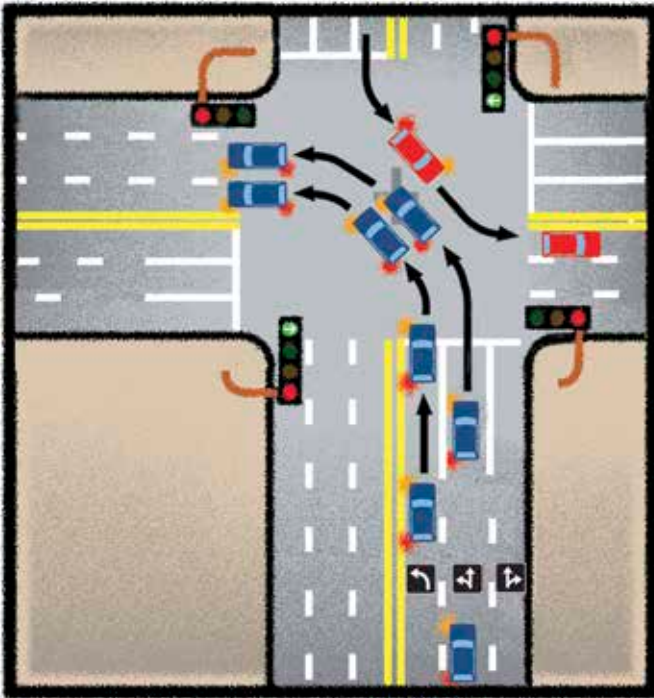
### **Making left turns from two-way onto another two-way street**

- Well ahead of the turn, look for any following vehicles, signal and move close to the centre line.
- Slow down and look both ways before starting turn.
- Enter the intersection to the right of the directional dividing line.
- Make your turn to the left of the centre of the intersection.
- If turning onto a four-lane highway outside a city, town or village, move to the right after completing the turn, if traffic permits.



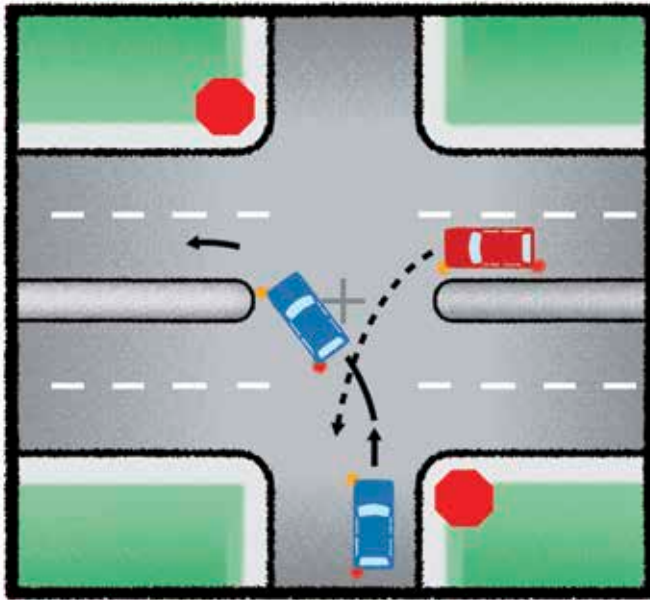
### **Making left turns when two lanes can turn**

Complete this turn the same as any other turn except when two lanes are allowed to turn left at the same time. The vehicle closest to the median must complete the turn and stay in the lane closest to the median on the street being turned onto. The vehicle second from the median must turn into the second lane from the median on the street being turned onto. When turning with vehicles beside you that are also turning, watch for vehicles that may not stay in their own lane and be prepared to avoid them.



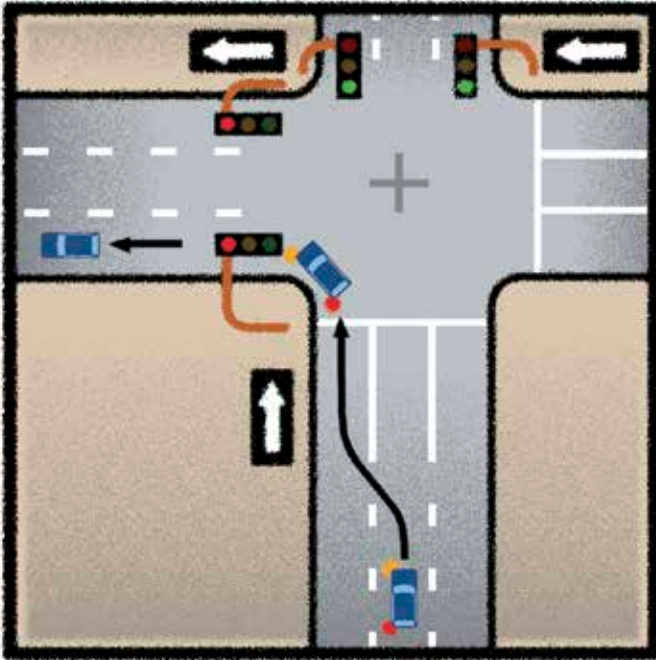
## **Making left turns from a street with a stop sign onto a street with a boulevard**

- Make a complete stop.
- Check traffic and when there is no traffic coming from the left or traffic turning in front of you and it is safe, proceed. If traffic is approaching from the right establish your vehicle in the intersection.
- Complete your turn when it is safe, to the left of the centre of the intersection in the boulevard area.



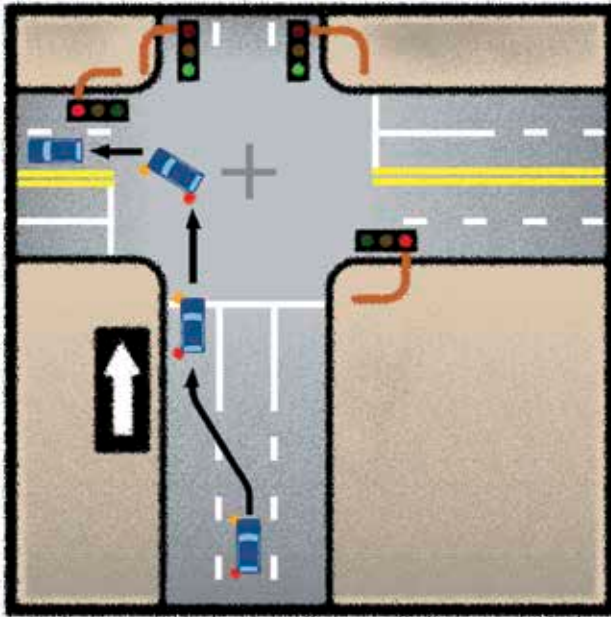
### Making left turns from one-way onto another one-way street

- Signal well ahead of the turn and, when safe, move into the far left lane of the street.
- Slow down and begin your left turn after checking for traffic.
- Turn into the lane closest to the left curb unless blocked within 30 metres of the intersection.
- Unless otherwise indicated, you may turn left from a one-way street to a one-way street on a red traffic light, after stopping and yielding the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic.



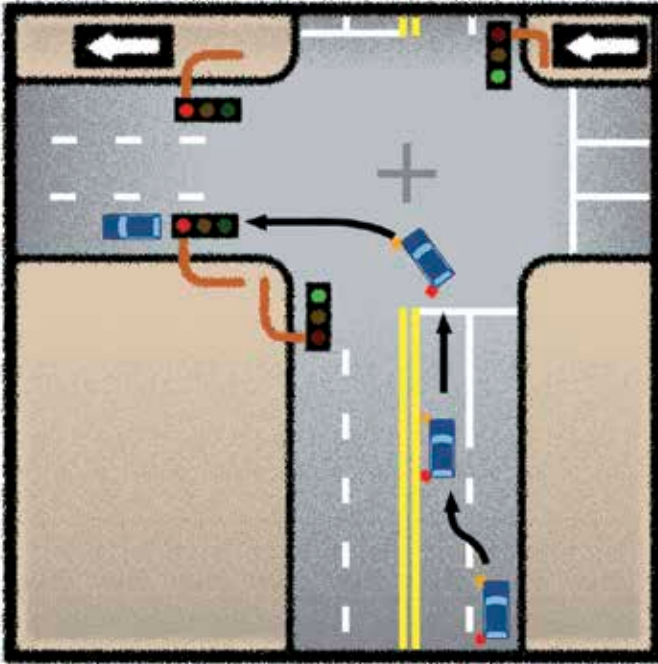
### **Making left turns from one-way onto two-way street**

- Signal well ahead of the turn and, when safe, move into the left lane closest to the left curb.
- Slow down and begin the left turn from a point as close as possible to the left curb or edge of the roadway.
- When entering the two-way street, turn into the lane immediately to the right of the centre line.



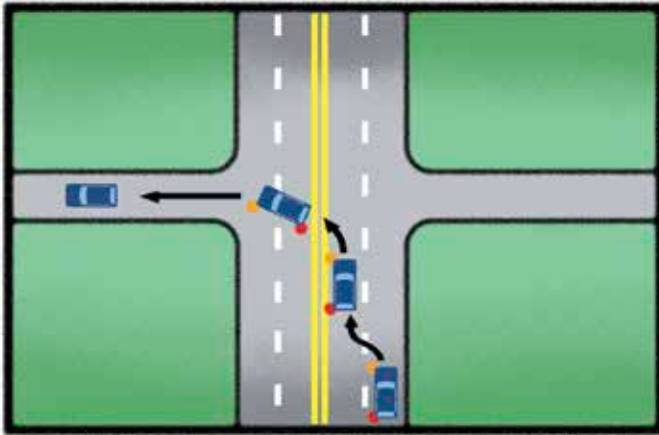
### Making left turns from two-way onto one-way street

- Signal and, when safe, move into the lane next to the centre line in preparation for the turn.
- Slow down before entering the intersection, check for traffic ahead and to the right and, when safe, begin the turn.
- Turn from the lane next to the centre line into the lane nearest the left curb unless it is blocked within 30 metres of the intersection.



### **Making left turns onto driveways and lanes**

To make a left turn onto a driveway or back lane, signal and move into the proper lane before turning left.



### **U-turns**

Although under certain situations it is legal to make a U-turn, we advise against it unless it is at an intersection controlled by a U-turn traffic signal. Instead, in cities, you should go around the block to change directions. In rural areas, continue ahead until you can turn onto a side road from which you can then make a regular turn onto the highway in the desired direction. With the higher speeds prevailing on highways, it is extremely dangerous to make a U-turn.

#### **U-turns are prohibited at:**

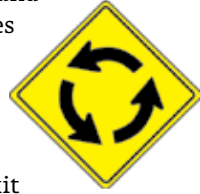
- curves
- approaches to or near the crest of a hill where there is not at least 150 metres of clear view of oncoming traffic
- places where a sign prohibits U-turns



## Roundabouts

When approaching a roundabout you will see a roundabout sign.

Reduce your speed to the posted speed limit or slower and be prepared to yield to pedestrians/cyclists and vehicles in the roundabout. When no traffic is approaching from the left you may proceed into the roundabout. When on the roundabout you have the right-of-way over vehicles entering. Continue until you reach the street you wish to exit, signaling your intentions to exit before you reach the street you wish to exit on to. As you exit, watch for pedestrians within the pedestrian corridor and yield the right-of-way to pedestrians/cyclists.



## 3. Driving responsibly

### Speed

A safe speed allows you to stop safely in emergency situations. Unless otherwise posted, the maximum speed limit is 90 km/h in rural areas and 50 km/h in urban areas. Poor driving conditions will require you to drive more slowly. At no time should you exceed the posted maximum speed limit.

Driving safely can also mean not driving too slowly. You should not drive at such a slow speed that you hold back or block the normal and reasonable flow of traffic.

### Following safely

You are responsible for maintaining a safe following distance — one which provides you with sufficient time to stop in an emergency.

Use a four-second following distance when following under ideal driving conditions — **allow more time under adverse conditions.**



#### Calculating safe following distance:

1. The rear of the vehicle ahead has just passed the sign you have decided to use as your marker. Begin counting.



2. Count: One thousand and one, one thousand and two, one thousand and three.



3. Count: One thousand and four (four seconds). If it takes less than four seconds for the front of your vehicle to reach the marker, you are too close. Four seconds is correct. The safety factor is even greater if it takes more than four seconds.

If you are being followed too closely, slow down gradually to give the driver behind you time to react. This can reduce your chances of being struck from behind should you need to stop.

## Passing

Care must be taken when passing because it is extremely difficult to judge the speed of approaching vehicles. You might think you have plenty of time and distance to pass, but don't forget you are closing the gap between you and the approaching vehicle at twice your own rate of speed — and sometimes by more than that.

On highways, beware of vehicles parked on the opposite side, as they may suddenly pull out onto the highway. It is illegal to exceed the speed limit when passing.

The basic steps for passing are:

1. Check ahead for oncoming vehicles.
2. Check your side and rearview mirrors for vehicles approaching from behind.
3. Signal.
4. Check the blind spot on your left for vehicles beside you.
5. Check again that the road is clear before passing.

Once the vehicle you have passed is visible in your rearview mirror, check your blind spot on the right, signal to the right and return to the proper lane.

When being passed, slow down and move as close as possible to the right side of the road.

### **Drivers must be aware of wind turbulence caused by passing semi-trailer trucks or other large motor vehicles.**

#### **You must never pass:**

- by driving off the road (e.g. on the shoulder)
- where a vehicle is slowing or has stopped to yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian or other vehicle
- in a school area within 15 minutes of the opening or closing of morning and afternoon classes, or while children are near a school or playground
- on the left side of the road if it is not sufficiently clear ahead
- where highway construction is taking place

#### **Passing on the right is permitted only:**

- when overtaking a vehicle making a left turn
- on one-way streets
- on streets with marked lanes

## No-zone around large vehicles

Big trucks have big blind spots and to stay safe, you should avoid them. The No-Zone refers to blind spot areas around big trucks, where collisions are more likely to occur.

### Rear

Trucks have deep rear blind spots. A truck driver can't see you if you're in this No-Zone — especially if you're tailgating. If you can't see the truck's mirrors, the driver can't see you. Stay well back of big trucks to avoid a rear-end collision.

### Side

Trucks have large blind spots on both sides. If you stay in these blind spots, that can mean trouble if the truck driver decides to change lanes.

### Front

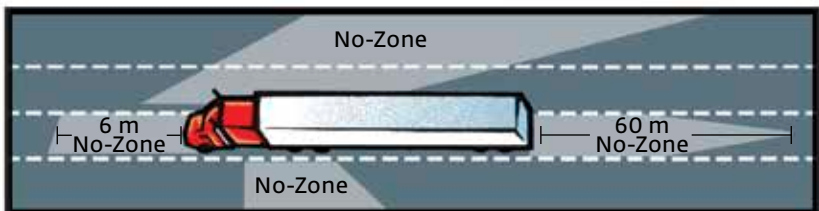
Truck drivers sit up high, and the hood of the cab obscures part of the road ahead. When you pass a big truck, make sure you can see the entire truck cab in your rear-view mirror before pulling in front. When vehicles cut in too soon, then abruptly slow down, truck drivers are forced to react with little time or room to spare.

### Backing

Never pass close behind a truck that is preparing to back up or is in the process of backing up. Most trailers are 2½ metres wide and completely hide objects behind them.

### Wide Turns

Truck drivers must sometimes swing wide to the left in order to make a right turn. They can't see cars directly behind or beside them. If you cut in between the truck and the right curb, you might cause a collision.



## Entering and leaving an expressway

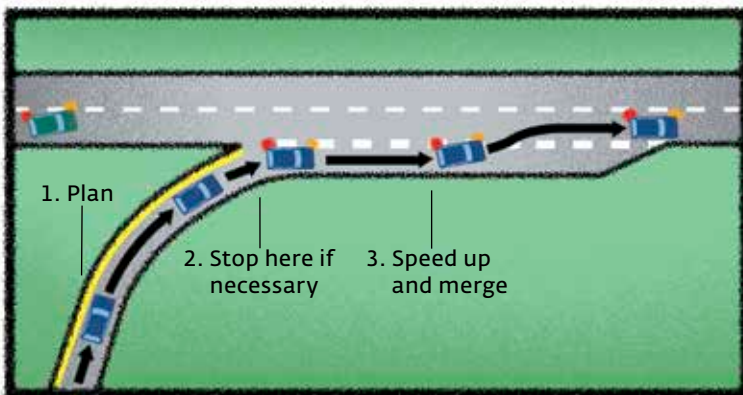
### Entering

Rear-end collisions are the leading type of accidents at entrances to expressways. Not only do you face the possibility of being rear-ended by traffic behind you in the entrance lane or on the expressway, you might rear-end a vehicle while your attention is focused on traffic in the expressway. The following advice will help minimize the risk of rear-end collisions:

1. As you enter the entrance lane, adjust your speed to match traffic and keep plenty of space between you and the vehicle ahead, so that you and the vehicle behind you will have more time and distance to stop in an emergency.
2. Check expressway traffic to determine if it will be necessary for you to slow down or stop at the point immediately before the entrance of the merge lane. (See diagram.) Keep in mind that the decision could be made for you by the driver immediately ahead of you.

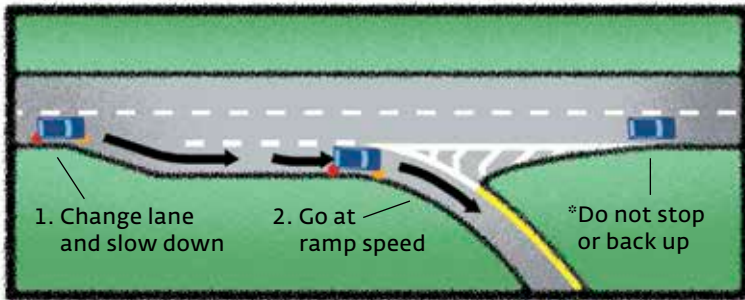
If you're not entirely sure if you'll have to slow down or stop, touch your brakes lightly to alert drivers behind that you may have to do so. The place to stop is just before the entrance of the merge lane.

3. Use the merge lane to match your speed with expressway traffic, so as to merge without having to stop. If you stop at the end of the entrance lane, you sharply increase the risk of being struck from behind.



## Leaving

1. Give yourself plenty of time to move over to the lane closest to the exit. (Follow the instructions given earlier for making lane changes.)
2. Maintain your speed until you are completely in the exit ramp, and then slow down smoothly to whatever speed is posted or to the prevailing speed in the exit ramp (whichever is slower).



If you pass your exit on an expressway, **never stop to back up**. Continue on to the next exit.

## Right-of-way

### Uncontrolled intersections

When two vehicles approach an intersection with no traffic signals or signs, both must slow down. The vehicle on the left must always yield the right-of-way to the vehicle on the right. Nevertheless, the driver with the “right-of-way” must still exercise proper care and attention to avoid a collision.

### Private entrances to public thoroughfares

When entering a street, Provincial Road or Provincial Trunk Highway from a private road, lane, driveway or parking lot, you must stop before crossing the sidewalk and yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians and traffic. Proceed when safe.

### Funeral processions

Drivers of vehicles in a funeral procession with lighted headlights and following a lead car may, if traffic conditions and local bylaws permit, go through a red light or stop sign with caution. The drivers of all other vehicles must yield the right-of-way to the procession.

The lead car in the funeral procession may be equipped with a flashing purple light.

## Emergency vehicles, tow trucks and other designated vehicles

Motorists can be fined under provisions of *The Highway Traffic Act* for failing to use caution when passing emergency or designated vehicles working at roadside. You must slow down to the following reduced maximum speeds, passing only when it is safe to do so:

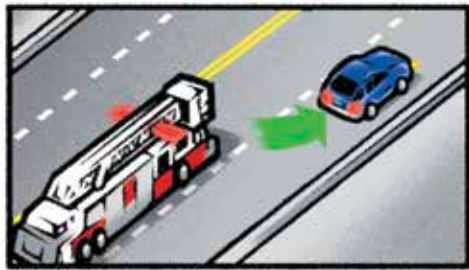
- 40 km/h on highways with posted maximum speed limits under 80 km/h
- 60 km/h on highways with posted maximum speed limits of 80 km/h or higher

If you are caught driving faster than the reduced speed limits, you could face a significant fine and move down the Driver Safety Rating scale.

An emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call, will sound an alarm and use flashing lights. The alarm may be a horn, gong, bell or siren. The lights may consist of any of the following: a flashing red light, flashing red and blue lights or alternating flashing headlights.

When an emergency vehicle (ambulance, fire or police), sounding an alarm and flashing lights, is approaching from any direction you must yield right-of-way by:

- immediately moving clear of an intersection if you are stopped for a red light or stop sign (If blocking the path of an emergency vehicle, you must proceed through a red light or stop sign with caution, to clear the way.)
- driving as closely as possible to the right curb or edge of roadway
- remaining stopped at the edge of the road until the emergency vehicles have passed



Pull over and stop for emergency vehicles.

Note: On one-way streets, pull right or left to the nearest curb so as not to block the emergency vehicle.

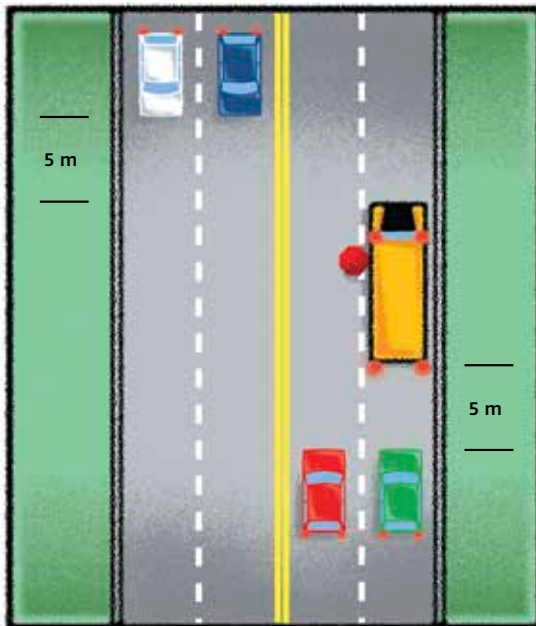
When passing a stopped emergency vehicle or other designated vehicle (tow truck or other roadside assistance vehicle, or vehicle used by government enforcement officers) that has its warning lights activated, slow down and proceed with caution, passing only if it is safe to do so. When two or more lanes of traffic in the same direction are available, you must move to the lane farthest from the emergency or designated vehicle, provided it is safe to do so. This applies to drivers on either side of an undivided highway.

## School buses

Whenever you approach a school bus with flashing lights or other warning device, whether you are approaching it from the front or rear, you must stop at least five metres from the bus and remain stopped until the signal is turned off or the bus starts moving again.

A school bus with flashing amber lights means it is about to stop. You must prepare to stop.

You need not stop when approaching a school bus from the opposite direction of a divided highway, providing there is a physical separation such as a median between the two roads. However, you must slow down and watch out for children. **A double solid line is not a physical separation.**



You must stop your vehicle not less than five metres from the bus when approaching from either direction.



## Transit buses

A number of collisions involving transit buses result from vehicles rearing the bus, either in the bus stop location or at intersections. Be aware of their travel and maintain a safe following/stopping distance.

Buses do not necessarily stop at all bus stops. Some stops are designated for special routes such as express and sporting events. If a stop is coming up, do not assume the bus is going to stop.



Transit buses display a decal on the rear of the buses requesting motorists to “Please Yield.”

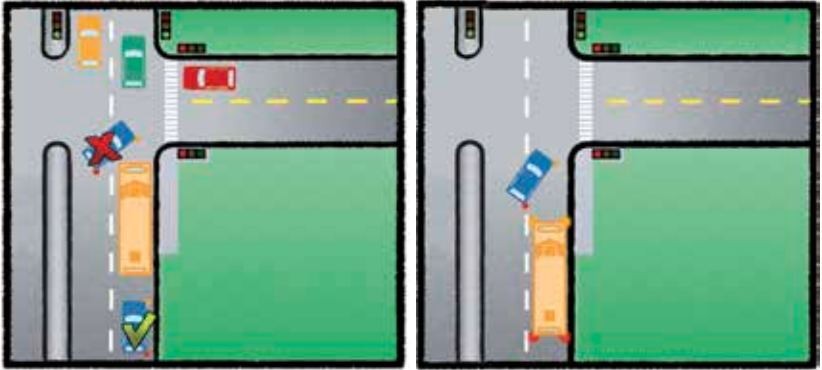
A bus operating on the street will be moving around parked vehicles or out of bus bays. If a transit bus is signaling its intention to change lanes to the left, a motorist can increase the safety of this manoeuvre by allowing sufficient time and space for the bus to enter the lane. At times, a bus may be required to change multiple lanes in order to move from a right hand curb lane to a left hand turn storage lane.

Buses are wider than most cars and light trucks, and consequently, they occupy more roadway space. Buses operate on a wide variety of street types, including residential streets and busy downtown streets. When exiting a parked vehicle, shoulder check before opening your door to avoid contacting a passing bus or other large vehicle.

### Transit bus situation #1

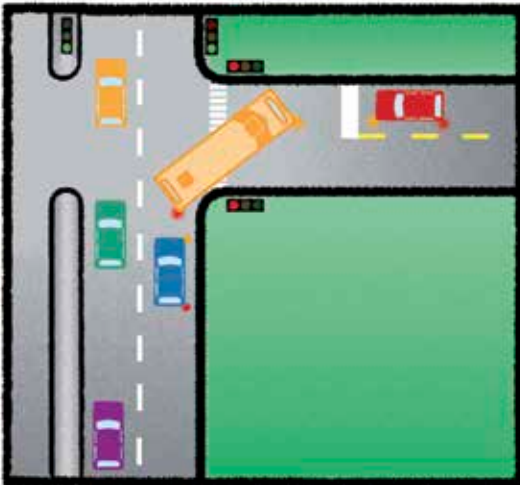
When making a right turn, it must be done in the extreme right lane. Making a right turn from the second lane in front of a transit bus not only places you at risk of being struck if the bus pulls away, but is also illegal. Pull behind and wait until the bus completes loading and unloading and pulls away from the stop or intersection.

If the bus has its hazard lights activated and is sitting a short distance from the intersection, communicate your intentions by signaling and tapping your horn prior to pulling around the front of the bus.



### Transit bus situation #2

There are numerous locations where the stop line of an intersection is set back farther than normal from the crosswalk. This is to accommodate large vehicles such as trucks and transit buses to be able to physically negotiate the turn.



### Transit bus situation #3

At many times, there may be passengers standing on transit buses.

Conducting a sudden, unexpected manoeuvre in front of a bus, such as a lane change or pulling out in front, may force the bus to stop or brake suddenly causing passengers on board the bus to fall down and possibly be injured.

Please drive cautiously around transit buses and be aware that they carry standing passengers.

### Transit bus situation #4

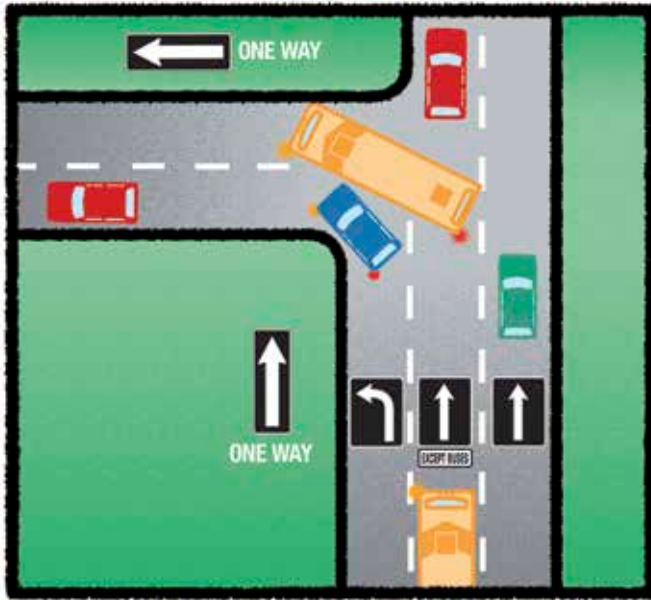
The blind spot of a 12.2 metre transit bus is 4.3 metres on the right side and 1.5 metres on the left, as well as 12.2 metres to the rear.

If you are driving in this area, the bus operator may not see you.



### Transit bus situation #5

Transit buses are given special turning privileges at certain identified intersections. Be aware of these locations and watch for buses turning with you.



## Construction zones

Passing vehicles can pose a serious threat to the safety of construction workers on or near the roadway.

When driving through construction zones, slow down, watch for workers and drive with caution, as lanes may be closed and traffic may be redirected. Keep enough space between you and the vehicle ahead of you and be ready to make a sudden stop.



Construction zones will be marked by traffic control devices, including pylons or signage, at their beginning and end. A flagperson may also be in the construction zone to help direct the flow of traffic. You must obey the directions of the flagperson, including slowing down or stopping.



In a **designated construction zone**, identified at the start and the end by a special sign, the set fines for speeding over the posted speed limit will be doubled, regardless of whether workers or equipment are present, and regardless of whether the speed limit has been reduced.



Failing to use caution or exceeding the maximum speed limit while driving through a construction zone can result in severe consequences under *The Highway Traffic Act*. In addition to a significant fine, you may also move down the Driver Safety Rating scale, which affects how much you pay for your driver's licence and vehicle registration, and receive possible driver improvement action up to and including driver's licence suspension.

## Railway crossings

The signs below indicate a railway crossing ahead. Slow down, check to the right and left along the angle of the track shown in the sign, and proceed only when safe.

The actual crossing is marked by a railway crossing sign.

When approaching railway crossings, check both ways for trains and remember that they always have the right-of-way.

When stopping at a crossing, keep at least five metres away from the nearest rail in a restricted speed area and at least 15 metres away in a non-restricted speed area. A restricted speed area means any area within a city, town or village. It also includes any municipality or part of a municipality or any highway or portion of a highway designated by *The Highway Traffic Board*.

If you see a train approaching, be prepared to stop. Motorists can seriously misjudge the speed of trains, believing they're travelling much slower than they actually are or incorrectly assuming that trains must slow down at railway crossings.

Since most railway crossings do not have electronic signals warning you when to stop, the most important rule to recognize is that **trains automatically have the right-of-way at all railway crossings**. In other words, **at railway crossings, the safety of you and your passengers depends entirely on you, the driver**.

Other safety pointers include:

- When there is more than one set of tracks, don't start across when the train passes. Make sure there isn't another train coming on the other track.
- Half of all night rail/highway crossing collisions involve vehicles hitting trains. To avoid that, slow down when you see the advance warning sign so that you can stop in time if you have to.
- Never move onto the track unless you're sure there is plenty of room on the other side. If traffic is backed up so that you can't get across the tracks, stop and wait at least five metres from the crossing, until the traffic jam clears and it is safe to cross.
- Some vehicles may stop at all crossings. These may include regular buses, school buses and vehicles carrying hazardous materials. If you're following such a vehicle, be prepared to stop.



Railway Crossing Ahead



Railway Crossing

It is **illegal** to:

- cross a railway crossing when warning signals are on (except as explained below)
- shift gears when crossing railway tracks
- drive a vehicle through, around or under a crossing gate or barrier that is closed or being opened or closed
- drive a vehicle onto a railway crossing unless there is sufficient space at the other side of the crossing to accommodate your vehicle without obstructing the passage of trains
- park within 30 metres of the nearest rail of a railway crossing unless otherwise posted

Drivers may cross a railway crossing when the warning lights are flashing if:

- the vehicle is brought to a complete stop prior to crossing
- the crossing is not protected by gates or barriers
- the crossing is within a restricted speed area
- the train is stopped or is a safe distance away
- the crossing may be done safely

For railway crossing procedures, drivers of for-hire vehicles, school buses and vehicles capable of transporting flammable liquid or gas should consult the *Professional Driver's Handbook*.

**If there is any doubt, stop and wait for the train to cross or for the warning lights to stop flashing.**

## 4. Pedestrian safety

### Crosswalks

Pedestrians have the right-of-way at both marked and unmarked crosswalks.

**Unmarked crosswalks** — These are extensions of sidewalks across a road at an intersection. No markings or signs are required. However, precaution should be taken at all times.

**Marked crosswalks** — These include crosswalks at intersections controlled by traffic lights, school crosswalks and pedestrian crosswalks.

### As a driver

You must stop and yield the right-of-way to pedestrians who are about to cross, unless they are on the opposite side of a divided highway separated by a median. A double solid line is not a physical separation.

- It is illegal to pass traffic ahead of you that is slowing down or stopped for pedestrians.
- Proceed only when the pedestrians have safely crossed the street or have safely reached the median of a divided roadway.
- No parking or stopping is allowed within three metres of a crosswalk.
- All pedestrians have the right to use school crosswalks.

### Crosswalk Signs



School  
Crosswalk  
Sign



Pedestrian  
Crosswalk  
Sign



## As a pedestrian

### *The Walking Figure*

This indication permits you to **leave the curb** and enter the roadway. For reasons of efficiency, this indication is only displayed for a relatively short period of time.



### *The Orange Hand*

This indication immediately follows the Walking Figure indication. The Orange Hand provides sufficient time for those pedestrians **already in the roadway** (pedestrian clearance interval) to complete their crossing. At certain intersections the orange hand may flash during the interval provided for pedestrians to complete their crossing and clear the roadway. Pedestrians facing the Orange Hand indication must not begin to cross the roadway, as there may not be sufficient time to do so safely.



When pedestrians are in a crosswalk facing either the Walking Figure or the Orange Hand indication, they have the right-of-way over all vehicles. However, if the vehicle operator does not yield the right-of-way, the pedestrian will come off second best in any resulting collision.

Regardless of the pedestrian signal displayed, the safest practice is for the pedestrian to be sure that all approaching vehicles are stopped before proceeding into or across the roadway. In particular, even if cross-street traffic is stopped, pedestrians should check for turning vehicles.

The length of the pedestrian clearance interval is based upon average walking speed. Consequently, pedestrians must cross the roadway as quickly as possible.

### **Pedestrian push buttons**

At many intersections controlled by traffic signal lights, pedestrian activity is intermittent. For reasons of intersection operating efficiency, the Walking Figure indication will not be displayed automatically during each signal cycle. To ensure that the Walking Figure indication is displayed and to provide sufficient clearance time to cross the entire roadway, the pedestrian must activate the correct push button. Signs with arrows pointing in the direction of the crosswalk are provided to indicate which push button is associated with each crosswalk.



## Pedestrian Safety Tips

The pedestrian signals give you certain rights while you are in an intersection. However, they will not protect you from careless motorists. It is therefore important to be cautious when crossing busy intersections and to follow these safety tips:

- Do not leave the curb unless you are sure that approaching vehicles on the cross street have stopped or will stop.
- Cross the street as quickly as possible.
- Always watch for turning vehicles.
- Do not leave the curb when the Walking Figure is not displayed.
- Always activate the pedestrian push button if there is one present.
- Do not cross at places where a Pedestrian Prohibited sign is posted.



Pedestrian  
Prohibited

## Pedestrian corridors

These feature large, illuminated overhead signs, with alternating flashing amber lights on top. Large rectangular bars are painted on the crossing.

### As a driver

- It is illegal to pass traffic ahead of you that is slowing down or has stopped for pedestrians.
- Make sure the pedestrians have safely crossed the street or have safely reached the median of a divided roadway before proceeding.
- No parking or stopping is allowed within 15 metres of a pedestrian corridor.



It is illegal to pass traffic that has slowed down or stopped for a pedestrian.

### As a pedestrian

- You should signal your intention to cross a pedestrian corridor by pushing the control button to activate the warning lights (if available) and also by extending your arm forward. Do not begin to cross unless traffic has stopped or is a safe distance away.

### People who are blind

Whenever you see a person who is blind near a roadway, drive carefully and be prepared to stop. Often, a blind or partially blind person will raise their cane when uncertain of crossing the street safely. That is your signal to **stop** and give them the right-of-way. Learn to recognize a guide dog by its special harness which allows the person to hold on firmly. Don't startle the animal by racing your engine or honking your horn.

If you drive a hybrid vehicle there may be no sound from your engine to let a blind person know that you are nearby. Exercise extreme caution in this situation.

## School and playground areas

You must drive slowly and be prepared to stop suddenly when a child is on or near a road, or close to a school or playground. It is illegal to **pass** another moving vehicle in a school area, within 15 minutes of either the opening or closing of classes or at any time when children are on the school grounds or near the road.



Watch for reduced-speed school zones, where lower speed limits may be in effect during school hours, or at all times, according to the posted signs. The maximum speed may be as low as 30 km/h where the regularly-posted speed is less than 80km/h, and as low as 50 km/h where the regularly-posted speed is 80 km/h or above. If you are caught going faster than the posted speed limit you could face a significant fine and move down the Driver Safety Rating scale.

Watch for school safety patrols because they indicate that children are nearby. The patrols are easily recognized by their high visibility vests and flags. They play an extremely important role in directing children across streets.



Watch for members of the school safety patrol. Children are near the roadway.

## 5. Sharing the road — motorists and cyclists

Through cooperation and respect, drivers and cyclists can share the road safely. When encountering cyclists on our roadways you should be aware of the three **R**'s that apply to drivers and cyclists:

- **Same Roads:** Motor vehicles and bicycles share the same roads.
- **Same Rights:** When on the road, cyclists have the same rights and duties as a driver, and must obey all signs and traffic control devices.
- **Same Rules:** Other than the difference in a cyclist's position on the road, cyclists are expected to follow the same rules of the road as a drivers.

### Your responsibilities as a driver:

- Take extra caution as some cyclists may not know or follow all the traffic safety rules.
- Reduce your speed when encountering cyclists.
- Leave a safe following distance should the cyclist need to stop suddenly.
- Recognize the hazards that cyclists may face (e.g. debris on the road) and give them plenty of space. Cycling advocacy groups suggest providing at least one metre of clearance when travelling alongside or passing cyclists. Depending on the position of the cyclist in the lane, this may mean changing lanes in order to pass safely.
- When turning left, watch for and yield to oncoming cyclists, just as you would to oncoming drivers.
- When turning right, yield to any cyclist travelling on your right. Do not try to pass a cyclist if you are planning to turn right at the next intersection or driveway.
- Children on bicycles are often unpredictable. Expect the unexpected and slow down.
- Look for cyclists before opening your car doors.
- At night, always dim your lights when approaching an oncoming cyclist.
- Drivers should always be cautious and respectful and provide adequate space to prevent potential collisions with cyclists.



## Cyclists are expected to:

- Ride respectfully — the same traffic laws that apply to drivers also apply to cyclists.
- Use hand signals and eye contact to communicate their actions to motorists.
- Obey traffic control signals and signs.
- Ride in a straight line and refrain from weaving between parked cars.
- Dismount on sidewalks.
- Ride single file when riding with other cyclists.
- Ride as closely as practicable to the right hand boundary of the road.
- Wear a certified helmet.
- Increase their visibility by wearing brightly coloured clothing.
- Use a white front light and a red rear light in low light conditions.
- Not cycle in places where a Cycling Prohibited sign is posted.



## Understanding a cyclist's position on the road

*The Highway Traffic Act* indicates that cyclists should position themselves “as close as is practicable” to the right side of the roadway. This means that cyclists are required to exercise good judgment when determining their positioning on the roadway. Drivers need to be aware that a cyclist's position on the road may be affected by traffic volume, road conditions, weather hazards and municipal lane restrictions.

Drivers can help reduce the number of bicycle and motor vehicle crashes, injuries and fatalities by understanding a cyclist's positioning on the road. There are certain situations when a cyclist may choose to be further away from the right side of the road or ride closer to the middle of the lane.

Drivers should be aware of these situations, which may include:

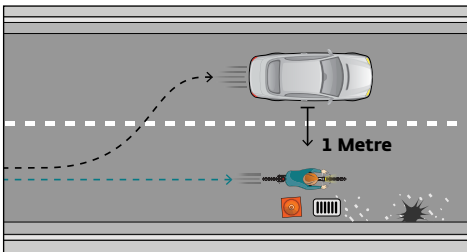
- adverse road conditions such as potholes, puddles or construction
- when passing parked vehicles and additional space is required to stay clear of the door zone

- when making a left turn (The cyclist should be positioned closer to the centre of the turning lane and following the path of a vehicle as they make the turn.)
- when the right lane is intended for right turns only and the cyclist intends to go straight (Cyclists in these situations will carry on in a straight line through the intersection.)
- when there is slower moving or stopped traffic in the right hand lane (Cyclists are allowed to pass on the left as long as it is safe to do so, however after completing the pass, the cyclist would then return to the right edge of the lane.)
- when cycling on one-way streets with more than three lanes of traffic



## Passing a cyclist

Drivers should pass a cyclist only when it is safe to do so. Cycling advocacy groups suggest providing at least one metre of clearance. This may require drivers to change lanes in order to pass safely. Extra caution must be exercised and additional space may be required when passing cyclists in highway travel situations.



There are some situations where it is not safe to pass a cyclist including:

- in construction zones where traffic is reduced to one narrow lane
- in lanes with narrow widths that do not permit passing at a safe distance
- in a yield lane

Caution and additional space may be required when passing cyclists at high rates of speed.

The *Highway Traffic Act* does not specify how close cyclists should ride near the right edge of the roadway or the clearance drivers must give a cyclist when travelling alongside or passing them. By using common sense and following the rules of the road, cyclists and drivers can make streets safer for everyone.

## Cyclist signals

Watch for these hand signals that indicate the cyclist's intentions.

**Remember:** Many children fail to signal, so always be extra cautious when approaching young cyclists. Their lives are in your hands.



Stopping



Turning Left



Turning Right

or



Moving Within Your Lane

For more information how to safely and responsibly share the road with cyclists visit [mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca).



## 6. Backing up

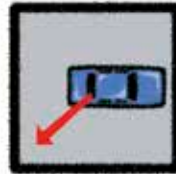
Before backing up, check for anyone or anything behind you, both by looking in your mirrors and over your shoulder. This includes checking carefully for children who may be too small to be in your direct line of vision. With your foot on the brake, put the vehicle in reverse. If you are reversing straight back or to the right, check your mirrors and look over your right shoulder. If reversing to the left, use your mirrors and look over your left shoulder. Take your foot off the brake and, if you're turning as you reverse, ensure that you don't strike anything to the sides.



Look over your left shoulder for a clear view when reversing to the left.



Look over your right shoulder when reversing straight or to the right.



### Three-point turn

A three-point turn is when you:

1. Pull over to the right side of the street, stop, check mirrors and shoulder check.
2. Back up into an intersection or driveway. Check mirrors and shoulder check before backing up.
3. Turn left and proceed forward in the direction you came from.

#### Traffic check

Before slowing down, check traffic in front and behind you. Check your blind spot before pulling over to the right side of the road to stop.

## Signal

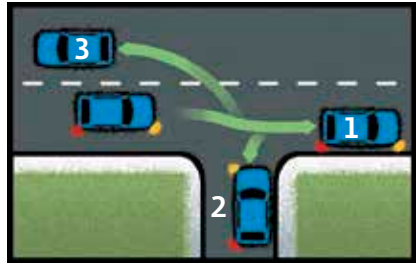
Turn on your right signal before slowing down unless there are vehicles waiting to enter the road from side roads or driveways between you and your stopping point (see diagram below). Wait until you have passed these entrances so that drivers will not think you are turning.

## Speed

Gradually reduce speed. In a vehicle with a manual transmission, you may down shift into a lower gear as you slow down. Do not coast with your foot on the clutch pedal.

## Position

Stop so you are parallel to the curb and not more than 45 centimeters away (**Position 1**). Where there is no curb stop as far as possible off the travelled part of the road. Do not stop where you will block an entrance, an intersection or other traffic.



## Traffic check

Check your mirrors and shoulder check to the right before starting the turn. Wait until the way is clear. Each time you stop while turning, check traffic in both directions.

## Signal

Turn your right signal or four-way flasher on.

## Turn around

With the steering wheel turned sharply right, reverse your vehicle slowly and smoothly, backing into the lane or driveway (**Position 2**). Back up far enough so you can have a clear view of the roadway and are behind the sidewalk and stop. Turn your left signal on, shift to a forward gear, turn your steering wheel to the left and make sure that you check in both directions. Then move your vehicle into the traffic lane (**Position 3**).

## Speed

Return to normal traffic speed by accelerating smoothly to blend in with the traffic around you. In light traffic accelerate moderately. In heavier traffic you may have to accelerate more quickly. In a vehicle with a manual transmission, shift gears as you increase your speed.

## Three-point turn on a dead end street

### Traffic check

Before slowing down, check traffic in front and behind you. Check your blind spot before pulling over to the right side of the road to stop.

### Signal

Turn on your right signal before slowing down.

### Speed

Gradually reduce speed. In a vehicle with a manual transmission, you may down shift into a lower gear as you slow down. Do not coast with your foot on the clutch pedal.

### Position

Stop so you are parallel to the curb and not more than 45 centimetres away. Where there is no curb, stop as far as possible off the travelled part of the road. Do not stop where you will block an entrance, an intersection or other traffic (**Position 1**).

### Traffic check

Check your mirrors and shoulder check to the left just before starting the turn. Wait until the way is clear. Check traffic in both directions as you proceed to make the turn. Each time you stop while turning, check traffic in both directions.

### Signal

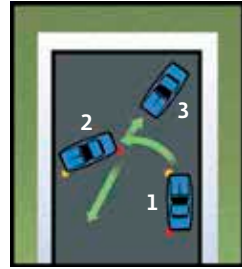
Turn on your left signal before starting to turn.

### Turn around

With the steering wheel turned sharply left, move slowly and smoothly across the road. When you have reached the far left side of the road, stop and put your vehicle in reverse. With the steering wheel turned sharply right, move in reverse so the vehicle is facing in the new direction (**Position 2**). Stop and shift into forward gear to drive ahead. Use the whole road to make your turn, reversing only once. Do not reverse over the edge or shoulder of the road or onto the curb (**Position 3**).

### Speed

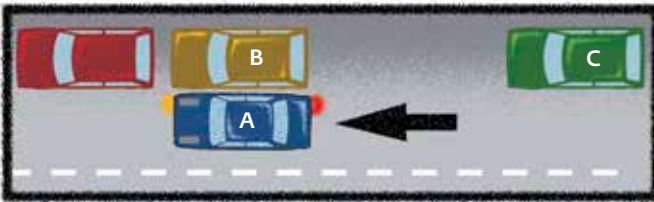
Return to normal traffic speed by accelerating smoothly to blend in with the traffic around you. In light traffic accelerate moderately. In heavier traffic you may have to accelerate more quickly. In a vehicle with a manual transmission, shift gears as you increase your speed.



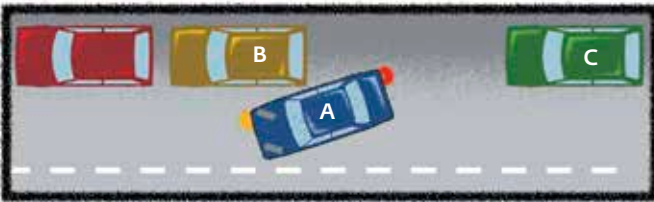
# 7. Parking

## Parallel parking

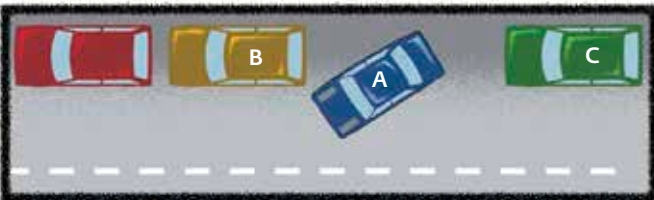
1. Check your mirrors for traffic. Don't stop suddenly if a vehicle is close behind you. Signal your stop by flashing your brake lights approximately three times or by using a hand signal and then turn on your right signal. Drive alongside Vehicle B about one metre away. Stop when your vehicle's (Vehicle A) rear bumper is even with the rear bumper of Vehicle B.



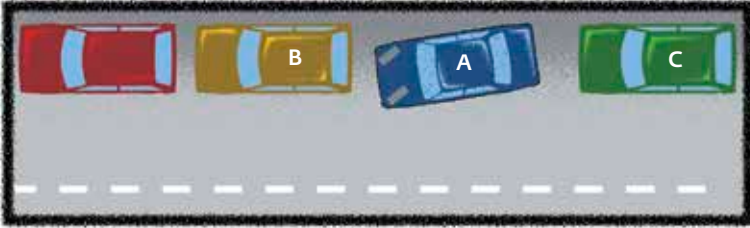
2. When you have checked your mirrors and blind spots and you are sure the way is clear, start backing into the space very slowly. As you reverse, you should steer sharply to the right until your vehicle is at a 45 degree angle from the curb. Watch for vehicles passing you. Stop when your steering wheel is in line with the rear bumper of Vehicle B.



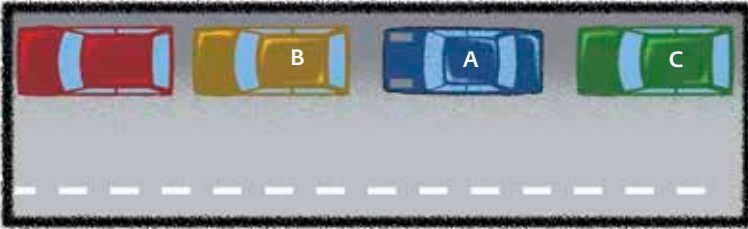
3. Straighten the wheels and continue to back into the space. The turn signal can be turned off. Stop when the right end of your front bumper is in line with and past the rear bumper of Vehicle B.



4. Turn the steering wheel sharply to the left as you continue to back slowly. Make sure the front of your vehicle does not hit the parked vehicle ahead. Your right rear wheel should be close to the curb. Stop moving the vehicle.



5. Put the vehicle into forward gear. Turning the steering wheel to the right as you do so, drive slowly forward. This should bring your vehicle parallel to and not more than 45 centimetres away from the curb. Stop the vehicle when it is centred between Vehicles B and C.



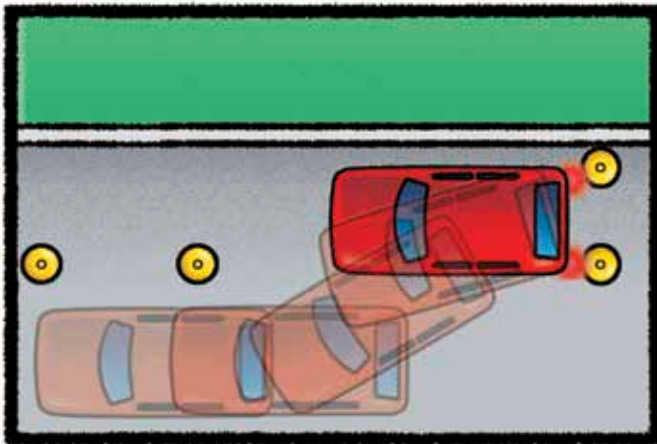
## Backing skill test

During the road test, you will be required to demonstrate your ability to back up your vehicle. This will be done by successfully backing a vehicle within a space measuring approximately 1.85 metres by 7.5 metres as outlined by testing poles.

During the road test you will be asked to stop before the backing area to be given an explanation of the test. You will have three attempts to complete this portion of the test, each attempt consists of three movements of the vehicle (backwards, forward and then backward again).

At this point the vehicle must be parked satisfactorily. In this portion of the road test, the following actions will result in an automatic failure:

- The vehicle touches one of the poles.
- You drive over the curb (although your tires can touch the curb).
- You drive between the poles that represent the front or the back of a vehicle.
- You commit a dangerous act such as backing up or moving forward while a vehicle is passing close by.



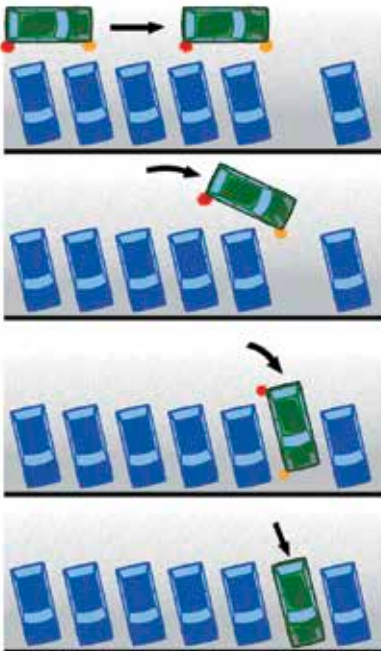
## Angle parking

This type of parking commonly occurs in parking lots, shopping centres and on very wide streets in some communities.

### Steps in angle parking

1. Signal your intention to park and slow down.
2. Check for approaching traffic from the front and rear.
3. Approach the stall approximately one vehicle width from the parked vehicles.
4. When your vehicle's front end is even with the rear of the stall you want to park in, begin steering sharply to the right while slowly driving towards the centre of the stall. Remember as you are turning into the stall to check that you will not hit the vehicle on either side of the stall.
5. Once your vehicle is centred in the stall, straighten your wheels and continue driving forward until you are completely in the parking stall.

Although it is easy to park, backing out from this position can be hazardous. Shoulder check sides and rear — don't just rely on your rearview mirror. Make sure it is clear behind and on both sides before backing up. If your vision is blocked, for example, by a truck parked beside you, move back cautiously and watch for pedestrians or vehicles that you may not have seen.



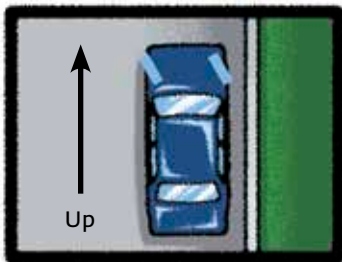
## Parking on a hill or incline

Vehicles with automatic transmission should be placed in the Park position. Vehicles with manual transmission should be placed in reverse or low gear. In both cases, **always set your parking brake firmly.**

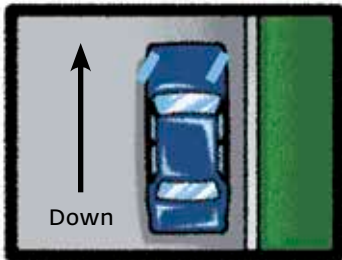
**Uphill parking** — turn the wheels **away from the curb.**

**Downhill parking** — turn the wheels **toward the curb** so the position of the wheel will help hold the car.

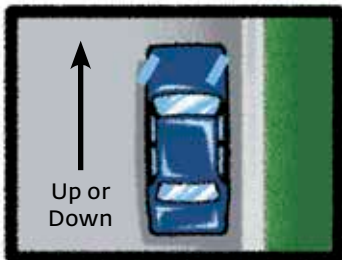
If there is no curb, whether you are parking up or downhill, turn wheels slightly to the right so that if the car begins rolling, it will move off the roadway.



**Uphill** with curb.  
Turn wheels away from curb.



**Downhill** with curb.  
Turn wheels towards the curb.



**Without** curb.  
Turn wheels to the right.



## Parking pointers

- Always look for traffic including other vehicles or cyclists before opening a vehicle door.
- By law you may leave your vehicle unattended when the motor is running only for reasons such as warming the vehicle and defrosting the windshield. It is recommended that you have a spare key and you lock your door if you leave the vehicle. Utility and delivery service vehicles are exempt from this law.
- When leaving from a parked position, signal and wait until it is safe before pulling out.

## Illegal parking

It is illegal to park:

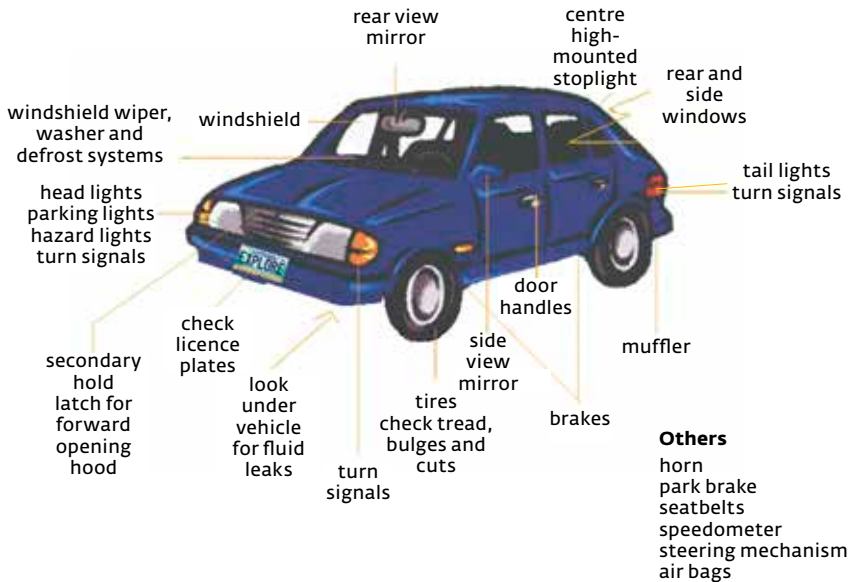
- on a sidewalk
- across the entrance to any driveway, back lane or intersection
- within three metres from the point on the curb or edge of the roadway immediately opposite a fire hydrant
- on a crosswalk or within three metres of a crosswalk
- within 15 metres of a pedestrian corridor
- within nine metres of a stop sign or other traffic sign or signal posted at an intersection
- within 30 metres of the nearest rail of a railway crossing, unless otherwise posted
- within six metres of a driveway entrance to a fire station, unless otherwise posted
- on a roadway beside another vehicle that is already parked
- at a curve on the highway outside a city, town or village, when the vehicle cannot be clearly seen from at least 60 metres in each direction upon the highway
- in such a manner that it becomes a hazard or that is contrary to any section of *The Highway Traffic Act* or any municipal bylaw

## 8. Vehicle equipment

As a driver, you are responsible for ensuring that your vehicle is safe to drive. Vehicles should be thoroughly checked at least twice a year. A police officer can order you to have defective equipment repaired immediately. If you fail to comply, your vehicle registration may be suspended until a qualified mechanic certifies the defects have been repaired.

Is your vehicle safe to drive? Check:

### Circle check — exterior of vehicle



### Required equipment

The following equipment must be in safe working condition:

#### Brakes

Brakes must be able to stop passenger vehicles travelling at 30 km/h within 7.6 metres. Other motor vehicles, such as trucks and vans under 4,540 kg, must be able to stop within nine metres. All brakes should be periodically checked and, if necessary, adjusted.

## Lights

All motor vehicles, except motorcycles, must have:

- two to four headlights, including a high beam and low beam on each side, in good working order (Vehicles must also have a high-beam indicator light. When operating your vehicle, headlights must be switched on a half hour before sunset until a half hour after sunrise and when visibility is reduced to 60 metres. A recommended safe driving practice is to drive with headlights on all the time.)
- functional daytime running lights, if manufactured on or after Dec. 1, 1989 (For motorcycles and mopeds, model year 1975 or later, a headlamp must be on at all times when being operated.)
- turn signals — amber or white lights at the front, red or amber lights at the rear (Motorcycles of the model or make of the year 1974 or earlier and mopeds are not required to be equipped with signal lights. Trailers require signal lights on the rear only.)
- at least two rear red lights or, for vehicles dated 1967 or earlier, at least one rear red light
- one functional centre high-mounted stop light, in addition to the regular stop lights, if it is a passenger car manufactured after 1986
- one white light for the rear number plate
- at least one red light on the rear plus a stop light, if a trailer is attached (Towed vehicles with a width exceeding 2.05 metres, except passenger cars, must have clearance lights and reflectors at the front and rear.)
- a red flag clearly visible at the end of a load during daylight and a red light or reflector at the end of a load at night, if the load extends one metre or more past the rear of the vehicle

## Tires

To maximize the safety and life of your tires:

- Use tires of the same construction and size. Your owner's manual should inform you which is best for your vehicle.
- Using an accurate tire pressure gauge, check the air pressure of your tires at least once a month and after long trips. The best time to inflate tires is when they are cool.

- Check your owner’s manual to determine if and when you should rotate tires.
- Always replace tires when the tread is less than 1.6 millimetres. After replacing tires, have the wheels balanced.
- Studded tires are illegal between **April 30 and Oct. 1**.

**Remember:** A tire with deep cuts, cracks, blisters or bulges is dangerous and should be replaced.



**1) Normal wear**  
exposes the wear indicators between two or more adjacent grooves. Replace the tire when the wear indicators become visible.



**2) Under-inflation**  
will cause a tire to wear out at the edges first. This tire’s smooth edges may cause skids on wet curves and must be replaced.



**3) Over-inflation**  
causes the tire to wear out in the centre first. This tire is dangerously worn and must be replaced.

### Mirrors

All motor vehicles must be equipped with a mirror, providing a clear rear view. Vehicles such as vans, buses, trucks, campers, cars pulling trailers and other vehicles must have outside mirrors on the right and left sides. Extended mirrors must be removed when a trailer is not being towed.

### Horn

All motor vehicles must have a horn that can be heard for at least 60 metres. A horn should be sounded only when necessary.

### Windshield and windows

There must be a clear view from the front windshield, side and rear windows. From **Nov. 1 to March 31** inclusive, your vehicle must be capable of keeping the windshield, the rear window and the windows at both sides free from frost.

## **Windshield wipers and washers**

Front windows must have windshield wipers in good working condition and every motor vehicle dating from 1971 (except motorcycles or mopeds) must have a functioning windshield washer with the fluid container topped up as necessary.

## **Speedometer and odometer**

A motor vehicle must have a speedometer and odometer in good working order. It is illegal to alter the distance shown on an odometer.

## **Muffler**

All motor vehicles must have a muffler capable of preventing excessive noise. A leaky muffler can cause carbon monoxide poisoning. It is illegal to use a muffler cut-out, straight exhaust, gutted muffler, hollywood muffler, bypass or any device that reduces the effectiveness of a noise muffler.

## **Bumper**

Every passenger car must have a bumper at the front and rear.

## **Suspension**

It is illegal to raise or lower the original suspension of a passenger car.

## **Other equipment**

### **Oil pressure gauge**

This gauge shows if there is sufficient oil pressure to motor parts where it is needed.

### **Temperature gauge**

This gauge shows the temperature of the engine. Do not operate the vehicle if this gauge shows a high temperature.

### **Ammeter/voltmeter**

This gauge shows when the battery is being charged or discharged.

### **Fuel gauge**

This gauge identifies the amount of fuel left in the fuel tank.

### **Warning light**

Most vehicles are equipped with warning lights to notify the driver of problems with certain operating systems on the vehicle. If a light is illuminated, consult your vehicle operating manual.

### **Airbags**

Airbags are built into steering wheels, dashboards and in the sides of some vehicles. They launch automatically when there is a very fast deceleration such as a crash. They give drivers and passengers extra protection, especially during head on and side impact crashes.

## 9. Poor driving conditions

You are responsible for keeping full control of your vehicle at all times, even under poor driving conditions.

### Ice, sleet or snow

- Start out slowly and gently test steering and braking conditions.
- Reduce your speed to suit ice and snow conditions, and remember that even snow tires can slide on ice or packed snow.
- If your vehicle does not have anti-lock brakes, apply steady brake pressure without locking the wheels and losing steering control. This is sometimes referred to as threshold braking. If your vehicle does have anti-lock brakes, apply full brake pressure and hold. You will still have some steering control. Check your owner's manual for the best advice to follow for your specific braking system.
- Increase the distance between you and the vehicle ahead of you according to road conditions. Remember that in winter your vehicle requires a greater stopping distance.
- Be alert to pedestrians at all times as well as slippery patches, bridges (which may have slippery surfaces), blind intersections, snow plows, graders, etc.
- Keep windows and windshields clear of ice and snow, and make sure your defroster and windshield wipers are working properly.
- Keep your lights on.

### Daytime use of headlights

Using headlights during the day can significantly reduce the chances of a collision because your vehicle is easier to see.

### Reduced visibility

By law, while driving a vehicle, you are required to switch on headlights a half hour before sunset until a half hour after sunrise and when visibility is reduced to 60 metres.

Other recommended practices include:

- sharply reducing your normal driving speed
- turning your headlights on low beam to reduce the glaring reflection from dense fog or snow (Fog lamps are even better.)
- reducing your speed further on seeing headlights or taillights (The headlights may be on a vehicle being driven down the centre of the road, and the taillights may be a vehicle stopped on the road or just barely moving.)

- if driving at a greatly reduced speed, turning your hazard/emergency flashing lights on (This will make you more visible and warn other drivers that you are travelling at a reduced rate of speed.)
- being prepared for emergency stops (If the visibility becomes so poor that you can barely see, cautiously pull off the pavement and stop. Wait until visibility improves.)

## Night driving

One of the major reasons why driving at night is more dangerous than driving during the day is that you cannot see as far. Never drive so fast that you can't stop within the distance you can see in front of you with your lights. That means driving slower than usual, since under normal conditions you can see only 30 metres ahead on low beam and 110 metres ahead on high beam.

**To reduce glare**, do not look directly at the headlights of oncoming traffic; instead, look to the right edge of the roadway. To cut glare from the rear, adjust your mirror or use a day-night mirror. Reduce your speed until your eyes have recovered from the glare. Some additional pointers to minimize the hazards of night driving include:

- ensuring your low beams reveal objects at least 30 metres ahead without blinding oncoming drivers
- dimming your lights at least 450 metres from oncoming vehicles, and 60 metres when following vehicles
- keeping headlights clean
- keeping the interior lights off so that your eyes will remain adapted to the dark
- watching for pedestrians and vehicles stopped at the edge of the road
- if you must stop, pulling off onto the shoulder and using your emergency flashing lights or other approved warning devices such as flares
- watching for highway signs — they're more difficult to see and read at night
- keeping both the inside and outside of the windshield clean



Daytime



Night – Low Beams



Night – High Beams



Always use low beams when approaching other vehicles. High beams will blind the other driver.



Use high beams only when driving in open country without other vehicles near.



Use low beams when driving by street light, in fog and when following another vehicle closely.

## Drowsiness or fatigue

Being drowsy or “half asleep” can be compared to a drugged condition which can result in a fatal collision. It usually occurs from steady driving or from having started out tired. Be well rested before you begin your trip. If you start to feel sleepy, stop your vehicle and rest. If you must park by the side of the road, pull well over and put on your four-way flashers to prevent being struck. If possible, stop at a rest area, motel or hotel.

## Distractions

The most important thing to think about while driving is... driving. Distracted driving means any activity that diverts your attention from the road. Being distracted, even for just a few seconds, is all it takes to cause a fatal crash. Each year, on average, on Manitoba roads 28 people are killed in collisions linked to distracted driving.\*

\*Source: Traffic Accident Report Database, 2008–2012



One of the most dangerous of distractions is using a hand-held phone while driving. That means texting, emailing or talking on the phone. In Manitoba, it's against the law and being convicted of using a hand-held electronic device behind the wheel will result in a \$200 fine and moving five levels down the Driver Safety Rating scale.

Distractions can be anything that takes your eyes off the road, hands off the wheel or mind off the job of driving. Texting while driving, for example, is extremely dangerous because it does all three. Distractions can happen both inside and outside your vehicle. Some of the most common are using hand-held electronic devices such as cellphones and MP3 players, passengers, eating, drinking, smoking, commercial signs, pedestrians and other drivers.

## Gravel road driving

Gravel roads present special driving challenges as evidenced by the high number of rollover accidents. Following are some safety tips to minimize the safety hazards when operating a vehicle on gravel roads:

- When driving onto a gravel surface, **slow down** and drive carefully.
- As a driver you should always drive at a speed that will allow you to stop safely for any hazard.
- On gravel, sudden changes in direction such as a swerve to avoid an object or animal on the road, can be dangerous.
- Stopping or speeding up too quickly can result in loss of control.
- Know your braking system (refer to your owner's manual):
  - If your vehicle has anti-lock brakes, you should be able to apply full brake pressure and still have steering control.
  - If your vehicle does not have anti-lock brakes, apply steady brake pressure without locking the wheels and losing steering control. This is sometimes referred to as threshold braking.
- Remember that stopping distances are increased because your tires have reduced traction to the road surface (loose gravel surface).
- Following distance is **very important**. You should stay a minimum of six seconds behind other vehicles. This distance should be increased when road conditions are less than ideal (washboard, potholes and loose gravel). This will reduce the danger from clouds of dust obscuring vision and flying rocks damaging head lights and windshields.
- Rollovers are of particular concern in rural driving, whether on gravel or pavement. It is very easy for a distracted driver to allow the tires on one side of the vehicle to wander off the road while travelling at higher speeds. Many drivers will try to get back on track by quickly

turning the steering wheel and jamming on the brakes. This can cause the vehicle to start into a skid, where it may tip and rollover several times before stopping.

- To avoid a rollover take your foot off the gas and steer the vehicle so it follows the edge of the roadway, slowly turn the steering wheel to gradually guide the vehicle back onto the road.

## Winter road driving

The winter road systems in Manitoba are basic access routes to remote northern communities and have no alignment standards. There are no posted speed limit signs and the recommended speed limit for vehicles with a maximum gross vehicle weight of seven tonnes or greater is 15 km/h on all ice roads. Winter roads are constructed on the natural terrain of the land and ice. They cross muskeg, rock ridges, streams, rivers and lakes. The road surface can get worse quickly due to changes in the weather. The chance of an accident increases if you do not drive according to the road conditions.

Here are some safety tips and information to help reduce the hazards when operating a vehicle on winter roads:

- Travel is not approved until a section officially opens. No regular inspection of maintenance is provided along the route before opening or after closing, increasing the potential risk to drivers. (A 24-hour voice report for winter road information to access remote isolated northern Manitoba communities is available by calling Highway Information Services at 204-945-3704 or toll-free 1-877-627-6237.)
- The road surface is packed snow or ice and the stopping distance of all vehicles is longer than on land roads. As a driver, you should be travelling at a speed that will allow you to safely slow down or stop if you come upon a hazard or approaching vehicle.
- Winter roads are primarily used by heavy truck traffic delivering fuel, freight, groceries, machinery and building products. The contractor's maintenance equipment is slow moving and can pose hazards on blind corners. The season may be shortened due to weather conditions and the traffic volumes may increase. Night travel is recommended for better visibility of traffic.
- Ice road failures, sudden storms, ground drifting and whiteout conditions preventing travel can occur in subzero temperatures. Wilderness survival training and ice road driving courses are recommended.
- Passing or meeting other vehicles should be done with great care because swirling snow can reduce visibility.

- The results of an unexpected delay, breakdown or accident when travelling in an isolated area can be life threatening if you are not prepared. It may take a long time for help to arrive if there is trouble. Proper clothing, personal medication, fuel to reach your destination, vehicle and survival equipment, cellular or satellite phone and/or Citizen Band communication are recommended for every vehicle travelling on the winter road system.
- Always let someone at your destination know when you expect to arrive prior to starting your trip.
- Environmental guidelines require road users to be responsible for their own abandoned vehicle and garbage removal.

## Hills

Slow down at the top of a hill to make up for the increased braking distance required on the down slope. Before starting down a steep hill, shift to a lower gear to let your engine assist you as a braking force. Never coast down hills in neutral or with the clutch disengaged because you'll be relying too much on your brakes and they may not hold.

Don't pass near the crest of a hill because your sight distance ends at the hilltop.

It may be irritating to follow slow-moving vehicles up a hill but because your sight distance is limited, you should remain patient and follow all the way over the crest before passing. Observe the pavement markings and road signs.



## Farm equipment on roads

When outside of cities, drivers need to be watching for farm equipment that might be moving between fields. Many farm implements are very large and oddly shaped, and farm tractors, combines and other equipment move very slowly, with a maximum speed of 40 km/h. Drivers need to be aware that at highway speeds, you will approach a piece of farm equipment faster than expected. As well, farm implements can sometimes take up more than half of the road width, or if they are crossing a bridge, can take up the full width of the bridge. The most important thing to remember when approaching farm equipment on the road is to slow down well ahead of time, and to look closely at the implement when passing or meeting it to make sure you know how wide and how long it is.

Remember a valid Class 5 Intermediate Stage licence or higher is required to operate heavy and agricultural equipment on provincial highways and roads in urban areas. These types of vehicles include tractors, self-propelled farm equipment such as combines, and heavy equipment such as front-end loaders, cranes, forklifts and graders. Provincial highways and urban roads do not include rural municipal roads, service roads or winter roads controlled or maintained by a local government such as a rural municipality.



## Pilot vehicles

Pilot vehicles are used to warn drivers they are approaching an oversize vehicle or load.

When an oversize or overload permit requires a pilot vehicle for escort purposes, the pilot vehicle shall be equipped with a yellow flashing light and shall display an illuminated “WIDE LOAD” or “D” sign.

When escorting an oversize vehicle or load:

- on a two-lane or four-lane highway — The pilot vehicle shall precede and follow the oversize vehicle or load at a distance of not less than 100 metres and not more than 500 metres.
- on a four-lane divided highway — The pilot vehicle shall follow the oversize vehicle or load at a distance of not less than 100 metres and not more than 500 metres.

Drivers should be aware that the oversize vehicle or load may pose a threat to normal traffic patterns, particularly when passing the oversize vehicle or load on a two-way highway.

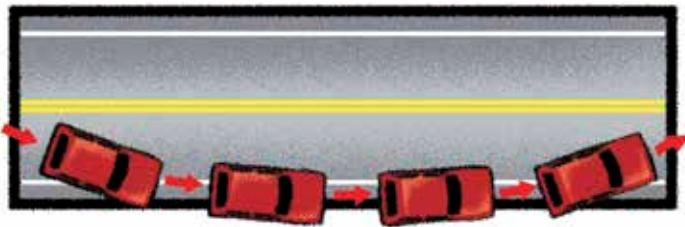


## 10. Driving emergencies

### Running off the pavement

If your vehicle goes onto the shoulder of the road:

1. Stay on the shoulder and steer in a straight line.
2. Take your foot off the accelerator.
3. Apply the brakes very gently.
4. After slowing down, and if traffic permits, ease back onto the pavement, being careful not to overshoot the centre line.



### Blowouts

A front-tire blowout tends to cause the vehicle to swerve to the side of the blowout, making steering very difficult. In the case of a rear-tire blowout, the rear end of the vehicle sways from side to side.

Should a blowout occur:

- Hold the steering wheel firmly and take your foot off the accelerator, allowing your vehicle to slow down gradually.
- Brake **only** when the speed is sufficiently reduced to maintain control.
- Do not turn onto the shoulder of the road until you have your vehicle under control. If the blowout causes your vehicle to swerve onto the shoulder, don't try to get back onto the pavement. Let the vehicle coast to a stop.
- Drive your vehicle off the roadway to a safe spot to change a tire.

Note: If you regularly inspect your tires for under inflation, cuts or bulges, you may be able to avoid a blowout. When driving, you may be warned by a thumping sound caused by a bulge in the tire or your vehicle may be pulling sideways because the tire is losing air rapidly. Power steering gives you more power to resist the side pull from a front tire blowout.

## Losing a wheel

The rules are basically the same as for a blowout.

## Skid control

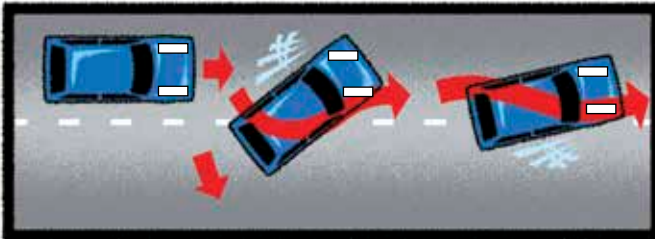
Driving too fast often results in skidding, regardless of weather conditions. In fact, more people are killed or injured in dry-surface skids than in wet-surface skids.

To get control of your vehicle while skidding, you should simultaneously:

- Take your foot off the accelerator or the brake.
- Look and steer in the direction you would like to go.

As the vehicle straightens out (assuming the brakes haven't locked), the front wheels should also be straightened out to prevent a skid in the opposite direction.

To keep from skidding, slow down as you approach danger spots and do not accelerate, brake or change direction quickly.



## Emergency braking

If you must stop in the shortest distance for an emergency, depress the brake pedal to its maximum. However, with this method you will lose your steering control.

### **Without anti-lock brakes**

If your vehicle doesn't have anti-lock brakes, slamming on the brakes will lock your wheels. If all four wheels are locked, the vehicle will likely slide in the direction it was already going. Remember, without an anti-lock braking system, when your brakes are locked, you have very little steering control (if any at all), so do this only in an emergency.

An alternative method is to apply steady brake pressure without locking up the wheels. This is called threshold braking and requires practice and skill in order to perform properly. The advantage here is you maintain steering control as you come to a stop and you may be able to steer around an object rather than having a collision.

### **With anti-lock brakes**

Anti-lock braking systems will provide some degree of steering control when the brakes are fully applied. The amount of control will depend on the specific system, so check your owner's manual for the best advice to follow.

## Flooded engine

Your engine floods when you have too much gas and not enough air in your car's combustion chamber, making it impossible for the gas to ignite. Check your owner's manual for directions.

## Wet brakes

Your brakes may fail when you go through a large puddle of water. To be sure that they're working:

- Always test the brakes lightly after driving through deep water. They may pull to one side or may not work at all.
- You can "dry" the brakes by driving slowly and applying them lightly.



## Disabled vehicle

Following are some safety tips to help minimize safety hazards if your vehicle stalls or is involved in an accident:

- If possible, move the vehicle clear of traffic and park all four wheels off the travelled portion of the highway.
- Use the starter and low gear to pull your vehicle to the shoulder if you have a standard shift.
- If your vehicle is stalled on a highway or if your speed is well below the speed limit, use the four-way flashers when your vehicle is coming to a stop.
- If you have reflectorized signs and/or flares, place them 60 metres in front and behind the vehicle, so that the danger may be seen by approaching drivers.
- If you cannot move your vehicle off the road, raise the hood to warn other motorists.

## Direct collision course

If a vehicle suddenly approaches from the opposite direction in your lane:

- Brake hard. If speed can be reduced before the collision, the impact will be less severe.
- Head for the shoulder on the right-hand side of the road and sound the horn. The other driver may suddenly realize their actions and steer back onto their side of the road. **Never swerve to the left to avoid a collision.** You may then be in the path of oncoming traffic.
- Drive into the ditch if necessary. Many collisions are more serious than they have to be, simply because some drivers don't accept the reality of a collision happening to them and "freeze." Better to be in the ditch than be involved in a collision.
- Head for something that is capable of energy absorption to reduce the force on impact — for example, a bush, shrub or snowbank. Better to hit an object with a glancing blow rather than head-on. Sideswiping a guardrail, for instance, and bouncing off (some of the impact being absorbed), with the driver regaining control, has avoided more serious collisions.

By being alert at all times behind the wheel, you may gain that fraction of a second you would not otherwise have to determine your escape route.

## Vehicle on fire

Since this usually results from an electrical short circuit, turn off the ignition immediately. It's wise to keep a hand fire extinguisher in the passenger compartment of your vehicle. If it is a small fire, use the fire extinguisher or smother flames with earth, sand or large articles of clothing. If it is a large fire, move away from the vehicle and call the nearest fire department.

## Vehicle plunging into water

If a vehicle ends up in water with the windows closed and intact (not broken), it will float for between 30 seconds and a few minutes. Vehicle occupants have only about one minute to exit before escape becomes impossible. As the vehicle sinks, water is higher on the outside than the inside, therefore water pressure prevents doors from being opened. Once the water rises above the windows, the windows cannot be opened because the water presses the window against the door frame.

If you ever find yourself in this situation, follow these important steps:

1. **Do not panic.**
2. **Take seatbelts off.** Children or others who need help must be released from their seatbelts (starting from the oldest to the youngest, since the older children can help themselves while you attend to the younger ones).
3. **Open or break windows.** If they're power windows, roll them down immediately because water will cause a short circuit in the electrical system. If the electric windows don't work, break them by hitting or kicking the window on the edge nearest the front of the car.
4. **Get out immediately,** sending children out before you.

## Vehicle in contact with electrical wires

If you step out from a vehicle in contact with live electrical wires, you could be seriously injured or killed when your feet touch the ground — even if you're wearing rubber boots. Should your vehicle ever be in contact with electrical wires:

1. Stay inside and try to drive away from the wires.
2. If you cannot free your vehicle from the wires, turn on your hazard lights, move off the road as far as you can and remain inside. Warn potential rescuers to stay away from the vehicle and the wires and ask them to contact the police.
3. If your vehicle is on fire and you must leave it, only do so by jumping out so as not to come in contact with both the vehicle and the ground at the same time. Also make sure to jump free of any wires.

## Suggested emergency equipment

1. **Standard Emergency Equipment** — shovel, tow rope or chain, booster cables, flashlight, first-aid kit, basic tool kit, flares and fire extinguisher
2. **Winter Emergency Equipment** — all of #1 plus hatchet, chains or metal mats, windshield scraper, snow brush, gas line anti-freeze, winter clothing, winter boots, winter hat, mitts and blankets
3. **Winter Survival Kit** — all of #1 and #2 plus waterproof matches, compact stove with fuel, candles, sheet of plastic or canvas, light rope, blaze orange flag, carbon dioxide indicator, aluminum foil, tissues, 1.5 kg metal cans with plastic lids, dry foods and soups and plastic utensils

Always ensure your vehicle's fuel tank is full when driving in winter conditions. If you become stranded, your chances of survival are better when you stay with your vehicle.

# 11. Collisions

## Upon arriving at the scene of a collision:

- Park your vehicle off the roadway to prevent a collision with another vehicle.
- In case of serious injury, call 911 or the nearest police station and ambulance.
- Turn off the ignition of vehicles involved in the collision to prevent a fire.
- If a person is pinned in a vehicle, but unhurt, crawl into the vehicle and try to release them. If an individual is hurt, however, **do not** attempt to move them unless the vehicle is on fire. Should the person have to be moved, ensure that the head and spine are firmly supported.
- If you have flares or reflective signs, place them 60 metres in front and behind the collision scene as a warning to approaching drivers. Otherwise, use your four-way flashers. Occupants of your vehicle or bystanders should be positioned at both approaches to the collision, standing off the roadway, to warn vehicles.
- Extinguish the flares when they are no longer needed.

## **Even if you have not been trained in first aid, you may give the following assistance:**

- If a person is unconscious, be sure their air passage is clear of foreign material. False teeth, chewing gum, vomit or mucus can block the air passage. If possible, gently turn their head to the side. If the victim is not breathing and you are familiar with mouth-to-mouth or artificial respiration, begin the procedure immediately.
- Stop bleeding by applying direct pressure with a clean piece of material over the wound. If there is a serious head injury, pressure should not be applied.
- Reassure the injured and stay with them until an ambulance or other vehicle is available to take them to the hospital.
- Give all information on the assistance you have provided to the ambulance attendant and to the police, who in turn can inform the hospital.

## If you are involved in a collision

A collision can be between two or more vehicles, between a vehicle and a person, object or animal, or an event in which a person is injured or killed by a vehicle in motion.

If you are involved in a collision:

- Stop your vehicle immediately.
- Check to see if anyone is injured. If someone is, you must:
  - Get help. In Winnipeg, Brandon and most rural areas, dial 911. In other areas, contact your local police or the RCMP by dialing 0 and asking for the police.
  - If anyone is seriously injured (meaning someone was hospitalized) or if a fatality occurs, you must report the collision to the police within seven days, if you do not make a report to an officer at the scene.
- You must also report to police within seven days if the collision involves unlicensed drivers, unregistered or unidentified vehicles, failure to obtain particulars from the other party, or if you suspect the use of drugs or alcohol on the part of the other driver was a contributing factor in the collision.

**You do not have to report to the police if only property damage is sustained in a collision, no matter what the value of the damage.**

- In the case of a collision without serious injury or damage, you should move the vehicles from a major thoroughfare as soon as possible in order to prevent further collisions.
- In all cases, as the driver, you must:
  - Give your name and address to anyone whose vehicle or property is damaged.
  - Indicate whether you have a valid driver's licence or out-of-province driving permit and provide your licence or permit number and expiry date.
  - Indicate whether the vehicle being driven is validly registered and provide the licence number and expiry date.
  - Give your vehicle insurance policy number and, if an out-of-province vehicle, the name of insurer.
  - If you are not the vehicle owner, give the name and address of the registered owner and the number of that person's vehicle insurance policy and name of insurer, if applicable, and if known.

- If you collide with and damage an unattended vehicle or other property, you must take reasonable steps to find and notify the owner of the unattended vehicle or property. If you are unable to exchange names and addresses or identify yourself personally with the driver of the other vehicle or the owner of the property at the collision scene, you must leave your name and address on the vehicle or property.
- If you collide with a domestic (owned) animal, causing it injury or death, you (or a passenger if you are not able to do so) must report the collision to police if the animal is not removed from the road. If the animal has been removed from the road and the collision is not reported to police, you are required to report the collision to the animal owner, if known, and if not, to the clerk of the municipality in which the collision occurred.

See *Collision Report Form* in the Forms section.



## Section 2

Consequences of  
impaired driving,  
unsafe driving  
and driving while  
suspended/disqualified



# 1. Driving while impaired

## Alcohol

Alcohol is a depressant, not a stimulant. It reduces alertness and slows normal reflexes. If you've had too much to drink, black coffee, food, a cold shower or fresh air won't sober you up — only time will eliminate alcohol from your body.

Impaired drivers are among the most dangerous, unpredictable individuals on our roads and account for about half of all traffic fatalities in Manitoba. That explains why, in this province, **the penalties for impaired driving are severe.**

If your ability to drive is impaired, a charge of impaired driving can be laid regardless of what level of alcohol is found in your blood. Accordingly, the safest rule to follow is: **if you drink — don't drive.**

Impaired drivers usually fail to recognize they are impaired. Alcohol or drug impairment delays reaction times, distorts vision and impairs judgment.

## Drugs

### Prescription drugs

Tranquilizers, antidepressants, sleeping pills and similar drugs can affect your driving ability even if taken in the prescribed dosage. Accordingly, if you continue to drive while impaired by any medication, you can be charged with driving while impaired. This will result in the same consequences as if you were impaired by alcohol. Discuss the possible effects of any medication with your doctor or pharmacist.

### Illegal drugs

Illicit drugs may cause hallucinations, hostility and aggressiveness in addition to dulling normal thought processes and slowing down eye-hand coordination. If you are found to be driving while under the influence of illegal drugs, you will be charged with impaired driving.

Never mix drugs and alcohol — even in small quantities.

For information contact:

**Addictions Foundation of Manitoba**

Northern Region: 1-866-291-7774

Western Region: 1-866-767-3838

Winnipeg Region: 1-866-638-2561

Website: [afm.mb.ca](http://afm.mb.ca)

Email: [library@afm.mb.ca](mailto:library@afm.mb.ca)

## **What can you do to prevent other people from driving while impaired?**

When you host a party, you can take steps to discourage guests from driving home if they have had too much to drink. Here are some suggestions:

- Set up “house rules” that make driving home after drinking not acceptable. Tell your guests about these rules before they arrive. Then they can make alternative plans for going home if they plan to drink.
- Offer guests fruit juices, mineral water and soft drinks as alternatives to alcoholic beverages.
- Don’t serve “one for the road.” It’s a good idea to close the bar at least one hour before the party ends. Encourage guests to stay for a while by serving food and tea, coffee or other non-alcoholic beverages.
- Have enough spare cash on hand to lend to friends for taxi fare.
- Be prepared to have some guests stay overnight if necessary. A little inconvenience and embarrassment (theirs, not yours) are far better than risking impaired driving.

You don’t have to stop with just yourself or family and friends. Those who belong to groups or clubs can challenge other members to share a leading role in preventing impaired driving. Many groups and organizations sponsor parties and other social events where alcohol is served. All members can participate in making sure no one drives after drinking. People can take turns not drinking so they may drive others home.

## Impaired driving is a crime

Impaired driving threatens everyone's safety. Manitoba's tough laws on driving while impaired apply to all motor vehicles\* as well as to situations where a person operates a vessel, an aircraft or railway equipment while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

*\*Motor vehicles include implements of husbandry, special mobile machines, tractors and off-road vehicles.*

An off-road vehicle is any motorized vehicle designed and adapted for cross-country travel on land, water, ice, snow, marsh or other natural terrain. Some examples are:

- snowmobiles
- all-terrain vehicles
- dirt bikes

Special mobile machines are heavy or agricultural equipment such as:

- front-end loaders
- cranes
- forklifts
- graders
- tractors
- combines



To operate a special mobile machine, implement of husbandry or tractor, a person must hold a valid minimum Class 5 Intermediate Stage driver's licence. This requirement applies on all provincial trunk highways, provincial roads and highways within the boundaries of a city, town or village.

## What are the consequences?

Manitoba continues to have among the toughest penalties for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in Canada.

### **Zero blood alcohol concentration restriction**

Novice drivers who violate the zero blood alcohol concentration restriction will:

- receive an immediate 24-hour roadside suspension
- be required to attend a show cause hearing with Driver Improvement and Control to determine further sanctions

### **Tiered Administrative Licence Suspensions**

Anyone who operates a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol concentration between .05 and .08 or who fails a physical coordination test or drug recognition evaluation is subject to an immediate Tiered Administrative Licence Suspension.

Tiered Administrative Licence Suspensions are progressively longer suspensions ranging from 72 hours to 60 days depending on how many previous suspensions have been issued to the driver within a 10-year period:

- 72-hour driver's licence suspension for a first occurrence
- 7-day driver's licence suspension for a first occurrence with a person under the age of 16 in the vehicle
- 15-day driver's licence suspension for a second occurrence
- 30-day driver's licence suspension for a third occurrence
- 60-day driver's licence suspension for a fourth and subsequent occurrences

Drivers who receive a Tiered Administrative Licence Suspension move five levels down the Driver Safety Rating scale. Drivers who receive this suspension may also be subject to a Driver Improvement and Control intervention. This could range from a warning letter to a show cause hearing, at which time a further driver's licence suspension would be considered. They would also be required to pay a driver's licence reinstatement charge.

Drivers receiving two or more suspensions within a 10-year period are also required to complete an Impaired Driver Assessment at the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba at their own expense.

### **Three-month Administrative Licence Suspension**

Drivers found with a blood alcohol concentration over .08, who refuse to provide a breath or blood sample to police, who refuse to perform a physical coordination test or drug recognition evaluation, or who refuse to follow a police officer's instructions regarding either test will receive an immediate three-month Administrative Licence Suspension. Drivers who receive this suspension move five levels down the Driver Safety Rating scale and are required to pay a driver's licence reinstatement charge. Additional consequences may include:

- being charged under the *Criminal Code*
- vehicle impoundment (except special mobile machines)
- a mandatory Impaired Driver Assessment at the driver's expense
- participation in Manitoba's Ignition Interlock Program

### **Criminal Code offences**

Driving any vehicle while impaired, having a blood alcohol concentration over .08, refusing to provide a breath or blood sample to the police, refusing to perform a physical coordination test or drug recognition evaluation, or refusing to follow a police officer's instructions regarding either test, are *Criminal Code* offences.

Other related *Criminal Code* offences include:

- impaired driving causing bodily harm or death
- driving or having care or control of a vehicle while impaired by drugs or alcohol

If a driver is convicted\* of an impaired driving offence under the *Criminal Code*, their driver's licence will be suspended, they will move down the Driver Safety Rating scale an additional five or 10 levels and they will be disqualified from driving any type of vehicle. A conviction may result in a number of sanctions including:

- a court-imposed minimum one-year driving prohibition
- participation in Manitoba's Ignition Interlock Program
- a minimum fine of \$1,000 for a first offence
- up to five years imprisonment for impaired driving
- up to life imprisonment and a court-imposed prohibition from driving any type of vehicle for up to life if you cause an accident that results in the death or bodily harm of another person

\*A discharge under the *Criminal Code* for certain driving related offences may be treated as a conviction under The Highway Traffic Act.

## 2. Licence suspension for other *Criminal Code* convictions

Driving a vehicle in Manitoba is a privilege. People convicted of certain offences under the *Criminal Code* will lose that privilege. Some examples of these offences are dangerous driving, criminal negligence, flight from police, auto arson, auto vandalism, taking a vehicle without the owner's consent, auto theft, possession of property obtained by crime, and possession, selling or purchasing master keys.

A conviction of any of these offences results in an automatic driver's licence suspension or eligibility to obtain a licence. It also disqualifies you from operating an off-road vehicle. Anyone convicted of any such offence faces a driver's licence suspension ranging from one year to life. Offenders under 16 years of age will have their suspension start on their 16th birthday.

Note: A discharge under the *Criminal Code* for certain driving related offenses may be treated as a conviction under *The Highway Traffic Act*.

### 3. Driving while suspended — the consequences

Vehicles and off-road vehicles (ORVs) will be immediately impounded for a minimum of 30 days for driving while the person is suspended or prohibited from driving, or if the person is disqualified from operating an ORV.

The vehicle will be impounded even if it is owned or registered by someone other than the operator at the time of the offence. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that the user is not suspended, prohibited or disqualified. Vehicle owners will be responsible for the costs of towing and storage, plus an impoundment fee, which must be paid before a vehicle is released.

Additional consequences of driving while suspended can include:

- imprisonment for up to five years and/or fines of up to \$2,000
- a non-appealable licence prohibition under the *Criminal Code*, which means that a work licence cannot be obtained
- a lifetime driver's licence suspension under *The Highway Traffic Act*
- additional driver's licence premiums once the driver's licence is reinstated

## 4. Driver Improvement and Control Program

The Driver Improvement and Control (DI&C) Program aims to make Manitoba's roads safer for all. It encourages Manitobans to make safe driving behaviour a habit for a lifetime.

The DI&C Program strives to:

- prevent unsafe driving from becoming a habit
- break unsafe driving habits that are already established

Early intervention is key.

The program can intervene in different ways. How it intervenes depends on the driver and his or her unsafe driving behaviour.

### Interventions apply to all drivers

Interventions are based on driver experience and the severity and frequency of the driver's involvement.

The DI&C Program interventions may include:

- sending you an advisory letter about your driving
- sending you a warning letter about your driving
- requiring you to complete a driver course
- requiring you to attend a show cause hearing

The possible outcomes from a show cause hearing include:

- a driver's licence suspension
- required completion of a driver course or driver examination
- further restrictions on your driver's licence

Drivers who don't complete a required course or exam will have their driver's licence cancelled and their driver's licence charges refunded.



## How it works

The DI&C Program defines two categories of drivers: *novice* and *experienced*.

A *novice* driver is a driver who has not held a Full Stage driver's licence for more than three years. This includes drivers who hold Learner or Intermediate Stage licences or are in the first three years of a Full Stage licence under the Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Program. It also includes learner drivers not under GDL who have never held a Full Stage licence.

An *experienced* driver is a driver who has held a Full Stage driver's licence for at least three years.

Different interventions may apply for novice or experienced drivers, depending on how serious the unsafe driving was and how often it occurred. For novice drivers, the interventions begin earlier than for experienced drivers.

For both novice and experienced drivers, the following driving behaviours may lead to interventions under the DI&C Program:

- at-fault collisions
- traffic convictions
- serious driving offence charges
- twenty-four-hour roadside suspensions
- tiered Administrative Licence Suspensions

None of the interventions under the DI&C Program are based on your age or gender — only on your driving behaviour.

## Section 3

# Driver Safety Rating and safe driving programs

# 1. Driver Safety Rating

Your Driver Safety Rating is your position on a scale with 36 active levels. Which level you're on depends on your driving record and will affect how much you pay for your Autopac and driver's licence premiums.

If you're a new Manitoba driver with your first driver's licence, you'll be at the "base" level on the Driver Safety Rating scale for both vehicle and driver's licence premiums. After that, for each year you drive safely, you'll move up the scale and start saving.

## How the scale works

Each year, we'll send you a notice showing you where you are on the scale and what you owe for the next year. We place you on the scale using your driving record for the past year.

Safe driving behaviour will move you up the scale. High-risk driving, including traffic convictions, at-fault claims or alcohol- or drug-related administrative suspensions, will move you down the scale.

Moving up the scale means more merits, which usually results in lower premiums. Moving down the scale means fewer merits (or more demerits), along with higher premiums, in most cases.

Remember, each year of safe driving = one level up the scale.

MERITS FOR  
SAFE DRIVING

+15

+14

+13

+12

+11

+10

+9

+8

+7

+6

+5

+4

+3

+2

+1

0

(BASE)

-1

-2

-3

-4

-5

-6

-7

-8

-9

-10

-11

-12

-13

-14

-15

-16

-17

-18

-19

-20

DEMERITS FOR  
HIGHER-RISK DRIVING



Safe driving results  
in more merits and  
lower premiums.

Higher risk driving  
results in more  
demerits and  
higher premiums.



## 2. Safe driving programs

### Mature Driver Program

Mature Driver is an educational program designed to help the senior driver to continue to drive safely. A qualified senior driving instructor, who knows the effects of aging on driving ability, teaches how to compensate for these effects.

The Mature Driver Program focuses on updating driving knowledge, sharpening driving skills and providing techniques to compensate for normal age-related changes that affect driving ability.

Safety Services Manitoba delivers the Mature Driver Program. Courses are available in the Winnipeg, Central, Interlake, Eastman, Westman and Parkland regions of the province.

For more information, contact:

#### **Safety Services Manitoba**

Telephone: 204-949-1085

Website: [safetyservicesmanitoba.ca](http://safetyservicesmanitoba.ca)

### Parking entitlement for people with physical disabilities

You may apply for a parking permit that allows you to park in spaces designated for people with disabilities if you have a permanent or temporary physical disability:

- requiring the full-time assistance of a mobility aid such as a wheelchair, cane, crutches or walker
- if your disability restricts you from walking more than 50 metres without great difficulty or danger to your health or safety

An application form may be obtained from any Society for Manitobans with Disabilities regional office, your medical practitioner or local municipal office.

There is a fee for a permit or permit renewal. If your disability is permanent, the permit is valid for 36 months. Temporary permits are available for the anticipated length of the disability as certified by a medical practitioner, up to 36 months.

Non-profit organizations can apply for permits for vehicles used to transport people with physical disabilities.

Parking permits must be displayed on the rearview mirror of a vehicle so they are clearly visible from outside the vehicle for enforcement purposes.

Parking permits are to be displayed only when the vehicle is parked in specially designated parking, not while the vehicle is being driven.

To apply for a permit or for further information, contact:

**Parking Permit Program**

1111 Winnipeg Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 0S2  
Telephone: 204-975-3257  
Toll-free: 1-800-836-5551  
TTY: 204-975-3239  
Fax: 204-975-3240  
Email: [info@smd.mb.ca](mailto:info@smd.mb.ca)  
Website: [smd.mb.ca/parking\\_permit\\_program.aspx](http://smd.mb.ca/parking_permit_program.aspx)



**Remember:** It is illegal to park in a space designated for people with disabilities unless you are disabled or you are transporting a person with a disability and a valid parking permit is prominently displayed in your vehicle.

**Vehicle modifications for people with physical disabilities**

If you are a driver with a disability holding a valid Manitoba driver's licence, you may obtain a wide range of vehicle modifications at no cost through the Health Sciences Centre Rehabilitation Engineering Department.

For specific information regarding vehicle modifications, contact:

**Health Sciences Centre  
Rehab Engineering Department  
Special Devices Program**

59 Pearl Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 3L7  
Website: [hsc.mb.ca/re/](http://hsc.mb.ca/re/)

## Environmental consequences of driving

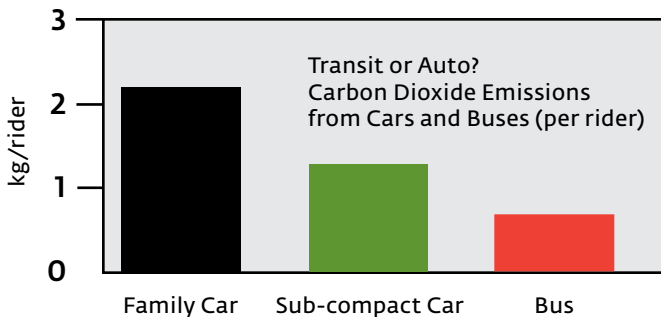
If you keep a vehicle well tuned and maintained, it will help control the emission of pollutants. However, even the best maintained vehicles will continue to emit gases such as carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide, and volatile organic compounds.

These gases adversely affect our health and are significant enough to affect the environment.

The following are some things drivers can do to reduce these effects:

1. Keep your vehicle well tuned and maintained and tires properly inflated. Check pollution controls regularly.
2. Drive only when you must and consider walking when relatively short distances are involved.
3. Don't let your engine idle while your car is parked.
4. Before buying or leasing a vehicle, check its fuel efficiency. The less fuel a vehicle burns, the less pollution it creates and the more money you save at the gas pump.

Consider taking the bus as much as possible. Cars produce 50 per cent of the carbon dioxide emitted by vehicles. The carbon dioxide per rider produced by the average family car is almost four times that produced per rider by a half-empty bus.



## Fuel efficient driving techniques

Safety should be your number one concern every time you get behind the wheel of a vehicle. The good news is that practicing defensive driving techniques not only improves road safety, it also reduces fuel consumption and cuts exhaust emissions that contribute to climate change and urban smog. Depending on your driving habits and how often you drive, these basic techniques and useful tips could save you hundreds of dollars a year in fuel and maintenance costs:

- It is both safer and more fuel-efficient to maintain a steady speed on the road. Speed up smoothly when passing or merging with faster traffic and avoid hard braking. European tests have shown that aggressive driving — frequent, rapid speeding up and hard braking — can increase fuel consumption by up to 25 per cent.
- Never drive faster than the posted speed limit. Increasing your highway cruising speed from 100 km/h to 120 km/h will increase fuel consumption by up to 20 per cent.
- Plan your trips to combine errands and to avoid traffic jams, steep hills, road construction, etc. Combining a number of short trips into one longer one allows your engine and drivetrain to reach peak operating temperature, which is not possible on trips of less than five kms. Avoiding trouble spots shortens your travel time and reduces unnecessary idling.
- If you are driving a vehicle with a manual transmission, learn how to use it properly for maximum fuel savings. A tachometer can help you shift the transmission at the most fuel efficient engine speeds (the owner's manual will indicate these speeds).
- If you have cruise control, use it for highway driving to maintain a constant safe speed and save fuel. The exception is on hilly terrain, where it's a good idea to allow the vehicle's speed to drop slightly going uphill and then let gravity help you build up speed again (to a safe level) going down the other side. Avoid using cruise control while driving on slippery or winter roads.
- In summer, minimize your use of air conditioning. Operating an air conditioner in hot weather can increase fuel consumption by more than 20 per cent in city driving. A more fuel-efficient option for staying cool is to open a window. However, at highway speeds, use your car's flow-through ventilation — open windows and sunroofs increase aerodynamic drag, which makes the engine work harder and consume more fuel. If you must use your vehicle's air conditioning, avoid running it continuously. Shut it off after the interior is cool or set the controls to a comfort level that allows the system to cycle.

- Check tire pressure at least once a month when the tires are cold (i.e. the vehicle had been parked for at least three hours or had not been driven more than two kms). If you have to drive more than two km to add air, check the tires before you leave and then add the amount of air that is missing from this reading. Inflate the tires to the recommended pressure, usually indicated on the car door, glove compartment or in the owner's manual. With proper tire inflation, your car will burn less fuel and be safer to drive. Operating a vehicle with just one tire under inflated by 56 kilopascals (eight pounds per square inch) can reduce the life of the tire by 15,000 km and can increase the vehicle's fuel consumption by four per cent (Transport Canada).
- Use a block heater in the winter to warm the engine oil and make cold starts easier on your engine parts. Your vehicle's oil does not freeze when the temperature dips below 0°Celsius, but it does get much thicker. This means your engine has to work harder and use more fuel. Use a timer to switch the block heater on two hours before you plan to drive. Proper use of a block heater can improve your vehicle's overall fuel economy by as much as 10 per cent. Don't leave your block heater on overnight or your energy savings will disappear in a higher electricity bill.
- Follow the vehicle manufacturer's recommended operating procedures and maintenance schedule in your owner's manual. Regular maintenance such as oil and filter changes will not only prevent early breakdown of your vehicle's parts, it will also keep them operating at their most fuel-efficient level. A clogged air filter can increase fuel consumption by up to 10 per cent. Regular maintenance will keep your vehicle operating safely, save you money and help the environment.
- Remote car starters are handy on cold winter mornings, but don't start your car too soon. In most driving conditions, engines need to warm up for only 30 seconds, even on cold mornings. Also, allowing your car to idle too long wastes gas and produces unnecessary exhaust emissions.
- Idling for more than 10 seconds, except in traffic, wastes more fuel than stopping your engine and restarting it again. At the end of the day, stopping unnecessary idling will benefit the environment and save you money.

You will find other useful tips and tools at [www.oee.nrcan.gc.ca/transportation/personal-vehicles-initiative.cfm](http://www.oee.nrcan.gc.ca/transportation/personal-vehicles-initiative.cfm).



### 3. Driver training

All new drivers should consider taking lessons from a driver training school with a valid permit. Driver training schools are issued permits by Manitoba Public Insurance on behalf of the Province of Manitoba. Driving schools are a good resource to assist with teaching new drivers the basics of safe driving techniques in accordance with the rules of the road.

**For further information about our driver licensing and driver education programs, visit [mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca).**

# Section 4

## Forms

## Organ and tissue donation

Every year in Canada, thousands of people wait for organ and tissue transplants. You can make the difference in some of those lives. Everyone has the potential to be an organ and tissue donor — generally, donors are healthy people of any age who have suffered an irreversible brain injury, as in a motor vehicle accident or a brain hemorrhage. Organs and tissues that can be donated include kidneys, heart, lungs, liver, pancreas, small bowel, corneas, bones and joints, skin and heart valves.

Here's what you can do:

- Transplant Manitoba and Tissue Bank Manitoba offer an online organ donation registry at [signupforlife.ca](http://signupforlife.ca). When you register your intent to be an organ and tissue donor, your decision is recorded in a Manitoba eHealth database. At the appropriate time, your donation decision will be shared with your family so they can honour your decision.
- Sign a donor card. Simply cut out the card on the following page, complete the information, and keep it with your Manitoba Health Registration Certificate or driver's licence so it's visible for law enforcement and hospital officials. Drivers under 18 years of age require the signature of a parent or guardian.

You are encouraged to use the online registry even if you carry a signed donor card. Information on a signed card is not recorded in a Manitoba eHealth database and so may not be available when needed.

It is important that you discuss your wishes regarding organ and tissue donation with your family. Other people you may want to inform are your clergy and family doctor. A Living Will is another place where you can record your wishes.



## DONOR CARD

Direction under *The Human Tissue Gift Act C.C.S.M. c. H180*

I, \_\_\_\_\_

direct the use, after my death (please check ✓) of:

- any needed organs or parts of my body; or
- the following specified organs or parts of my body, namely:

\_\_\_\_\_

for the following purposes:

- transplant and other therapeutic purposes;
- medical education;     scientific research.

\_\_\_\_\_

Donor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Co-signature of parent or guardian  
where donor is under 18 years of age.

\_\_\_\_\_

Date



## ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION

If you wish to donate organ(s) or tissue after death, complete the attached donor card and **KEEP IT WITH YOUR MANITOBA HEALTH REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE OR DRIVER'S LICENCE SO IT IS VISIBLE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND HOSPITAL OFFICIALS.**

**IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS YOUR DECISION WITH YOUR FAMILY TO ENSURE YOUR WISHES ARE FULFILLED.**

For more information on organ and tissue donation, please contact one of the Human Tissue Gift Agencies listed below:

Transplant Manitoba—Gift of Life Program **204-787-1897**

Tissue Bank Manitoba **204-940-1750**

Lions Eye Bank of Manitoba and  
Northwest Ontario Inc. **204-788-8419**

(R-09/09)





## Parental or Legal Guardian Approval for a Person Under 18 Years of Age to Apply for a Driver's Licence

**Note: This form must be submitted to supervising staff before a driver's licence applicant under 18 years of age will be allowed to take a knowledge test. Proof of age and identity are required before a knowledge test can be taken.**

I/We, the undersigned, being the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of:

---

(Child's full name)

whose date of birth is:

---

(dd/mm/yyyy)

do hereby approve said applicant for a driver's licence, including a digital photograph, in accordance with *The Drivers and Vehicles Act*.

The person approving an application of a minor for a driver's licence has the right to submit, in writing, a request to the Registrar to cancel the licence, and the Registrar must comply with such request and cancel said licence while the applicant is a minor.

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Parent signature

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Signature of Legal Guardian(s)

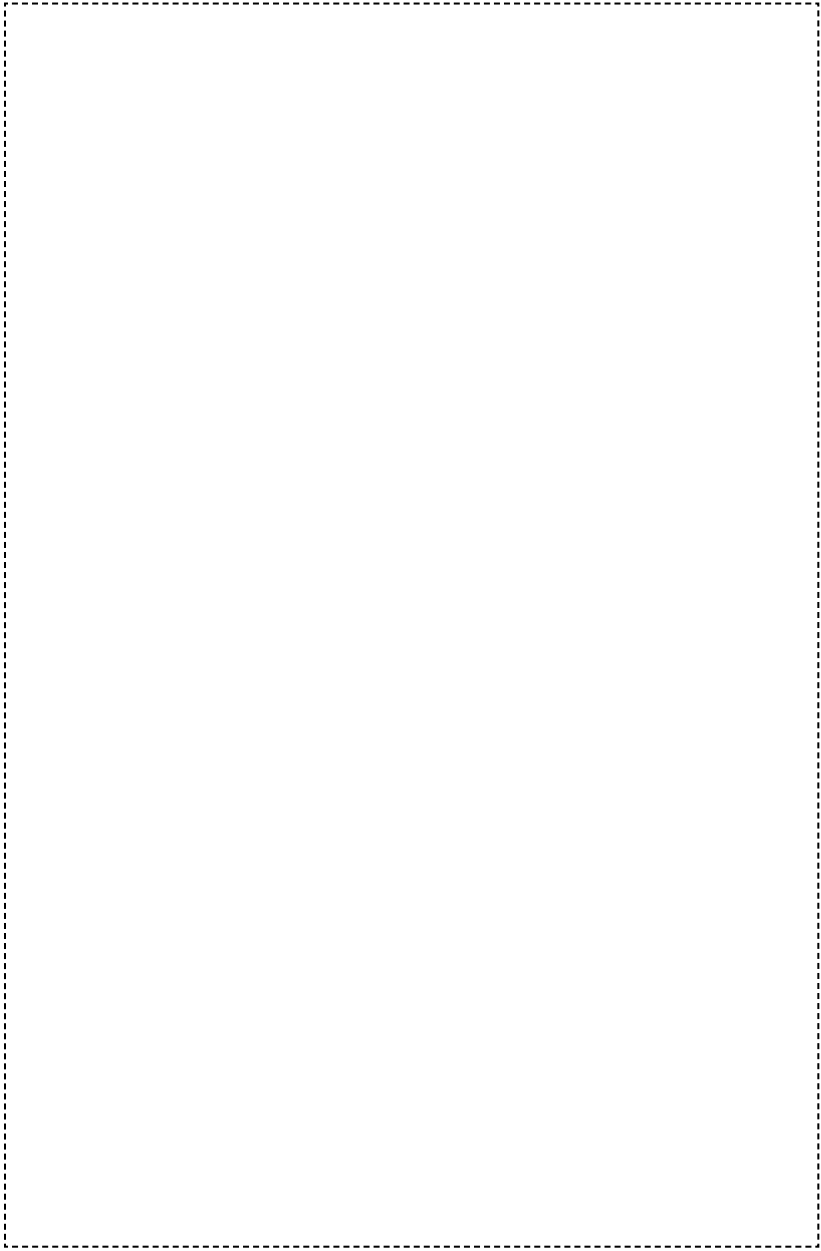
(Only **ONE** signature is required)

For office use only:

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## Collision report

The following collision checklist shows you what information is required in reporting a collision:

### Details of the Collision

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: (a.m./p.m.) \_\_\_\_\_

Weather: \_\_\_\_\_ Light: \_\_\_\_\_

Exact Location: \_\_\_\_\_

City and Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Road Conditions: (*dry, wet, muddy, snowy, icy, loose snow*) \_\_\_\_\_

Speed: Yours: \_\_\_\_\_ km/h Other's: \_\_\_\_\_ km/h

Direction of Travel:

Yours: \_\_\_\_\_ km/h Other's: \_\_\_\_\_ km/h

### Nature of Vehicle Damage

Yours: \_\_\_\_\_

Other's: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Damage to Property: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Vehicle Plate #: \_\_\_\_\_

### Name and Licence Number of the Other Driver

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Driver's Licence #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Passengers: \_\_\_\_\_

### Owner of Other Vehicle or Property

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Plate #: \_\_\_\_\_

Make/Model/Year: \_\_\_\_\_



Insurance Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Agent: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Remember:** You must report the collision to the police within seven days if it involves: a fatality, serious injury (meaning someone was hospitalized), unlicensed drivers, unregistered or unidentified vehicles, failure to obtain particulars from the other party, or suspected use of drugs or alcohol. **You do NOT need to report to police if only property damage is sustained in a collision, no matter the value of the damage.**

**Injured Person**

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Injuries: \_\_\_\_\_

Taken to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Injured Person**

2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Injuries: \_\_\_\_\_

Taken to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Injured Person**

3. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Injuries: \_\_\_\_\_

Taken to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Witnesses**

**1. Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Police Officer's Name and/or Badge Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Police File #: \_\_\_\_\_

Detachment Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

## Collision Diagram

In this space:

- outline roadway with solid lines
- indicate centre line of road
- identify all streets
- indicate North by arrow
- indicate all measurements (skid marks, road widths, etc.)



## Claim reporting

For fast, convenient service, Manitoba motorists can report their Autopac claims over the telephone. When you call, please have available your driver's licence, vehicle registration and any information you have about the accident.

### Hours

Monday to Friday: 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Closed Sunday

### Contact Us

Inside Winnipeg: 204-985-7000

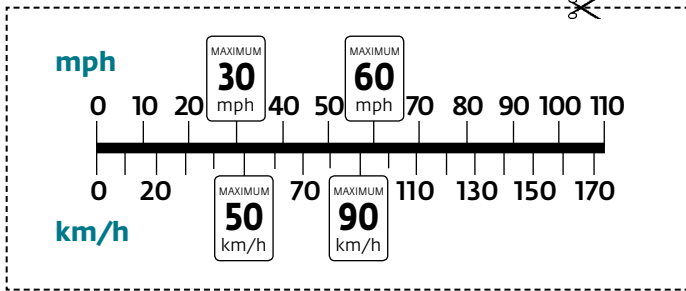
Outside Winnipeg (toll-free): 1-800-665-2410

TTY: 204-985-8832

You must receive an estimate of damage before your vehicle can be repaired. All claims can be estimated at one of our Service or Claim Centres, and qualifying claims can receive an estimate at a participating repair shop. Your estimate options will be discussed with you when you report your claim.

An estimator will identify the damage to your vehicle and determine what repairs it needs. Your adjusting team will then investigate your claim, make sure you had proper Autopac coverage and assess who was at fault if it was a collision. They can also help you understand how we process claims and can explain your repair and appeal options to you.

# Metric converter



## Weight

1 gram (g)	=	.03 ounce
1 kilogram (kg)	=	2.2 pounds
1 metric ton (t)	=	1.09 ton

## Length

1 millimetre (mm)	=	.0394 inch
1 centimetre (cm)	=	.3937 inch
1 metre (m)	=	39.3 inches or 3.2 feet
1 metre (m)	=	1.09 yards
1 kilometre (km)	=	.621 mile

mm	=	millimetres
cm	=	centimetres
km	=	kilometres
km/h	=	kilometres per hour
mph	=	miles per hour



**Manitoba  
Public Insurance**

\$5.00

3/17

DVL0019

*Ce document existe aussi en français.*

**[mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca)**