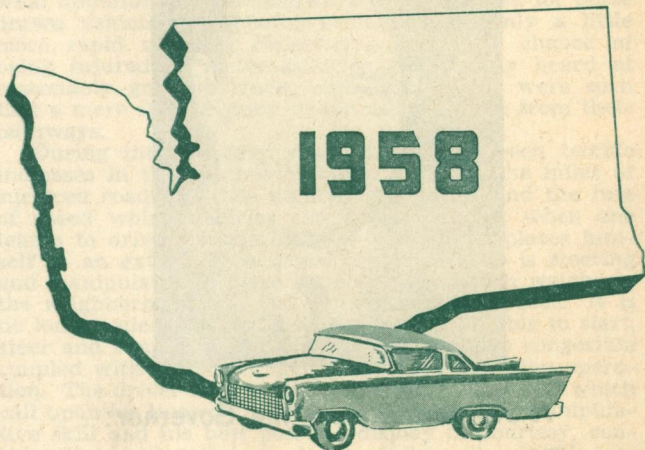


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STATE OF
WASHINGTON



**DRIVER'S
MANUAL**

ALBERT D. ROSELLINI, Governor

Published by

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSES

Olympia, Washington

LOUISE S. TAYLOR
Director of Licenses

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Administrator



A Statement from the Governor:

These pages carry a message that may some day mean the difference between life and death for you and your family. It is a message of care, of caution, of common sense in the operation of motor vehicles on the highways of this state.

It is a message told in terms of laws, of driving regulations, of facts about traffic accidents. It is an excellent protection against the sudden accident that kills and maims our citizens every day.

It is a forceful message. But no words, no matter how forceful, can be effective unless they are read. Read this message! Heed it in your future driving. Learn the laws and obey them, in the interest of saving your own life, and the lives of your fellow drivers.

Sincerely,

Alfred Russell
Governor.

SECTION I

What Every Driver Should Know

Fifty years ago there were very few motor vehicles in our state and those who owned them could drive somewhat uninhibited. The roadways were designed for horse drawn vehicles and motor vehicles were only a little more rapid moving. Pedestrians had little chance of being injured as motor vehicles were easily heard at reasonably great distances and their speeds were such that a mere step or jump would allow escape from their pathways.

During the last fifty years there have been terrific increases in the number of motor vehicles, the miles of surfaced roadways, the number of drivers, and the rate of speed which vehicles can travel. Today, when one learns to drive a modern motor vehicle, he places himself in an extremely responsible position; he is steering and manipulating a piece of machinery which weighs in the neighborhood of 4,000 pounds at high speeds. It is no longer adequate that a driver merely be able to start, steer and stop an automobile; present vehicle congestion coupled with increased speeds demands precision operation. The driver is now facing everyday situations which call upon his knowledge of road rules, his best manipulative skill and his best possible display of courtesy, consideration and patience. A "good driver" is no longer judged merely on skillful manipulative abilities; more importantly, he is judged on his ability to drive within the existing limitations of speed, congestion, adverse weather, and physical impairment.

Each year there are approximately 75,000 automobile accidents on Washington's highways resulting in more than 400 deaths and 20,000 injuries.

Driving has become a full time task requiring constant vigilance. Drivers are facing increased demands for flawless coordination of mind and body. The Accident Records Division of the Washington State Patrol shows that motor vehicle accidents and resultant motor vehicle injuries and deaths are caused by driver failure. In the last five years the record shows the leading causes of all motor vehicle accidents in order of frequency were:

1. Failure to yield right of way.
2. Following too closely.
3. Exceeding safe and legal speeds.
4. Improper passing.
5. Disregarding traffic control signs and signals.
6. Driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

In addition to these leading violations, there are other causes of motor vehicle accidents, but more than 90%

of all accidents are due to driver failure. There are no "minor" violations of traffic laws. The same elements are present in a simple fender collision that result in death at greater speeds. The causes of most motor vehicle deaths during the last five years, in order of frequency, have been:

1. Exceeding the legal and safe speed limits.
2. Driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor.
3. Failure to yield right of way.
4. Disobeying traffic control signs and signals.
5. Driving on the wrong side of the roadway.
6. Apparently asleep.

It becomes more and more evident that legal driving is safe driving and any departure from compliance with the road rules is hazardous. A good share of the violations committed are repeated actions of a relatively small group of immature, irresponsible people who have not yet learned that their actions are those of ignorance and lack of self-discipline. It is the continuous responsibility of enforcement personnel, courts and driver license administrators to attempt correction of these drivers. In addition, violations and accidents also occur in the larger group of generally well behaved people because of faulty ideas and inattention. People become too sure of their own driving techniques and neighborhoods and forget to concentrate on driving. They perhaps are not aware that the majority of accidents occur within 15 miles of the individual's residence; that people become more likely to be involved in accidents after a few years of driving; and that a few moments of absent mindedness can result in a serious collision. Many drivers base their actions on faulty information concerning their ability to control a vehicle in an emergency. How often have you heard a driver say, "I can stop this car on a dime!" or, "I've got the reaction time of a cat!" Of course, both of these statements are faulty and can lead to serious driving problems.

Actually, driver reaction time is greater than we usually think it is; probably more than twice as great as the customary belief. The usual method of measurement is gauged from a known situation where the driver has been warned and is expecting to react at a given signal in a given manner. He has been told to put his foot on the brake when a colored light appears and the usual time required is about $\frac{1}{2}$ second. In driving, the reaction becomes complex for the driver first has to see an unexpected incident, determine what to do, and then do it. The average reaction time (the time required for the driver to interpret the situation and start his action) in a complex situation is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ seconds. Add

the necessary braking distance required to stop the vehicle after brakes have been applied and it is easy to see that in order to stop on that proverbial dime, it would be necessary to place it a good distance ahead.

This discussion arrives at a natural conclusion—drivers must be controlled in order to provide both individual and public safety. The best method of long range control lies with the driver's license, for the license embodies the privilege of driving. Society demands that people be permitted to drive only after demonstrating their qualifications to perform both safely and legally. The first step in this demonstration is gained through examination.

The license examination determines whether or not the applicant has enough knowledge, skill and safety-mindedness to drive safely. It is an attempt to determine whether he has any serious defects or bad habits which might make him a menace. Practically anyone can learn to drive if he chooses a competent instructor and exerts an effort to prepare himself. The examination is also designed to measure an applicant in a comprehensive manner requiring adequate self-preparation. When an applicant has prepared himself fully, he finds no difficulty with the examination; if he attempts to apply without preparation, he may be assured of difficulty and likely failure. Driving instruction can be obtained from any licensed driver who takes adequate time and checks references for debatable points. In addition, any driver may receive adequate instruction from a licensed driver training school.

SECTION II

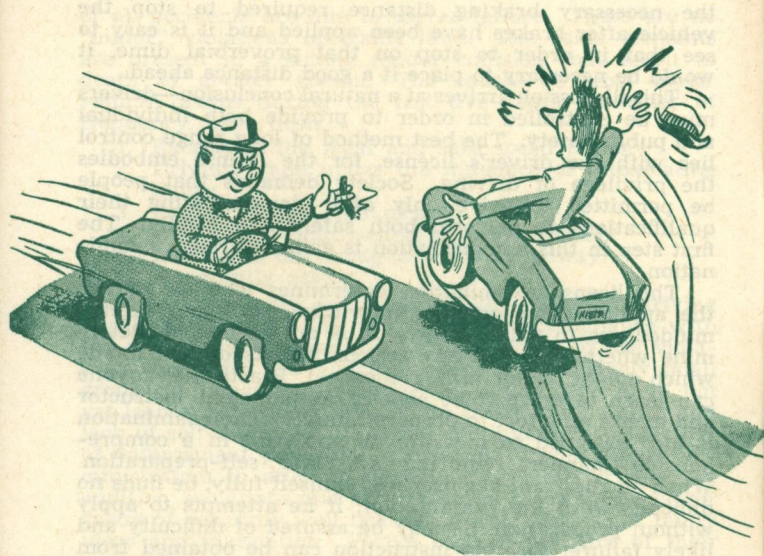
RULES OF THE ROAD

Keep to the Right

Keep as closely as you can to the right side of the roadway. Stay in the extreme right lane, not merely to the right of the center line. On hills and curves be especially careful to keep well on your side of the road. Driving on the wrong side of the road, which can be interpreted as having any portion of the vehicle over the center line, is one of the principal causes of automobile deaths in Washington. Furthermore, a driver who "hogs" the inside lane not only displays himself as an inconsiderate driver, but may well prevent a law enforcement officer from carrying out his duty.

Passing Another Vehicle

When the driver behind you sounds his horn to pass, slow down a little, keep to the right and allow him to



pass. If you wish to drive slowly, and the road conditions are such that other drivers cannot pass you safely because of limited vision or oncoming traffic, it is courteous to pull over to the right, off the roadway, and permit the other vehicles to go by.

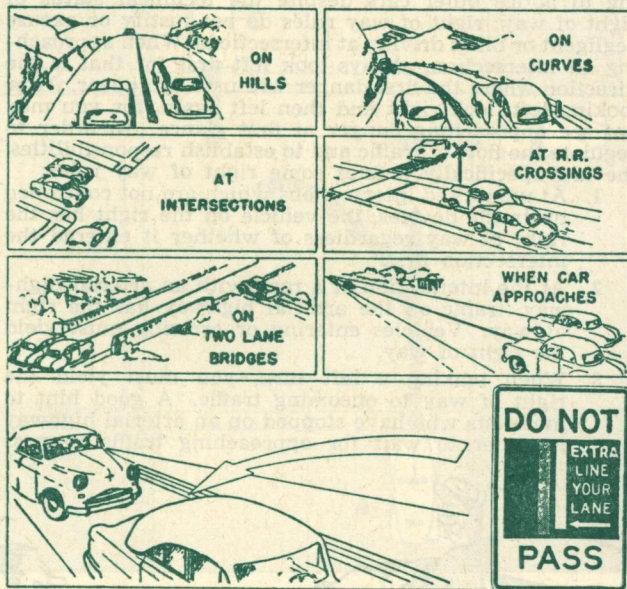
When overtaking another car, be sure there is sufficient space ahead before you attempt to pass. Give a left turn signal to notify the driver behind you that you are changing lanes. Sound your horn to let the driver in front of you know that you intend to pass. Look to the rear and out the side to be sure no other vehicle is passing you. **DON'T FORGET TO CHECK THE BLIND SPOT AT YOUR LEFT REAR FENDER.** Always pass other cars on the left, except when they have signalled intention to turn left which permits you to pass on the right side. A good tip for drivers to remember is to look in the rear view mirror and return to the right side of the roadway when the vehicle passed can be seen in the mirror.

Do not pass:

1. On a curve where there is less than eight hundred feet of clear vision.
2. Within eight hundred feet of the crest of a hill.
3. At any railroad crossing or within two hundred feet of a railroad crossing.

4. In any tunnel, bridge, overpass, underpass, or within five hundred feet of such structure.
5. In any no-passing zone as designated by the Director of Highways.
6. If there is an extra line parallel to the center line on your side of the roadway.

DO NOT PASS. —



Arterial Highways

All state highways are arterials and the Director of Highways has authority to designate other highways as arterials. The law requires that you come to a complete stop before entering an arterial, and that you yield the right of way to all vehicles traveling on an arterial. A good rule to follow when entering or crossing a roadway is to stop and look for traffic, for regardless of whether it may be an arterial or not it is the safest practice.

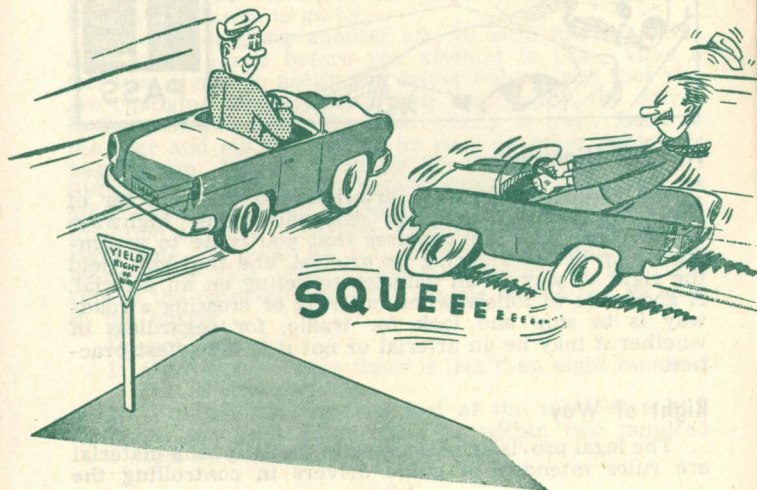
Right of Way

The legal provisions discussed in the following material are rules intended to guide drivers in controlling the

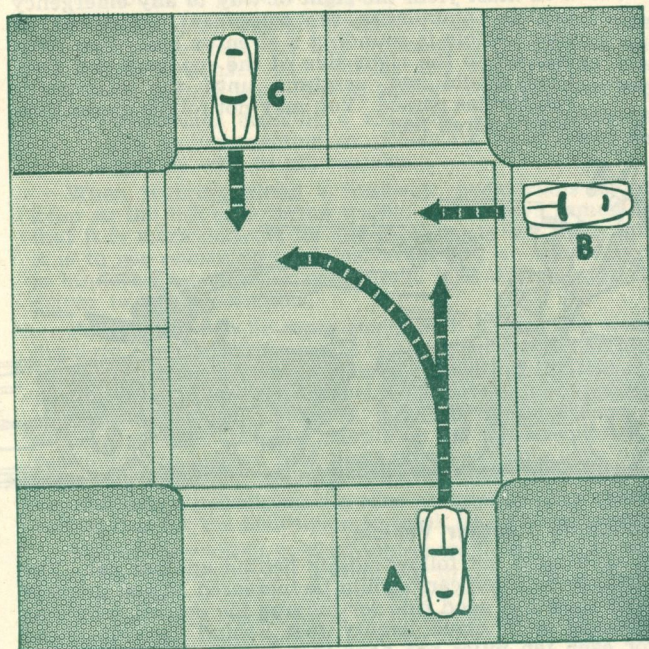
movements of their vehicles at intersections and where other traffic may be flowing. These right of way rules are conventions and do not free drivers of responsibility for collisions which occur while obeying them.

The important thing is not to insist on your right of way if there is risk of an accident. You are never justified in driving fast through an intersection or failing to notice other cars despite the technical status of right of way; right of way rules do not justify or excuse negligent or blind driving at intersections. When approaching an intersection, always look left first for that is the direction where the first danger will usually appear. After looking left, look right and then left again, for you may not see approaching danger at first glance. In order to regulate the flow of traffic and to establish responsibilities, the law specifically defines some right of way rules:

1. At unmarked intersections which are not controlled by traffic devices, the vehicle on the right has the right of way regardless of whether it entered the intersection first.
2. At the intersection of a road with an arterial highway, traffic on the arterial highway has the right of way. Vehicles entering or crossing must yield the right of way.
3. When making a left turn, you must yield the right of way to oncoming traffic. A good hint to motorists who have stopped on an arterial highway in order to wait for approaching traffic to pass



before making a left turn is to keep your wheels straight until you commence to make the turn. Sometimes drivers cramp their wheels to the left while waiting for an opportunity to turn, and if



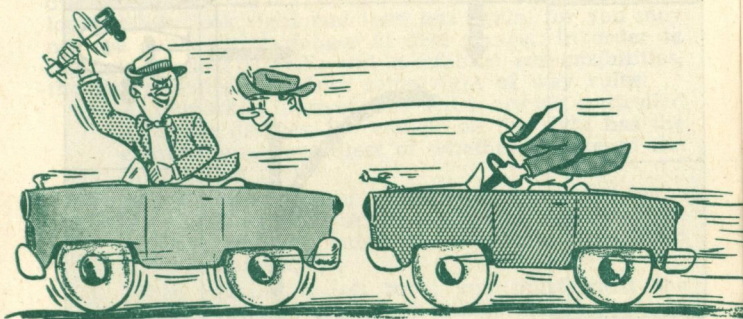
Vehicle B has the right of way over Vehicle A. Vehicle C has the right of way over Vehicle A.

struck from behind, their vehicle is thrown into the pathway of oncoming vehicles.

4. When backing, you must yield right of way to all other vehicles. This is particularly so when backing from a driveway onto a street or highway, and it does not excuse you from liability even though a vehicle on the arterial may have had plenty of time to see you and stop.
5. When entering a public roadway from a private road, drive or alley, you must yield right of way to all vehicles on the highway. It is well to point out that after stopping and before entering the highway, right of way must be yielded; many

motorists make the mistake of entering a highway without yielding right of way merely because they have stopped, thinking their obligation has been fulfilled.

6. You must yield the right of way to any emergency vehicle (ambulance, fire equipment, police car) if that vehicle is sounding a siren or bell. You must pull off to the right side of the roadway and stop. You should not continue until the emergency vehicle has passed. You may not follow closer than five hundred feet.



Following Another Vehicle

You must not follow closely behind another car. The distance between cars should be increased as you increase your speed. A good rule for judging the correct following distance is to drive twenty feet behind the car ahead for each ten miles per hour that you are traveling. For example: If you are traveling twenty miles per hour, you should keep forty feet behind the vehicle ahead. At highway speeds, the danger of approaching too closely is always present, and as has already been shown, is one of the primary causes of accidents.

Pedestrian Right of Way

Pedestrians are people who are on foot, standing or walking, and referred to in this section with respect to public streets and highways. It is well for drivers to remember that when they leave their vehicles they become pedestrians and should therefore be familiar with these rules. Pedestrians have the right of way at crossings and intersections; in other places they must yield right of way to vehicles.

1. Pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks or intersections where design or marking indicates pedestrian zones. Vehicles must stop if pedestrians are in or approaching the path of the vehicles near enough to present danger.
2. Pedestrians who are blind and carrying white canes have the right of way in marked crosswalks and intersections. All vehicles are required to stop and permit the blind to safely cross the roadway.
3. Pedestrians crossing a roadway at any place except an intersection or crosswalk must yield the right of way to all vehicles.

When walking along a roadway, pedestrians should keep on the left side facing traffic, and always remember that it is more difficult for the motorist to see them than it is to see oncoming vehicles. At night, or when vision is hindered by weather conditions, it is difficult for the driver to see pedestrians.

Pedestrians can be more easily seen if they are wearing light clothing or if a white cloth is tied around an arm. It is important that pedestrians keep well off the traveled portion of the highway, for vehicles traveling at highway speeds are not easily stopped. Drivers should always be especially careful of older people on the highways for it is reasonable to believe that these elderly people may have impaired vision or hearing. Furthermore, it is folly to assume that a pedestrian has seen an approaching vehicle just as it is for the pedestrian to think he has been seen.

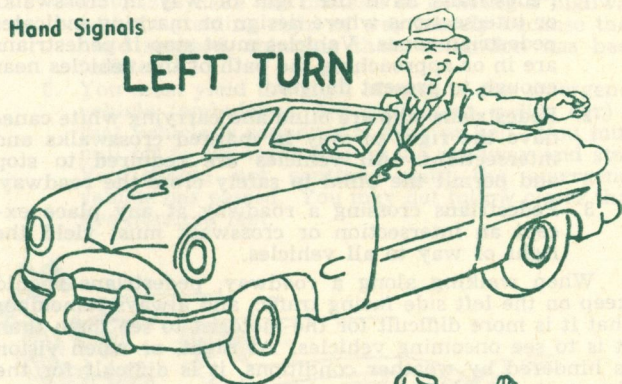
Pedestrians killed in Washington traffic accidents have been far too numerous, amounting to about 20% of the total number of traffic deaths. In other words, if pedestrians had been careful and if motorists had been alert, perhaps 500 people would now be alive who lost their lives as pedestrian traffic victims in recent years.

Hitchhiking

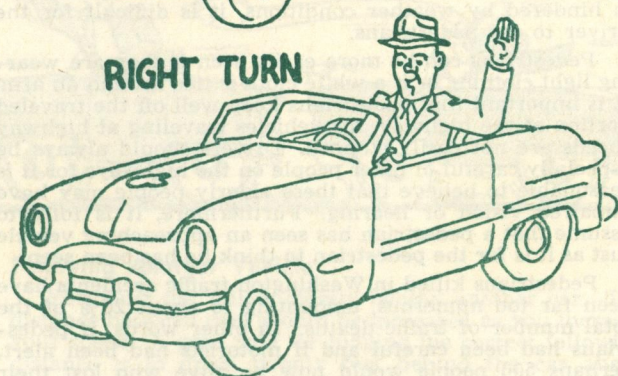
Washington law forbids pedestrians to solicit rides, and it further prohibits motorists from offering rides to those who indicate they want rides. This law has been enacted to protect both the motorist and the pedestrian. Pedestrians soliciting rides are usually on the traveled portion of the roadway and are easily struck by rapidly moving vehicles. Motorists who stop on the roadway for hitchhikers place their vehicles in very dangerous situations with respect to other vehicles on the roadway. Furthermore, hitchhikers have always been a problem for law enforcement agencies, for their transportation often assists the escape of wanted criminals.

Hand Signals

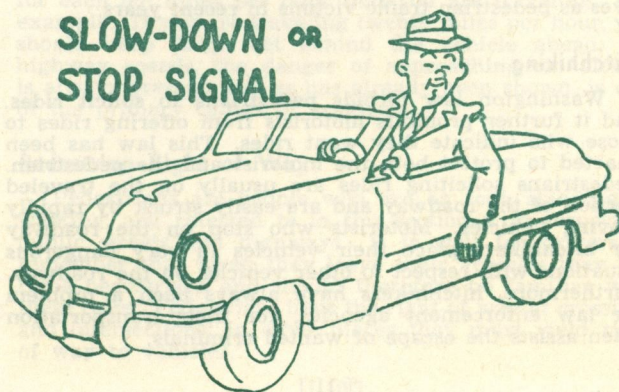
LEFT TURN



RIGHT TURN



SLOW-DOWN or STOP SIGNAL



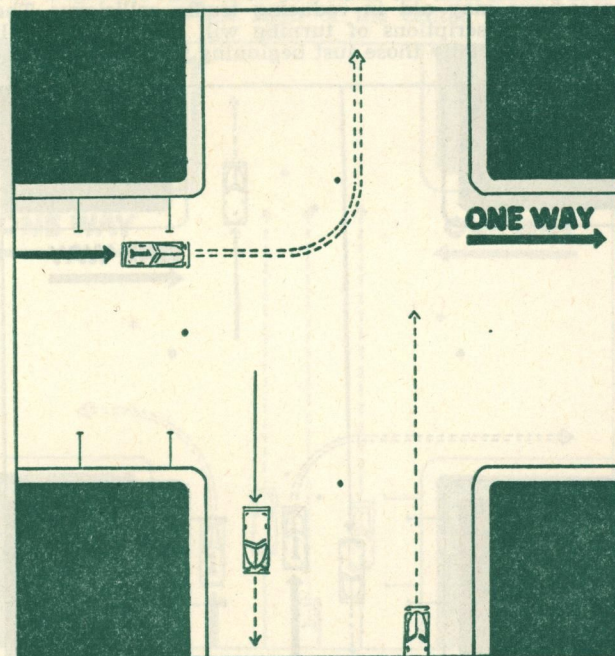
Hand Signals

Driver signals are very important for both safe and efficient movement of traffic.

Many problems of traffic congestion could have been easily avoided if drivers had indicated what they intended to do. Moreover, a quick look at the records of Washington traffic accidents will show that either a failure to signal or improper signalling has been a leading cause of accidents.

Automatic signal devices are legal in Washington, and are required to be used in the same instances as hand signals. Because some vehicles sold before automatic devices were made legal are still in operation, and because automatic devices may become broken or difficult to see, the driver is also required to know how to use hand signals. **HAND SIGNALS ARE REQUIRED DURING THE DRIVER'S LICENSE EXAMINATION.**

At any time that you slow down, stop or turn, you are required to make an appropriate signal to warn other drivers. In addition, a signal should be given be-

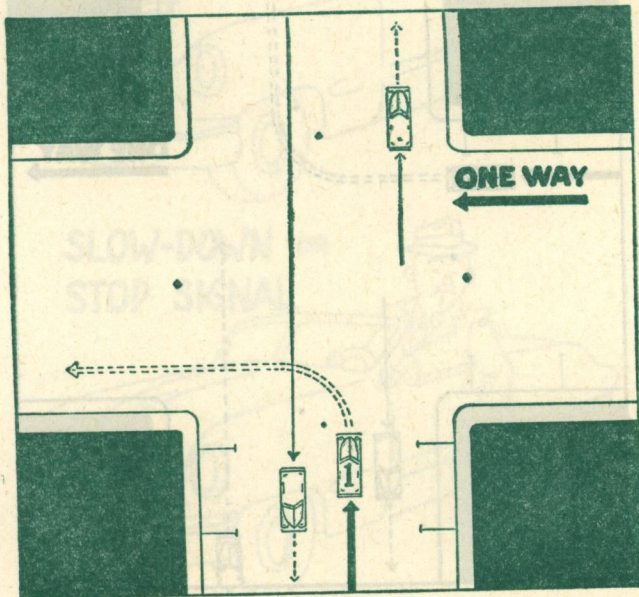


fore starting from a parked position or when changing from one lane to another. Signals should be made at least 100 feet before making a turn or stop, and if the driver's speed is more than 20 miles per hour the signal must be made at a greater distance. (Multiply your speed in miles per hour by five for the correct signalling distance.)

Turning

Careless driving is usually evident in the turning maneuvers. Unskilled drivers are easily spotted when they fail to turn from proper lanes, or when they cut corners or make wide turns.

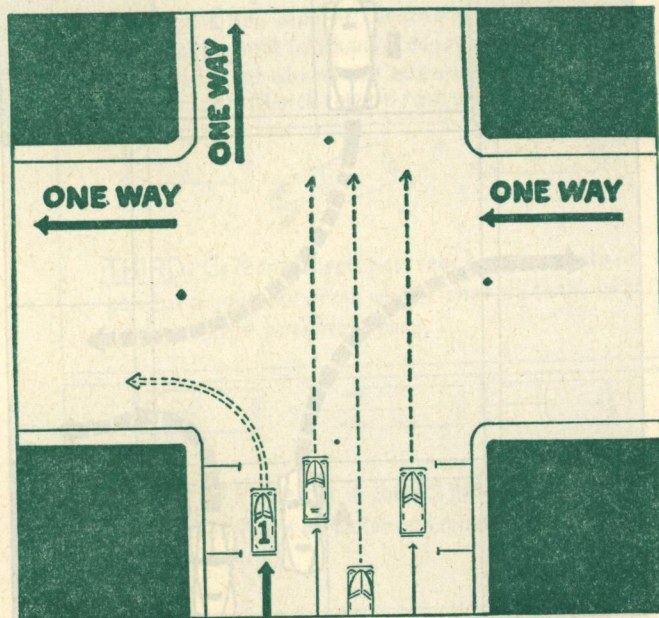
Driver proficiency must be based on those abilities and performances which form the majority of the driving situation. Turn maneuvers are required in the simplest driving experience. In addition, turns are usually made at intersections, and it has been evident in the accident records that many drivers lack turning ability. Most urban accidents occur at intersections. Proper turning procedures may aid in reducing traffic collisions. The following descriptions of turning will be an aid to all drivers, especially those just beginning to drive.



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Turning Left

1. Well ahead of the turn, look for other vehicles which may be close behind you. Signal your intention to change lanes (a left turn signal) and move close to the left edge of the traffic lane which is traveling in your direction. (On a two direction road this would be next to the center line. On a one way street, it would be close to the left edge of the roadway.)
2. Depending on your speed, commence giving a left turn signal far enough in advance to adequately warn other drivers either following or approaching.
3. JUST BEFORE starting to turn, look left and right for approaching traffic from the intersecting street and straight ahead for traffic moving in the opposite direction, then yield right of way. End signal before starting to turn, so that you may use both hands to control your vehicle.
4. Begin the turn when you enter the intersection and drive just to the right of the center line of the



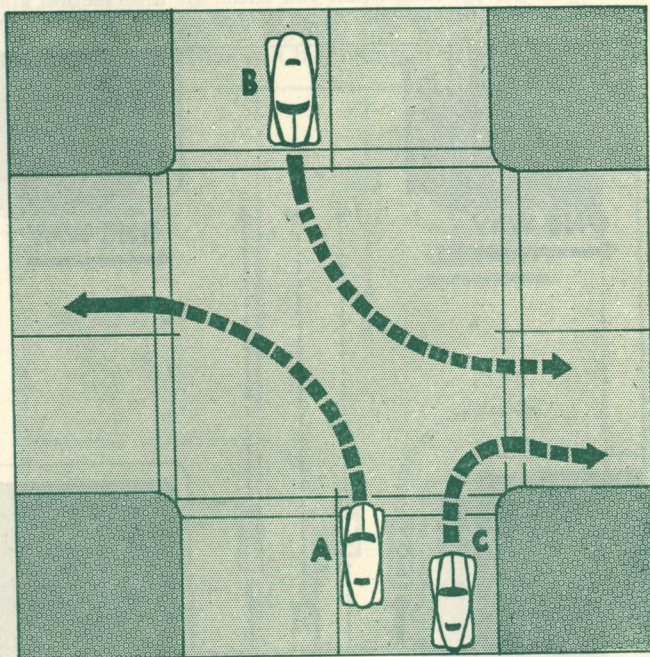
[15]

street you are entering. (On a one way street you would enter the lane closest to the left side of the street.)

5. After completing the turn, move your vehicle into the lane which should be occupied for your travel. On a two way street you would gradually move over to the right lane.

Turning Right



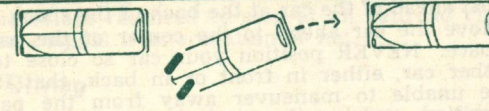
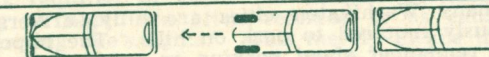
1. Well ahead of the turning point, move your vehicle to the right hand lane, as far to the right as possible on traveled portion of roadway.
2. Signal intention to turn for a reasonable distance which is determined by the speed of your vehicle.
3. Just before making turn, look to the left for cross traffic on the intersecting street. End your signal and use both hands to make the turn.
4. Keep as close to the right edge of the roadway as possible.



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Parking Between Cars

Modern day traffic has increased the need for skillful parking ability. Most city streets have begun to use parallel parking in order to provide greater area for

 <p>PARALLEL PARKING</p> <p>FIRST: As you approach parking space, signal your intention to stop. Stop your car <u>beside</u> the car ahead of your parking space and about 1½ feet away from that car.</p>
 <p>SECOND: Back slowly; turning the steering wheel quickly to the right (clockwise) as far as it will go. Back until front wheels are even with rear bumper of other car. (Watch toward rear while backing.)</p>
 <p>THIRD: As front wheels pass rear bumper of other car turn your steering wheel sharply to the left and continue backing slowly.</p>
 <p>FOURTH: Place car in correct position and set hand brakes. (Turn off motor and remove key if leaving car unattended.)</p>

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moving traffic. A driver who has a lack of parking skill can cause a great deal of congestion. In some instances he may delay traffic to such an extent that impatient drivers will do dangerous things in order to get around him. Furthermore, the driver who has become skillful in parking has also developed a knowledge of his vehicle which will help him in situations where exacting ability is required. The information shown and described here is designed to help new drivers to become more skillful in the parking maneuver.

1. First select a space which is large enough for your vehicle to enter. This may be determined by driving slowly by the space and judging the size as your vehicle is directly beside it. A space about one and one-half car lengths long is considered adequate.
2. Signal your intention to slow down or stop. This is important, for while your attention is directed toward the parking space, the driver behind may collide with the rear of your vehicle unless warned.
3. Stop your vehicle alongside the vehicle in front of the parking space, about a foot and a half away from it.
4. Begin backing SLOWLY and turning your wheels sharply to the right. Continue backing slowly until your right front wheel is next to the left rear wheel of the car in front of the space. While the car is still moving, turn the wheels sharply to the left and let the car move in close to the curb and just ahead of the car at the back of the space.
5. Move the car ahead to the center of the parking space. NEVER position your car so close to another car, either in front or in back, that it will be unable to maneuver away from the parking position.

If you practice parking you will soon become reasonably skilled and confidence will develop. This should remove a lot of tension from your driving.

Parking on Upgrade

As many Washington cities are hilly, drivers are continuously required to park on hills. The important thing to remember about parking on a hill is that the car will roll down the hill unless controlled. The following description will aid the new driver in this important driving practice:

1. Always signal your intention to stop.
2. Turn the front wheels away from the curbside so that the back of the front wheel will be blocked by the curbing if the vehicle starts to roll.

3. Set the emergency brake securely.

4. Turn off the ignition.

If the vehicle is parked on a decline, headed downhill, the same precautions apply except for cramping the front wheels. When the car is headed downhill, the front wheels should be turned sharply TOWARD the curb. (When no curbing is present, the wheels should be turned toward the edge of the roadway whether headed uphill or downhill.)

Leaving a Parked Position

Whenever leaving a parked position, the driver must first look for traffic and yield right of way to all traffic on the street or roadway he is entering. The law also requires that a correct signal be given before entering traffic. The proper signal to use when starting from a parked position is a left turn signal, using the hand, for the turn indicators may be obscured by the vehicle behind.

Railroad Crossings

Drivers are urged to use extreme caution when approaching railroad crossings. Look for manual, electrical or mechanical crossing signals and if they are in operation, stop your vehicle not less than twenty feet from the railroad or crossing span. Do not start across a crossing until you are certain that it is safe to do so. School busses and vehicles carrying explosives or inflammables are required to stop at all railroad crossings whether a signal is in operation or not.

Night Driving

When driving in darkness, the driver is facing an additional handicap—his vision is decidedly restricted. Practically speaking, the driver's vision is limited to the extent and position of his headlights. The driver can only see hazardous conditions when they are within his range of vision, and after observing danger the usual stopping time is required to avoid the danger. Accidents occurring at night are often referred to as caused by "overdriving one's lights." This merely means that the driver was driving at a speed which required greater stopping distance than his vision permitted. In other words, when his lights shone on the danger, his required stopping distance was too great to avoid it.

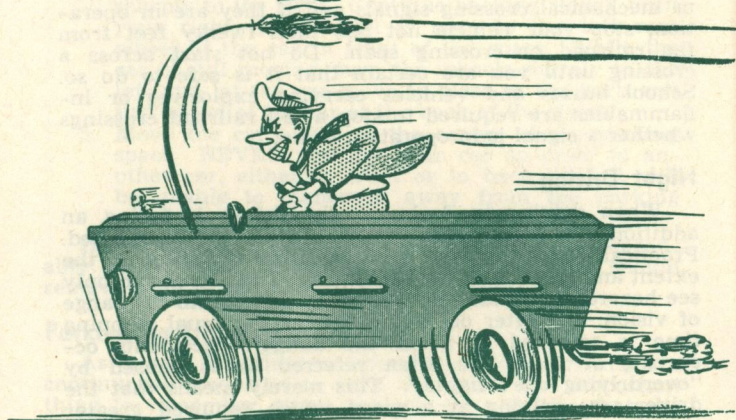
Another problem facing drivers at night is the glare of oncoming lights. The pupil of the eye is usually open in night driving in order to permit as much light to enter the eye as possible. When approaching lights strike the eye, the pupil closes too much to permit the required

vision. Furthermore, after passing the oncoming lights, the driver remains momentarily without adequate vision until his eyes have again adjusted to the darkness. When driving at highway speeds, these periods of momentary blindness can be exceedingly dangerous. Drivers can partially compensate for this problem of blinding headlight glare by avoiding direct vision with the oncoming headlights. If the driver's vision is directed toward the right edge of the roadway, the effect of the lights will be somewhat diminished. Furthermore, the driver should always drive more slowly during hours of darkness.

Whenever meeting approaching vehicles at night, the driver is required to depress the beam of his headlights when within five hundred feet of the approaching vehicle. The law also states that the headlights must be depressed to lower beam when within three hundred feet of cars ahead. It is good judgment for drivers to dim their headlights at greater distances if the roadway is straight and light glare is present.

Speed and Speed Limits

Speed beyond reasonable safe limits is the greatest cause of traffic deaths. Most vehicle collisions resulting



in only minor damage could well be fatal accidents if greater speed had been present. Driver impatience and inattention permit highway slaughter which is beyond understanding. The few minutes which may be saved through reckless speeding are pitiful reward for the injuries and death that result from collisions at high rates of speed.

In most instances a driver can base his actions on one cardinal point—*legal driving is safe driving*. It is important for him to know the law in order for him to drive legally and safely. The maximum speed limits established by law are:

1. Residential dists...25 MPH unless otherwise posted
2. Business districts...25 MPH unless otherwise posted
3. Inside cities and towns25 MPH unless otherwise posted
4. School zones20 MPH
5. Highway intersections35 MPH outside cities and towns
6. State highways....60 MPH unless otherwise posted

In addition to the maximum speeds listed above, there are situations which require slower speeds than those posted. When weather conditions, traffic conditions or the driver's condition are such that slower speeds are required for safety, the law requires the driver to drive more slowly. Also, it is well to point out the hazard of driving too slowly when greater speed is considered safe. Drivers may drive at reduced speeds, but they should be always alert for possible congestion caused by their slow driving. It is unfortunate, but sometimes an impatient driver will perform dangerous actions in order to get around a slow moving vehicle. If the driver of a vehicle desires to drive more slowly than the flow of traffic, he should be constantly alert for congestion and pull off the roadway to let other cars go by.

Traffic congestion is becoming more important in the overall driving situation. Those actions or omissions which cause congestion and delay are important factors in the measurement of driver qualification. When following a slow moving vehicle which you do not intend to pass, stay far enough behind to permit other cars to pass your car and the one ahead, one at a time. Oftentimes the congestion on a winding two lane roadway is due to the first two vehicles being so close together that vehicles cannot safely pass both at the same time.

Obey posted speed limits; they have been posted for sound reasons and may not be the same as other sections of the same highway.

Do not race with another vehicle. Racing is not necessarily driving at a high rate of speed, it consists of a contest between two or more drivers and vehicles and is judged as reckless driving.

Reckless Driving

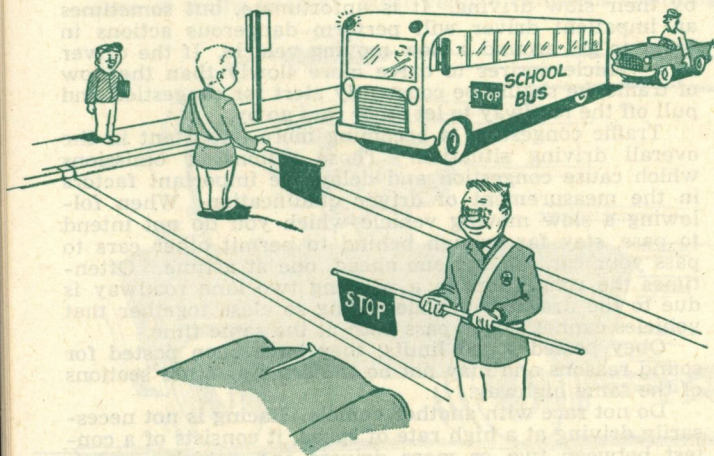
Drivers often fail to understand that reckless driving can be the result of various types of driving deficiencies. The law defines reckless driving as either willful or

wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property. It is further defined to include driving while in the embrace of another, and driving in excess of the speed limit. Evidence of driving after drinking intoxicants can be a basis for judging reckless driving even though the driver had not been sufficiently intoxicated to be charged as driving while under the influence.

School Busses and School Boy Patrol

When a school bus has stopped to load or unload passengers, and has its stop sign displayed, you must stop not closer than twenty feet from the bus. You must remain stopped until the stop sign has been retracted. On a two lane road, traffic in both directions is required to stop. On a four lane road, only the traffic proceeding in the same direction as the bus must stop.

When a school boy patrolman is conducting children across the roadway all vehicles approaching the crossing must stop and remain stopped until the crossing has been completed and the school boy patrolman has withdrawn his flag or control device.



Bicycles

A person riding a bicycle is required to comply with the same rules as a motorist. Furthermore, he must:

1. Keep to the extreme right side of the roadway.
2. Carry no more passengers than he has seats.

3. Keep one hand on the handle bars whenever riding.
4. Equip his bicycle with a headlight and a tail-light or red reflector.
5. Equip his bicycle with adequate brakes.
6. Equip his bicycle with a horn which is easily heard for 100 feet.

Bicycle riders should never attempt to perform tricks on the public streets and highways.

Traffic Signs and Signals

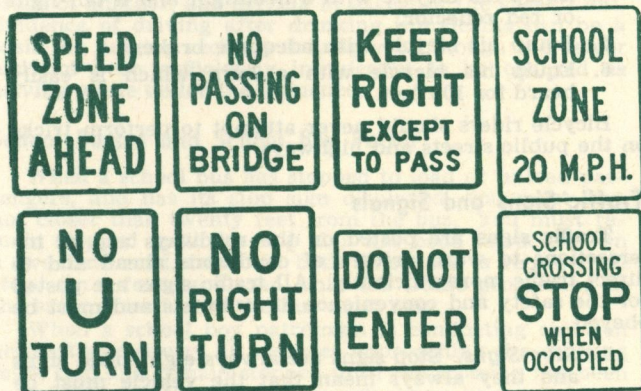
Traffic signs are posted on the roadways and at intersections to warn drivers of conditions ahead and to direct traffic more efficiently. All traffic signs are posted for the safety and convenience of motorists and must be obeyed.

- a. *Stop Signs.* Stop signs are always eight sided signs and they always mean that the vehicle must be completely stopped. Some stop signs are yellow with black lettering; other stop signs are red with white lettering. After stopping, the driver must yield right of way to vehicles on the road for which the stop sign was posted.

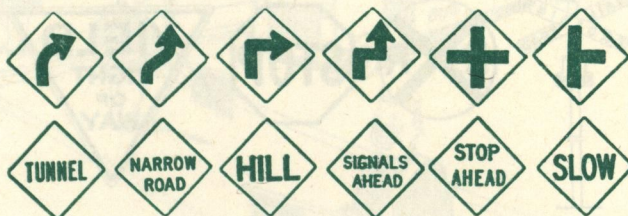


- b. *Railroad Crossings.* Railroad crossing signs may be either round with a black cross and lettering, or they may be crossed arms with lettering on them. The crossed arms usually are located at the crossing while the round sign is located a short distance before the crossing. Both signs are intended to warn the driver of a place where trains may cross the road.
- c. *Regulatory signs are rectangular.* They give information and direction to the driver. Drivers who are unable to read and understand regulatory signs create a great deal of congestion in places where traffic is heavy. Modern engineering creates greater

demand for understanding and compliance with regulatory signs.



- d. *Warning Signs.* Warning signs are diamond shaped and are posted in advance of dangerous highway situations such as crossroads, curves, tunnels, etc., where the driver will be required to slow down and exert more caution.

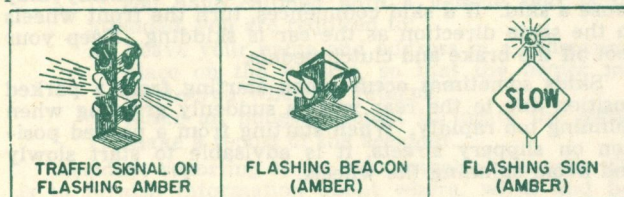


- e. *Yield Right of Way Sign.* The Yield Right of Way sign is relatively new, but has become a widely used sign. The sign is triangular and is usually posted where roadways intersect with arterial highways. A driver approaching a Yield Right of Way sign shall reduce speed, or stop if necessary, in order to yield right of way to all traffic on the intersecting street which is close enough to present a hazard.
- f. *Limited Access Facilities.* Highways or streets especially designed or designated for through traffic are known as limited access facilities. They may be posted with signs which prohibit pedestrians, bicycles or other non-motorized traffic. Usually, in-

tersecting roadways are extremely limited, and compliance with the signs directing entrance or departure from such roadways is exceedingly important.

- g. *Median-Divided Highways.* Whenever any highway has been divided into two roadways by leaving an intervening space, or by a physical barrier or dividing section, vehicles must be driven only on the right hand roadway. Vehicles are not permitted to drive over, across or within any such dividing space. The only places where vehicles may cross the median space or barrier are at established crossovers or intersections.
- h. *Channelization.* Channelization is accomplished at intersections by directing traffic into definite paths by construction of islands. These islands may be made by painting or raised curb construction. Drivers should be particularly careful to proceed in the direction indicated by such channelization, even though they may have entered the wrong lane mistakenly.
- i. *Truck or Slow Traffic Lanes.* Additional lanes provided at the right hand side of the roadway on steep hills or long grades are intended for use by slow moving vehicles. This permits higher speed vehicles to pass without hazard to themselves, the slow traffic or oncoming traffic. Drivers who are required to move more slowly than the ordinary flow of traffic should always move over into the slow traffic lanes whenever they are provided. Vehicles leaving slow traffic lanes must yield right of way to faster moving vehicles on the main traveled lane.
- j. *Three in Front.* Washington law forbids driving a vehicle when it is loaded in such a manner, or when there are more than three in the front seat which obstruct the driver's view to the front or sides of the vehicle.

Traffic lights are posted at places where traffic regulation is required for the protection of motorists and pedestrians and to provide more efficient traffic flow.



- a. *Flashing yellow lights* are placed at intersections, crosswalks and locations where additional caution is required. The driver is required to slow down and be alert for dangerous situations.
- b. *Steady yellow lights* are used in stop and go traffic lights. They warn the driver that the light is changing from green to red and traffic must stop before entering the intersection.
- c. *Flashing red light* means stop. They may be used at intersections where the driver is required to stop completely, look for approaching traffic, and proceed only when safe. Flashing red lights may be observed at other places where drivers must stop and proceed with caution, such as accident scenes, emergency locations, fires, etc. It is well to point out that flashing red lights may be observed on emergency vehicles such as ambulances, police cars, etc.
- d. *Steady red lights* mean stop completely. They are used in stop and go traffic lights. Drivers may not proceed until the red light changes to green.
- e. *Steady green lights* appear in stop and go traffic signals and mean that traffic may proceed. When you are making a turn on a green light, pedestrians crossing on the green light have the right of way.

Skidding

Many skids can be prevented if the driver will take into consideration the condition of the road and use good judgment.

The first important thing to realize is that your speed must be reduced in accord with the extent of slippery road surface. Your stopping distance is increased tremendously when ice or snow is on the roads. Whenever it becomes necessary to make a stop or a turn, applying the brake pedal lightly a number of times will reduce the speed gradually and will retard the speed of the car slowly without skidding.

Avoid any sudden changes in speed or direction. Making a sharp turn or changing speed suddenly may cause a skid. If a skid commences, turn the front wheels in the same direction as the car is skidding. Keep your foot off the brake and clutch pedals.

Skids sometimes occur when starting from a parked position due to the rear wheels suddenly gripping when spinning too rapidly. When starting from a parked position on slippery streets, it is advisable to start slowly and avoid spinning the wheels.

SECTION III

IF YOU ARE INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT

Accidents usually upset the persons involved both physically and emotionally. It is well, therefore, to be prepared in advance so that if an accident occurs you will be able to make a clear and complete report.

If you are involved in an accident you should act as follows:

1. Stop your car immediately. The law provides a penalty for leaving the scene of an accident without identifying yourself.
2. Help the injured and remember these rules in case anyone is injured:
 - a. Get help if possible. Call the Washington State Patrol if the accident is outside the city limits; call the city police if within a city.
 - b. Act promptly but not hastily. If there is severe bleeding, try to stop the flow of blood. Keep the injured warm, covering with blankets or coats. Never give an unconscious person liquids to drink.
 - c. Do not try to lift or move an injured person without skilled help. You may injure him worse by unskillful handling than he was initially injured in the accident. If an ambulance is available, it is best not to move the injured until the ambulance arrives.
3. Give your name, address and license numbers to the other parties involved.
4. Make a report of the accident within twenty-four hours, if there has been twenty-five dollars damage. This means total damage to all vehicles involved. A report is required in all cases where injury is involved regardless of damage. This report should be made to the Washington State Patrol or County Sheriff if the accident occurred outside the city limits; to the city police if it occurred inside a city or town.
5. If you have collided with a vehicle that is unattended, you are required to:
 - a. Leave your name and address in a conspicuous place on the vehicle, so that the owner may locate you when he returns.
 - b. Make an honest attempt to locate the owner.
 - c. Make a report of the accident.

Accident reporting is for two principal reasons. One is to furnish information about where, when and how

accidents are occurring so that officials can either improve the conditions or provide better traffic control. The second is to provide information about the causes of accidents in order that corrective action may be taken to prevent future accidents. The more carefully and completely that you report accidents, the better it will aid officials in providing future safety.

Remember, accidents don't just happen — they are caused. The cause is almost always a driver failure; usually a clear violation of law.

SECTION IV

VEHICLE EQUIPMENT

In order to provide greater safety, the law has included several important items which are required on vehicles.

1. **Lights.** Every vehicle other than a motorcycle must be equipped with two headlamps. Every motorcycle must be equipped with one headlamp. The beams of light from such lamps must be capable of being dimmed or depressed. There must be an indicator on the instrument panel to indicate to the driver when his lights are on high beam.

Every vehicle manufactured after January 1, 1939, must be equipped with two tail lamps, one stop light and a light which illuminates the rear license plate. Whenever a vehicle is operated during the hours of darkness, the lights must be illuminated. Drivers are cautioned not to drive with parking lights, for this is illegal.

2. **Brakes.** Every vehicle manufactured after January 1, 1938, must be equipped with four wheel brakes. It is further required that vehicle brakes be applied in two separate ways, which means both foot brakes and hand, or parking brakes.
3. **Windshield wipers.** Every vehicle manufactured after January 1, 1938, must be equipped with two windshield wipers; any older vehicle must be equipped with at least one.
4. **Horn.** Every vehicle must be equipped with a horn that is audible from a distance of two hundred feet.
5. **Muffler.** Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a muffler in good working order which will prevent excessive or unusual noise and annoying smoke. No muffler cut-out, by pass or similar device will be permitted; the engine shall be so equipped and adjusted as to prevent the escape of excessive fumes or smoke.

6. **Mirrors.** Every vehicle must be equipped with a mirror which will permit reflected vision of the highway at least two hundred feet to the rear.

In addition to the required equipment on vehicles, drivers are urged to constantly inspect other items such as tires, steering mechanism, windshield glass, etc., to permit easier and safer driving.

SECTION V

VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND TITLE

Vehicle Registration

All residents who operate vehicles on the public highways of Washington must register their vehicles with the Department of Licenses.

1. Washington vehicles previously registered or newly purchased.
 - a. Apply at the County Auditor's office, or other authorized agent. Complete the necessary application forms.
 - b. Pay licensing fee and excise tax.
2. Vehicles previously registered in another state or country.
 - a. Apply at the Washington State Patrol for verification inspection of engine number, serial number or identification number.
 - b. Comply with the compensating tax requirements where applicable.
 - c. Apply at the County Auditor's office for registration. Present title, registration, or bill of sale together with the inspection verification and compensating tax record to the Auditor.

License Plates

License plates are required to be displayed on both the front and rear of vehicles operated on the public highways of Washington. License plates expire each year on January 1st and new plates are required to be displayed not later than February 15th. Penalty fees are assessed for late renewal of license plates; it is both expensive and illegal to operate with expired plates.

Certificate of Title

Vehicles registered in Washington are issued certificates of ownership which show both the registered owner and legal owner. When a transfer of ownership is made, the title must be endorsed and dated by the owners and given to the purchaser. The purchaser must transfer the

title and registration within 15 days to avoid penalty and possible arrest.

Whenever a vehicle is substantially changed in design, or whenever a new engine is installed, a change of information is required on the vehicle title. The change must be inspected and verified by the Washington State Patrol, and then application for change may be made through the County Auditor or other authorized agent.

SECTION VI

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The provisions of this law apply to you if you become involved in an accident wherein:

- a. There is more than \$200.00 damage to the property of any ONE person, or
- b. A personal injury has been evident which required the services of a physician.

Whenever either of these provisions apply to you, an additional accident report must be completed and mailed to the Director of Licenses within ten days. This is your responsibility; you should not rely on someone else making your report. On the report form is an insurance policy verification form which should contain information about any liability insurance policy which you possessed at the time of the accident.

If you did not have an automobile liability insurance policy in effect at the time of the accident, you must still make the report to the Director, and the following will apply:

1. You may attempt to obtain releases from liability from all other persons damaged or injured; or
2. You may arrange an agreement for payment of your liability to other persons involved in the accident. Such agreement must be filed in the office of the Director of Licenses; or
3. You may submit a certified record of a civil action in court which has been rendered in your favor with respect to damages arising from the accident; or
4. Deposit a cash bond with the Director of Licenses in an amount determined by the Director to be sufficient to meet all liability to other people involved in the accident.

If you fail to meet one of the above requirements, your driver's license will be suspended for one year.

SECTION VII

DRIVER'S LICENSE

It is unlawful to drive on the public streets and highways of this state without a valid driver's license in your possession.

If you are a legal resident of another state or country, over the age of sixteen years, you may drive in Washington with a valid driver's license issued in your home state or country. If you are a resident of Washington, you must possess a valid Washington driver's license. You may obtain a Washington driver's license upon fulfilling certain requirements.

It is important to point out, however, that sufficient preparation before you apply for a license will avoid needless repetition. Even though you may have been licensed before, it is well to refresh your memory of the rules and again practice the basic maneuvers.

Instruction Permit

When learning to drive, an unlicensed person is required to possess a valid instruction permit. The permit is intended to allow you to learn to drive through actual practice, and yet be within the law. When applying for the instruction permit, you must appear in person and meet certain requirements.

- a. You must be at least 16 years of age. If between the ages of 16 and 21, the application must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.
- b. Your vision and hearing must meet minimum legal standards.
- c. A fee of 50¢ is collected and the permit is valid for sixty days. It may be renewed for another sixty days for an additional 50¢.
- d. The permit allows actual driving practice when a licensed driver occupies the seat beside the driver. No other persons are permitted in the vehicle.

Driver's License

- a. If you are over the age of sixteen, but under the age of twenty-one, your parent must certify your age and recommend that a license be issued to you. If your parents are not alive, then your legal guardian may sign the certification for you.
- b. You must obtain a grade of eighty per cent or better on a written examination covering the motor vehicle laws of Washington.
- c. You must satisfactorily complete a case record application form which includes questions pertaining

to your licensing status, previous convictions and mental or physical fitness.

- d. You must demonstrate your visual fitness in accord with minimum standards.
- e. You must meet minimum standards of color vision.
- f. You must demonstrate your ability to hear, or compensate for lack of hearing.
- g. You must demonstrate your ability to read and understand road signs written in the English language.
- h. You will be required to demonstrate your ability to drive in an actual road test wherein you will be expected to apply your best knowledge and ability in real driving situations.
- i. You are required to furnish the vehicle for the road test. The vehicle will be accepted only if it is legally and safely equipped. Do not apply until you have carefully inspected your vehicle—it will save you time and inconvenience.
- j. An examination fee of two dollars is required before any part of the examination can be conducted.
- k. If you qualify for driver's license, an additional fee of four dollars will be required for issuance of the license.

Time and Place of Examination

Application for driver's license may be made at any office of the Washington State Patrol during the regular business hours. Areas where there are no established licensing stations are usually served by traveling examiners who maintain definite schedules.

The driver examination should require no more than an hour for the average applicant, but because of limited personnel longer waiting periods are sometimes necessary. If time is a factor, the applicant should arrange for an examination appointment in advance. This may be done either in person, by phone or by mail. If the appointment is scheduled by phone or mail, the applicant should arrange to appear one hour before the scheduled time in order to complete the written examination before his road test appointment. If the appointment is made in person, the applicant will usually complete his inside examinations at the time the appointment is made and therefore will be asked to appear fifteen minutes before the scheduled time for his road test. When appearing for an appointment, the applicant is urged to make his presence known.

The Road Test

The most important part of the examination is the actual driving demonstration. During the road test the

applicant demonstrates his ability to drive and show the extent of his knowledge. In rare instances, there have been applicants with perfect scores on the written test, road signs test and physical fitness who were absolutely unable to apply their knowledge and ability to actual driving performance.

The road test is comprised of both legal and safe driving practices; it has been designed to measure the applicant's driving ability as comprehensively as possible in a short period. The applicant is advised before the test begins that he must strive to do his very best; that no tricks will be played on him nor will he be asked to do anything illegal. The driver is required to use hand signals during the test in order to prove his knowledge of them in event of emergency when the automatic signals could not be used. Before the test begins, an inspection is always made to be sure that the vehicle is both safe and legal. Lights, brakes, horn, windshield wipers, etc., must all be in good condition or the test will not be conducted.

The driver is graded during the entire test route. He is watched closely for his signals including turning, slowing or stopping and changing directions. The driver is checked at all times for his observation of traffic and right of way alertness. This is particularly true when the driver is leaving a parked position and entering traffic. The purpose of the examination is to measure the driver's application of his BEST driving techniques, and not merely common practices. For example, when backing the vehicle it is expected that the driver will use the best vision possible with existing conditions. Special attention is given to the driver's control of the vehicle in an emergency and to his compliance with the law. An attempt is made to situate the drive test route in such a manner that most driving practices will be demonstrated. In places where the traffic lanes are clearly marked, it is easier for the driver to execute his turns properly. The lane travel and method of turning will be graded, however, whether there is marking present or not.

During the test there are three main areas of consideration which will determine the score; danger, skill and congestion. The actions or omissions which are noted on the score sheet will be based on these three primary driving principles. Since many vehicle accidents have been caused because a driver "didn't see the other car," the scoring will be on a basis of potential. This means simply that whatever is done or not done will be judged according to what it might be if other conditions existed. Signals will be required whether other vehicles are nearby or not; complete stops must be made at stop signs regardless of whether other traffic is seen on the arterial, etc.

Each situation will be scored for what might be there; the potential.

When an applicant has failed to qualify because of a lack of knowledge or ability, his second or third examinations will not be conducted until a sufficient time has passed for improvement and correction.

Driver Re-examination

Many people who have been licensed for several years have become less able to drive because of physical impairments or faulty driving habits. In order to maintain greater safety, the Director of Licenses operates a continuous re-examination procedure. The cases which are selected for re-examination are those where apparent weakness can be seen. They are selected because of particular accident reports or recommendations from the courts; others are selected because of their apparent unfitness when obtaining a renewal of their license. The re-examination procedure is based on specific cause in order to avoid the terrific expense of re-examining everyone periodically in order to find the few who need it. However selected, the purpose of the re-examination is to uncover driver shortcomings and attempt to find compensation or correction. If a driver shortcoming can be corrected or limited in a manner which will provide compensation for the difficulty, the individual is protected as well as others who use the highways.

Illegal Use of Your Driver's License

The law forbids any of the following actions pertaining to your driver's license:

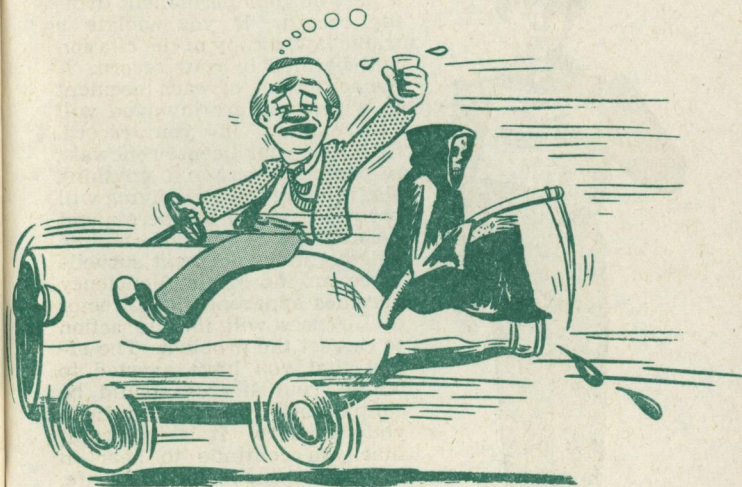
- a. To show or have in your possession a driver's license that has been suspended, revoked or cancelled.
- b. To have in your possession a license with a fictitious name or incorrect information upon it.
- c. To lend or allow another person to use your driver's license.
- d. To use another person's driver's license.
- e. To refuse to surrender to a court or peace officer, a license that has been suspended, revoked or cancelled.
- f. To make a false statement on an application for a driver's license or to give false information on that application.

How You May Lose Your Driver's License

Your driver's license is a privilege. If you refuse to accept the responsibilities that go with the license, it may

be taken from you. Some violations are considered so serious that the law makes suspension or revocation mandatory upon conviction. These offenses are:

- a. Manslaughter resulting from the operation of a motor vehicle.
- b. Perjury associated with a motor vehicle, or application for license.
- c. Any felony in which a motor vehicle was used or involved.
- d. Reckless driving.
- e. Hit and run driving.
- f. Driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotic drugs.



SECTION VIII

HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION AREAS

The new federal road construction program will soon be apparent in most areas of the United States. Washington will experience greater activity than it has in the past and motorists are urged to pay particular heed to highway department flagmen, warning and directional signs, and reduced speed areas. Impatient motorists are occasionally

more irritable than the situation warrants when delayed a few moments because of road construction. Drivers are always inconvenienced somewhat when required to drive over detours, by-passes, etc., but it should be clearly evident that such construction must be in progress if better and modern roads are to be expected. Road machinery is too large and cumbersome to be completely removed from construction areas, therefore it is only logical to expect slower movement of traffic and strict compliance with directional and warning devices.

A Message from Your License Examiner



When you complete your examination, it will be filed in the Department of Licenses as a part of your permanent driving record. If you violate a traffic law, a copy of the citation will be filed in your record. A memorandum of each accident in which you are involved will be retained in your record. Copies of your license renewals, re-examinations, and anything else relating to your driving will become a part of this permanent record. All of this information will be under constant surveillance and if a driving deficiency becomes apparent, the Director of Licenses will initiate action to correct the problem. The effort that you have exerted to obtain your license should be continuously renewed to refresh your memory. It is important that you continue to bear in mind the importance of safe, legal and courteous driving. You have proved your ability to drive properly, now it is up to you to continue to drive at the

same level which you demonstrated during your examination. It is your record—keep it free from violations and careless driving. Your license examiner wants you to drive a long time, safely and trouble-free.

