

## DRIVER EDUCATION 30 HOUR BEHIND THE WHEEL LOG

*Behind-the-Wheel Instruction Guide* may be downloaded or printed from [www.tdlr.texas.gov/driver](http://www.tdlr.texas.gov/driver)

The 30 hours of behind-the-wheel practice must be completed in the presence of an adult who meets the requirements of Section 521.222 (d)(2), Transportation Code before the young driver is eligible for a provisional license. **Only two (2) hours of behind-the-wheel instruction per day will count towards the 30 hours** regardless of the number of hours the student actually drives in a day.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DL #: \_\_\_\_\_

Lesson Time	Practice Session	Date	Time (am/pm)	Daytime Hours	Nighttime Hours	Adult's Signature and DL #
2 hours	Getting Ready, Starting, Placing the Vehicle in Motion, and Stopping			1 hour		
					1 hour	
3 hours	Moving, Stopping, Steering, Knowing Where You Are			1 hour		
				1 hour		
						1 hour
1 hour	Backing			30 minutes		
						30 minutes
4 hours	Turning, Lane Position, and Visual Skills			1 hour		
				1 hour		
				1 hour		
						1 hour
3 hours	Searching Intended Path of Travel			1 hour		
				1 hour		
						1 hour
1 hour	Parking			30 minutes		
						30 minutes
2 hours	Turnabouts			1 hour		
						1 hour
4 hours	Multiple Lane Roadways			1 hour		
				1 hour		
				1 hour		
						1 hour
5 hours	City Driving			1 hour		
				1 hour		
				1 hour		
				30 minutes	30 minutes	
						1 hour
5 hours	Expressway/Freeway Driving			1 hour		
				1 hour		
				1 hour		
				30 minutes	30 minutes	
						1 hour
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>20 hours minimum</b>	<b>10 hours minimum</b>	

I certify and endorse that the above record is true and correct and my student has completed 30 hours of guided practice which includes at least 10 hours at nighttime.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature (if over 18 years of age student's signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

When your student is eligible for the provisional license take this log, the DE-964 driver education completion certificate and with the other required documents to the Department of Public Safety. For a full list of required documents, check the DPS website <https://www.dps.texas.gov/section/driver-license>

## BEHIND THE WHEEL INSTRUCTION LOG 30 HOURS

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**Getting Ready, Starting, Placing the Vehicle in Motion, and Stopping (p. 14) 2 hours** -- These practice sessions introduce your teenager to the instrument panel, vehicle controls, and mirror blind spots. The young driver should get ready to drive, start the vehicle, place the vehicle in motion, stop, and secure the vehicle. Please review the vehicle owner's manual before and during these practice sessions.

**Moving, Stopping, Steering, Knowing Where You Are (p. 15) 3 hours** -- Focus on learning the correct procedures for moving, stopping, using reference points, and steering the vehicle at different speeds. Begin in a large, level parking lot that is free of obstacles. The teenager should practice driving around the perimeter of the lot at 10 and 15 mph. Using commentary driving, have your teenager focus on smooth push-pull-slide hand-to-hand steering and stops. Your teenager should be taught to ease off the accelerator or use the brake to reduce speed before entering a curve and use slight acceleration to overcome inertia and pull the vehicle out of the curve. Ask the teenager to move the vehicle to specified targets in the parking lot at 10 and 15 mph. **The target** is a fixed object that is located 12-20 seconds ahead of the vehicle, in the center of the path of travel, and is what the driver steers toward. It can be a car a block ahead, a traffic signal, the crest of a hill, etc. Having a target helps the new driver to: visualize the space the vehicle will be occupying; look far ahead of the vehicle and begin a search to identify risks; improve steering accuracy. Focus on smooth acceleration, proper speed, and smooth stops. Explain to your teenager that "curling" the toes back to ease pressure off the brake just before stopping results in smoother stops. Practice normal smooth stops and hard smooth stops which are done at a slightly higher speed.

**Backing (p. 16) 1 hour** -- Repeat the tasks listed in sessions **Moving, Stopping, Steering, Knowing Where You Are** with the vehicle in reverse gear at idle or slow speeds. Backing from one target to another allows your teenager to practice seeing, steering, and speed control skills with the vehicle in reverse gear.

**Turning, Lane Position, and Visual Skills (p. 16) 4 hours** -- During the next practice sessions practice 10-15 right and left turns from stopped and moving positions in a parking lot. Left turns should be "squared" and right turns should be "rounded." Emphasize proper signals, mirror checks, side-position reference points, speed and steering control, and the need to look ahead of the vehicle at a selected target in the center of the path of travel. Warn young drivers not to fixate on any one thing. Prior to progressing to driving in a quiet neighborhood, your teenager should be able to demonstrate the ability to move and stop the car smoothly, maintain a given speed, and steer with reasonable precision. If your teenager is ready, practice right and left turns in a residential area.

**Searching Intended Path of Travel (p. 18) 3 hours** -- In a residential area, or, if ready, on roads with light traffic, continue working on basic visual skills, negotiating curves, and right and left turns. Practice judging space in seconds, identifying a target, and searching the target area and target path. Ask your teenager to comment prior to changing speed or position. Young drivers have the tendency to monitor the road immediately in front of the vehicle.

**Parking (p. 19) 1 hour** -- Angle Parking, Perpendicular Parking, Parallel Parking, Curb Parking, Parking Uphill, Parking Downhill

**Turnabouts (p. 21) 2 hours** -- Focus on recognizing the different types of turnabouts and selecting the appropriate type of turnabout for a given situation. Begin in a large, level parking lot free of obstacles. Practice 2-point, 3-point, and U-turns in a parking lot. Progress to a lightly traveled residential area, and practice visual search skills, turns, and each turnabout at least 10 times. **The easiest and safest way to change directions is to drive around the block.**

**Multiple Lane Roadways (p. 22) 4 hours** -- Focus on lane position, lane changing, following distance, and mirror blind spots. If possible, choose a time when the four-lane roadway on which you select to practice has minimal traffic, such as during early morning hours on Saturday or Sunday. There are several **lane position choices** a driver can make without changing lanes. Practice driving in lane position 1, 2, and 3 for several miles during each session.

**City Driving (p. 24) 5 hours** -- Focus on driving on crowded urban roadways. During these practice sessions have your teenager examine the importance of scanning ahead, lane position, covering the brake, and the hazards associated with parked cars, traffic congestion, and distractions.

**Decision making** is the most important skill used in driving. A driver operating in city traffic flow makes 50-60 decisions per mile. Drivers need visibility, space, time, and adequate traction to perform all maneuvers in city traffic whether crossing, turning, passing, or adjusting speed and/or position. During these sessions ask your teenager to focus on controlling space to the front and speed to enhance visibility, space, time, and traction. Driving on congested roadways allows a very small margin for driver error. Effective searching skills and driver alertness are both essential. Every second counts in this driving environment.

**Expressway/Freeway Driving (p. 25) 5 hours** -- Focus on complex risk driving environments at speeds up to 70 mph. Traffic flow on expressways can be heavy and at times unpredictable. They are called limited access highways because there are only certain locations, called interchanges, where a driver can enter and exit the expressway. Expressways have a low frequency of collisions, but often have high injury severity rates when a collision does occur because of the higher speeds. Review the expressway information in the Texas Driver Handbook. Make sure your teenager understands the different kinds of expressway interchanges, expressway signs, signals, lane markings, speed limits, and the importance of maintaining a 20-30 second visual lead.

**Note for parent-taught course users.** Online driver education courses generally do not include the required seven (7) hours of observation and seven (7) hours of behind-the-wheel instruction that are required in addition to the 30 hours of supervised practice. Transferring from an online course to a parent-taught course requires the teen to complete a total of 44 hours of in-car lessons.