





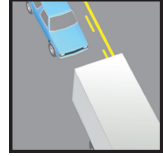







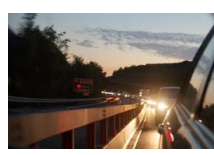




# Signs you must recognize

Shape and color tell you what to do before you even read the text.

## Color decoder

Red	Stop / yield / do not enter	Green	Permitted / directions
Yellow	Warning - hazard ahead	Blue	Motorist services / hospitals
Orange	Work zone / detour	Brown	Recreation / parks / historic
White	Regulatory - must obey	Yellow-green	School / pedestrian / bike

## Most-tested Florida signs

 <p><b>Two-way traffic</b> Two-way road begins ahead. Stay right except to pass.</p>	 <p><b>Optional direction</b> Arrow choice - straight OR right allowed.</p>	 <p><b>Broken white line</b> Same direction - lane change OK if safe.</p>	 <p><b>Broken yellow line</b> Opposite traffic - pass only when safe.</p>	 <p><b>Solid + broken yellow</b> Pass only from the broken-line side.</p>	 <p><b>Green left arrow</b> Protected left turn — oncoming traffic is stopped; yield only to anyone still clearing the intersection.</p>
 <p><b>Hand signal - down</b> Arm bent down = slowing or stopping.</p>	 <p><b>Green arrow</b> GO in the arrow's direction after yielding.</p>	 <p><b>Slow-moving vehicle</b> Orange-red triangle - vehicle under 25 mph.</p>	 <p><b>Arrow + red</b> Turn allowed only in arrow direction.</p>	 <p><b>Hazard lights ahead</b> Slow down - crash or emergency may be ahead.</p>	 <p><b>Diamond placard</b> Truck carrying hazardous material (flammable, explosive, or toxic).</p>
 <p><b>Two-way roadway</b> Left side allowed only to pass safely.</p>	 <p><b>Dim within 300 ft</b> Switch to low beams behind any vehicle.</p>	 <p><b>Railroad crossing</b> Never stop ON the tracks - clear them first.</p>	 <p><b>Sharp curve</b> Slow BEFORE the curve, not in it.</p>	 <p><b>Emergency vehicle</b> Pull right, stop, do not block intersection.</p>	 <p><b>Officer directing</b> Officer's command beats every sign or signal.</p>

## Sign-shape shortcuts

**Octagon** — Always means STOP. The only 8-sided sign.

**Triangle (point down)** — Always means YIELD.

**Diamond** — Warning of road condition or hazard ahead.

**Pennant (sideways)** — No-passing zone, posted on the left.

**Round** — Railroad crossing ahead - prepare to stop.

**Pentagon** — School zone or school crossing.

# Rules of the road

## Right-of-way

**4-way stop** — First to arrive goes first; ties yield to driver on the right.

**T-intersection** — Driver on the through road has right-of-way.

**Uncontrolled intersection** — Yield to vehicle on your right.

**Left turn** — Yield to all oncoming traffic and pedestrians.

**Pedestrian in crosswalk** — Always yield - marked or unmarked.

**Emergency vehicle** — Pull right, stop, never block intersections.

**Funeral procession** — Yield - they keep right-of-way even at green.

**Roundabout** — Yield to traffic already circulating.

**Merging onto freeway** — Freeway cars keep right-of-way; you adjust speed.

**Drawbridge red signal** — Full stop at line - bridge is in operation.

**Officer signal** — Obey officer over any sign, signal, or marking.

**Blind person + cane** — Must stop and yield; do not honk.

## Florida speed limits

School zone	20 mph
Business / residential	30 mph
Municipal area	30 mph
Rural interstate	70 mph
Limited-access highway	70 mph

Other highways	55 mph
School-zone fines	Doubled, up to \$1,000
Low-beam max safe speed	20-25 mph
3 crashes in 36 mo	Mandatory driver-improvement course
Posted limit means	Max for IDEAL conditions only

## Lane markings & changes

**Solid yellow** — No passing on your side of the center.

**Broken yellow** — Passing allowed when safe and clear.

**Double solid yellow** — No passing in either direction.

**Solid white** — Lane change discouraged; usually edge line.

**Broken white** — Lane change OK after signal and blind-spot check.

**Two-way left-turn lane** — Center lane is for turns only - never travel in it.

**Being passed** — Stay right, keep speed steady, let them by.

**Following too closely** — Move right when safe; aim for a 4-second gap behind cars ahead.

## Turning & signaling

**Signal distance** — Signal at least 100 ft before turning or changing lanes.

**Hand signal - left** — Arm straight out the driver window.

**Hand signal - right** — Arm bent up at the elbow.

**Hand signal - slow / stop** — Arm bent down at the elbow.

**U-turn (2 lanes each way)** — Begin from the LEFT lane.

**U-turn at posted sign** — Never where 'No U-Turn' is posted.

**Right on red** — Allowed after FULL stop unless 'No Turn on Red' posted.

**Exiting interstate** — Decelerate IN the exit lane, not on the freeway.

**Drawbar / tow length** — Max 15 ft between vehicles.

**Signals required for** — All turns, lane changes, freeway entry / exit.

## Following distance & emergencies

**Following rule** — Keep 4 seconds back under normal conditions — more in rain or low visibility.

**Behind a motorcycle** — Increase to 4+ seconds - they stop faster.

**Move-over law** — Slow + change lanes for stopped emergency / tow / utility.

**Brake failure** — Downshift, pump pedal hard, use parking brake gradually.

**Approaching emergency** — Pull right, stop, wait until it passes.

**Hazard lights** — Use only when disabled, stopped, or in funeral line.

**Sharp curve** — Slow BEFORE entering; do not brake mid-curve.

**Tailgater behind you** — Move right or slow gradually; let them pass.

## Sharing the road & railroad

**Stopped school bus** — Stop both directions unless divided by a raised barrier or unpaved median  $\geq$  5 ft wide.

**Pass stopped school bus** — Fine starts at \$265; \$1,500 if injury caused.

**Bicyclists** — Easily lost in blind spots - scan before turns and lane changes.

**Pedestrian at crosswalk** — Never pass a vehicle stopped at a crosswalk.

**Railroad flashers** — Stop 15-50 ft from nearest rail; do not cross.

**Truck blind spot** — If you cannot see the driver's mirror, they cannot see you.

**Tracks in slow traffic** — Wait until you can cross the tracks fully before entering.

**Stalled on tracks** — Get out, walk clear, then call for help.

# Safety, DUI, parking & test-day

## Florida DUI quick-facts

Adult driver BAC	0.08 %	DUI stays on record	75 years
Under-21 BAC (zero tolerance)	Any amount $\geq$ 0.02 %	1st-DUI fine	\$500-\$1,000 + jail possible
Commercial driver BAC	0.04 %	First skill alcohol hits	Judgment
Implied-consent refusal	1-yr suspension (1st)	Drug DUI	Any impairing drug = DUI (Rx or OTC counts)

## Hazardous conditions (rain, fog, night)

### DO

- + Slow down at the FIRST drop of rain - oil & dust make roads slickest
- + Increase following distance beyond 4 seconds in rain or low visibility
- + Use low beams in fog, rain, snow, and within 300 ft of any vehicle
- + If hydroplaning, ease off gas, steer straight; brake gently only if needed
- + Pull off pavement if a tire blows or visibility drops
- + Look at the road edge to avoid headlight glare at night
- + Check mirrors AND look over your shoulder before merging

### DON'T

- Use high beams in fog or rain - they reflect back at you
- Slam the brakes on wet pavement or in a curve
- Open driver door without checking for traffic / bikes
- Eat, drink, smoke, or text while driving - all distractions
- Use cruise control on wet or icy roads
- Pass on a two-lane road unless you clearly see the gap
- Stop or park on railroad tracks - EVER

## Parking distances & hill rules

Red curb	No stopping or parking	Hill with NO curb	Wheels TOWARD road edge
Yellow curb	No parking (loading zone / hydrant / restriction)	From railroad tracks	50 ft
Double parking	Illegal in Florida - no exceptions	Tow connection length	Max 15 ft between vehicles
Uphill WITH curb	Wheels AWAY from curb	Always	Set parking brake + gear in PARK
Downhill (any curb)	Wheels TOWARD curb	Exiting curbside	Look for bikes & cars first

## Equipment & vehicle rules

**Headlights required** — Sunset to sunrise, AND in any low-visibility weather.

**Seat belts** — Driver, front passengers, and all under-18 must buckle.

**Children under 5** — Federally approved car seat or booster required.

**Texting while driving** — Illegal for ALL drivers - primary offense.

**Minor + cell phone** — Do not answer; pull over to use the phone.

**Trailer brakes** — Required on any trailer over 3,000 lbs.

**Load over 4 ft past rear** — Mark with red flag (day) or red light (night).

**Unlicensed driver** — Letting one drive = \$500 fine + up to 60 days jail.

## Test-day cheat box (Florida DHSMV)

Exam length	50 questions	Permit fee	\$54.25 (incl. service fee)
Sections	25 road signs + 25 road rules	TLSAE course	Required before permit (any age)
Passing score	40 of 50 (80 %)	16-yr-old curfew	11 pm - 6 am unless to/from work
Retake	Just the failed half	Supervised hours	50 total (10 at night) before road test

## Last-minute Florida test-taking tips

The Florida exam splits in two: 25 signs, 25 rules - and you must get 20 right on each side. If you fail one side only, you retake just that half, so do not panic mid-test. Read every option before you pick - Florida questions love a half-true distractor. When two answers seem right, pick the more cautious one ("slow and yield" beats "speed up to clear"). Memorize the numbers - 0.08 / 0.02 / 0.04 BAC, 20 mph school zone, 30 mph business, 70 mph rural interstate, 100 ft to signal, 300 ft to dim high beams, 15 ft tow drawbar, 50 ft from railroad. Bring two IDs and your TLSAE certificate. The test is not timed by question - save tough ones for last.