









# Signs you must recognize

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

## Sign color decoder

 <b>Red</b> Stop, yield, or do not enter	 <b>Yellow</b> Warning of hazard ahead	 <b>Orange</b> Work zone, construction, or detour	 <b>Green</b> Permitted movement or directions
 <b>Blue</b> Driver services, hospitals, rest areas	 <b>Brown</b> Recreation, parks, scenic areas	 <b>White</b> Regulatory — must obey the posted rule	 <b>Yellow-green</b> Pedestrian, school, or bike crossing

## Ohio signs you will see on the test

 <b>Stop</b> Eight-sided red sign. Full stop at line; check all traffic before going.	 <b>No-pass pennant</b> Yellow pennant on LEFT side marks the start of a no-passing zone.	 <b>Do not pass</b> White regulatory rectangle. Must not pass another vehicle here.	 <b>Advisory speed</b> Yellow square. Shows maximum safe speed for the exit or curve ahead.	 <b>Traffic signal ahead</b> Slow down; be ready to stop at the upcoming signal.	 <b>Railroad crossing</b> Round yellow advance warning. Slow, look, listen, be ready to stop.
 <b>Right lane ends</b> Right lane ends ahead. Traffic must merge left when safe.	 <b>Detour right</b> Orange work-zone sign. Follow the detour route to the right.	 <b>Slow-moving vehicle</b> Orange-red triangle on rear — vehicle travels 25 mph or slower.	 <b>Green left arrow</b> Protected left-turn phase. You may turn left; oncoming traffic is stopped.	 <b>Red arrow right</b> Do not turn right until the arrow turns green.	 <b>School bus red lights</b> Flashing red lights mean STOP — may not pass from either direction.
 <b>Traffic circle</b> Vehicle already in the circle has right-of-way; yield before entering.	 <b>Hill parking — downhill</b> Turn front wheels TOWARD curb when facing downhill.				

## Sign shape shortcuts

- Octagon** — Always means STOP. The only 8-sided sign.
- Downward triangle** — Always means YIELD. Red and white edges.
- Diamond** — Warning of a road condition or hazard ahead.
- Vertical rectangle** — Regulatory — speed limits, turn restrictions, lane use.
- Horizontal rectangle** — Guidance — route markers, exit info, distance signs.
- Pennant** — Sideways triangle on LEFT side = start of no-passing zone.
- Round** — Yellow circle with X+R-R = railroad crossing ahead.
- Pentagon** — School zone or school crossing — children present.

# Rules of the road

## Right of way

- 4-way stop — tie** — Vehicle on the LEFT yields to vehicle on the right.
- Uncontrolled intersection** — Yield to vehicle approaching from your right.
- Left turn** — Yield to all oncoming traffic and pedestrians.
- Pedestrian** — Always yield in any crosswalk, even if pedestrian is at fault.
- Traffic circle / roundabout** — Yield to traffic already inside the circle.
- Emergency vehicle** — Pull to right edge and stop until it passes.

- Stopped school bus** — Stop both directions when red lights flash.
- Blind person with white cane** — Must stop completely and yield. Do not honk.
- Yield sign** — Slow down, yield to other traffic, stop only if needed.
- Flashing red light** — Treat as a stop sign — full stop before proceeding.

## Ohio speed limits

Residential area	25 mph
School zone (children present)	20 mph
Near a bridge, viaduct, or tunnel	No passing within 100 ft
Parallel parking from curb	Within 12 inches

From a railroad crossing	No parking within 50 ft
From a crosswalk	No parking within 20 ft
Posted limit	Max under ideal conditions
Basic Speed Rule	Never faster than safe for conditions

## Lane markings and changes

- Solid yellow center** — No passing on your side of the line.
- Broken yellow center** — Passing allowed when safe.
- Solid yellow + broken yellow** — Driver next to broken line may pass when safe.
- Broken white line** — May change lanes with due care.

- Two-way left-turn lane** — Center lane: left turns only — do not travel in it.
- Carpool / HOV lane** — Must have minimum passengers shown on sign.
- Changing lanes** — Check mirrors and blind spots; signal before moving.
- Being passed** — Slow down slightly; stay in your lane to allow safe pass.

## Turning and 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.
- Right on red** — Allowed after a full stop, unless posted otherwise.

- Left on one-way to one-way** — Turn into the lane closest to your previous lane.
- Flashing yellow arrow** — May turn left after yielding to oncoming traffic.
- Yellow arrow turning solid green** — May still turn but must yield to oncoming traffic.

## Following distance and emergencies

- Following distance** — Maintain at least a three-second gap to the vehicle ahead.
- Bad weather** — Increase following distance to four or five seconds.
- Tire blowout** — Grip wheel tightly; ease off gas; slow gradually before braking.
- Brake failure** — Downshift, pump pedal, use parking brake, steer to soft shoulder.

- Wheels off edge** — Brake gently; steer back to pavement at low speed.
- Skidding** — Steer into the skid; ease off gas. ABS: brake firmly and steer.
- Stopped emergency vehicle** — Move over a lane or slow significantly — Move-Over law.
- Railroad tracks — heavy traffic** — Do not cross until your vehicle can completely clear all tracks.

## Sharing the road

- Motorcyclist** — Give a full lane; check blind spots before changing lanes.
- Passing a cyclist** — Move as far left as possible to give safe clearance.
- Large truck blind spot** — If you cannot see the driver's mirror, they cannot see you.
- Large truck — wind** — Be prepared for wind gusts when passing a large vehicle.

- Children playing nearby** — Walk behind car before reversing to check clearance.
- Crossing a sidewalk** — May only cross a sidewalk to enter or exit a driveway or alley.
- Merging onto freeway** — Accelerate to match freeway traffic speed before merging.
- Leaving a freeway ramp** — Slow to a safe speed before the curve, not inside it.

# Safety, DUI, parking and test-day

## Ohio DUI quick-facts

Adult driver BAC limit	0.08 %	Open container — public road	Illegal under any circumstance
Under-21 BAC limit (OVUAC)	0.02 %	First thing alcohol impairs	Your judgment
Implied-consent refusal	License suspension	Drug DUI	Any drug impairing driving is illegal
Only way to lower BAC	Time — body clears ~1 drink/hour	OTC drugs	Can impair driving — check labels

## Hazardous conditions

DO
+ Use low beams in fog, rain, or snow
+ Increase following distance to 4–5 seconds in bad weather
+ Steer into the skid; ease off the gas (ABS: brake firmly, steer straight)
+ SLOW down as you enter a curve; accelerate as you exit
+ Pull over and rest if you feel drowsy or unable to stay alert
+ Scan the entire road and roadsides continuously ahead
+ Slow down on slippery roads — avoid fast turns and fast stops

DON'T
- Use high beams in fog — light reflects back and blinds you
- Use cruise control on wet or icy roads
- Brake hard when hydroplaning — ease off the gas instead
- Stop on the freeway shoulder unless it is an emergency
- Pass a school bus with flashing red lights from either direction
- Hold a cell phone while driving if you are under 18
- Eat, smoke, or use a phone — all are distracting activities

## Parking rules

Parallel park from curb	Within 12 inches	Uphill with curb	Wheels AWAY from curb
From a crosswalk	No parking within 20 ft	Downhill — no curb	Wheels TOWARD road edge
From a railroad crossing	No parking within 50 ft	Enter parallel spot	Pull even with car in front first
Downhill with curb	Wheels TOWARD curb	Exiting parked car	Check approaching traffic from behind

## Equipment and vehicle rules

<b>Seat belt</b> — Required for driver and all passengers; failure is a traffic violation.	<b>Minor and cell phone</b> — Must let calls go to voicemail — no phone use while driving.
<b>Seat belts — effectiveness</b> — Most effective when used together with an airbag.	<b>Tire pressure</b> — Incorrect inflation causes handling, wear, and blowout problems.
<b>Emergency flashers</b> — Use when your vehicle has broken down on the roadway.	<b>Worn or bald tires</b> — Increase stopping distance and risk of blowout.
<b>Headlights — night</b> — Look toward the right edge of lane when facing high-beam oncoming traffic.	<b>Obeying authorities</b> — A police officer's directions override any traffic signal.

## Ohio test-day cheat box

Exam length	40 questions	Driver ed — classroom	24 hours
Passing score	30 of 40 (75 %)	Driver ed — behind the wheel	8 hours
Permit fee	\$26.50	Night curfew — first 12 mo	Midnight – 6 a.m.
Min permit hold — under 18	6 months	Passenger restriction — first 12 mo	Max 1 non-family passenger
Supervised driving hours	50 total (10 at night)		

## Last-minute test-taking tips

Read every option before you choose — Ohio often pairs a correct answer with a partially-right distractor. When two options seem close, pick the more cautious one ("yield and wait" beats "proceed carefully"). Note that Ohio's passing bar is 75 % (30 of 40), lower than most states — but you still need to study every category. Eliminate obvious wrong answers first; unanswered questions count as wrong. The test is not timed per question, so take your time on tricky signs.