









Signs you must recognize

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

Sign color decoder

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

Rhode Island signs you will see on the test

 Steep hill Steep downgrade ahead. Use lower gear; do not ride brakes.	 Crossroad ahead Yellow diamond with cross symbol. Watch for traffic entering from all directions.	 Railroad crossing (advance warning) Round yellow advance warning. Slow, look, listen, prepare to stop.	 Cyclist — left turn Arm straight out = cyclist is turning left. Give them room.	 Right lane ends Right lane is ending. Merge left safely before the lane disappears.	 Railroad crossing Slow down and yield to trains. Stop if a train is nearby.
 Traffic signal ahead Traffic light is ahead. Prepare to slow or stop.	 School crossing Yellow-green pentagon near school. Slow and watch for children.	 Low clearance Shows height limit of bridge ahead. Tall vehicles must detour.	 Right lane ends (merge) Right lane ends; traffic must merge left when safe.	 Advisory exit speed EXIT 30 MPH — maximum safe speed for this expressway ramp.	 Curve right Road curves to the right. Slow before, not inside, the curve.
 School zone Pentagon = approaching school. Slow, drive with caution.	 Sharp curve left Road changes direction sharply left. Slow well before the curve.	 Yield Red-and-white triangle. Slow, yield right-of-way to cross traffic.	 Divided highway Highway splits ahead. Keep right of the median or barrier.	 Railroad crossing (RR crossing) Round yellow sign. Stop if train is approaching; never race a train.	 Railroad crossbuck White X at crossing. Look both ways; yield to any train.

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.
- Round** — Yellow circle with X+R-R = railroad crossing advance warning.
- Pentagon** — School zone or school crossing — children present.
- Orange background** — Construction or maintenance zone — workers near road.

Rules of the road

Right of way

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

Yield sign — Slow; yield to cross traffic close enough to cause a conflict.

Left turn — Yield to all oncoming cars and pedestrians before turning.

Pedestrian in crosswalk — Always yield — even if pedestrian crosses carelessly.

Emergency vehicle — Slow, pull right, provide clear path, and stop.

Blind person with cane — Must stop and yield at all times.

Stopped school bus — Stop both directions until arm retracts and bus moves.

Merging onto interstate — Match freeway speed; traffic already on highway has right-of-way.

Cyclist in lane — Yield before crossing their path to turn.

Power-outage signal — Treat as a four-way stop — first to arrive goes first.

Rhode Island speed limits

Residential area	25 mph	Following in bad weather	More than 3 seconds
Near school (children present)	Slow — obey posted limit	Park from railroad track	Stay 50 ft away
Basic Speed Law	Never faster than safe conditions allow	Park from fire hydrant	Stay 8 ft away
Following distance (normal)	3 seconds minimum	Park from crosswalk	Stay 20 ft away

Lane markings and changes

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

Broken yellow — Passing allowed when clear and safe.

Double solid yellow — No passing in either direction.

Solid white edge — Marks shoulder; lane change discouraged.

Broken white — Lane change OK when safe.

Two-way left-turn lane — Use only for turning — never travel or pass in it.

Return to right lane after pass — Move back when you can see both headlights in mirror.

Turning, signaling, and passing

Signal requirement — Signal before turning, changing lanes, or pulling from curb — required by law.

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.

Passing — move back right — Move right only after seeing front of passed car in mirror.

Parallel park curb distance — Park within 12 inches of the curb.

Emergencies and sharing the road

Tire blowout — Grip wheel tightly; ease off gas; steer straight; slow to stop.

Skid — Steer in the direction of the skid; stay off the brakes.

Passing a cyclist — Give adequate space; children on bikes need extra room.

Truck blind spots — If you can't see their mirror, they can't see you.

Backing up — Turn your head and look through the rear window.

Children under 12 — Safest place to ride is the back seat (airbag risk).

Seat belts — All occupants must wear seat belts every trip.

Safety, DUI, parking and test-day

Rhode Island DUI quick-facts

Adult driver BAC limit (21+)	0.08 %	Under-21 zero tolerance	Any detectable amount
BAC of 0.02 %	Nearly doubles your crash risk	Drugs / prescriptions	Any impairing substance = DUI
Only thing that lowers BAC	Time — nothing else works	BAC rises with each drink	Impairment worsens as BAC rises
Commercial driver BAC	0.04 %	Fitness level affects BAC?	No — body weight, not fitness

Hazardous conditions

DO	
+ Use low beams in fog, rain, or snow	
+ Look toward the right edge of road when facing oncoming high beams	
+ Increase following distance beyond 3 seconds in rain, fog, or ice	
+ Turn on emergency flashers and low beams if stopped on road at night	
+ Stop and rest — or change drivers — when feeling tired	
+ Walk to the back of car to check clearance before backing near children	
+ Stop if stopping is safe when a yellow light appears	

DON'T	
- Use high beams in fog — light reflects back and blinds you	
- Brake hard during a skid — stay off brakes, steer into skid	
- Use cruise control on wet or icy roads	
- Race a train or drive around lowered crossing gates	
- Pass a stopped school bus showing flashing red lights	
- Drive below the speed limit if it disrupts normal traffic flow	
- Rely on coffee, cold air, or music to stay awake while driving	

Parking rules

Red curb	No stopping, standing, or parking	Parallel park from curb	Within 12 inches
From fire hydrant	8 ft minimum	Downhill with curb	Wheels TOWARD curb
From crosswalk	20 ft minimum	Uphill with curb	Wheels AWAY from curb
From railroad track	50 ft minimum	Freeway shoulder	Emergency only

Railroad crossings (tested heavily)

Basic approach — Look, listen, slow down, and prepare to stop.

Train approaching — Do not cross until train has completely passed.

Crossbuck sign — White X = active crossing. Look both ways; yield to any train.

No signal present — Slow, look both ways, listen; stop only if train is nearby.

School bus / tank truck — These must stop at all railroad crossings.

Never park near tracks — Stay at least 50 feet from the nearest rail.

Rhode Island test-day cheat box

Adult exam (18+) length	50 questions	Supervisor rule (under 18)	Licensed driver 21+, 5+ yrs experience, front seat
Adult passing score	40 of 50 (80 %)	Supervised hours required	50 total (10 at night)
Under-18 exam length	40 questions	Permit hold before road test	6 months minimum
Under-18 passing score	28 of 40 (70 %)	Provisional curfew	Drive 5 AM – 1 AM unsupervised
Permit fee (2026)	\$26.50	Passenger restriction (1st year)	Max 1 passenger under 21 (non-household)

Last-minute test-taking tips

RI has TWO different tests: 40 questions (70% to pass) if you are under 18, and 50 questions (80% to pass) if you are 18 or older. Read every option before choosing — the DMV often includes a partially-correct distractor. When two answers seem right, pick the more cautious one ("slow and yield" beats "proceed" or "honk"). On railroad crossing questions, the safe answer is always to stop, look, listen, and wait. Unanswered questions count as wrong — always guess if unsure.