







Road Signs

Sign Colors

	Yellow Warning — slow down, hazard ahead		Red Stop, yield, or do not enter		White Regulatory — must obey		Green Guide — distances and directions
	Orange Construction and work zone warning		Blue Motorist services — food, gas, lodging				

Must-Know Signs

					
Railroad Crossing Stop at least 15 ft from nearest rail if lights flash	Hill Ahead Steep downgrade — truck runaway risk, reduce speed	Curve + Advisory Speed Road curves right; safe speed shown on panel (e.g. 35 MPH)	Winding Road Three or more curves ahead — reduce speed	Exit Advisory Speed Maximum safe speed for this highway exit ramp	No Passing Zone Pennant shape — do not pass other vehicles here
					
Extreme angle ahead Yellow rectangle with arrow. Road changes direction at extreme angle — slow before the turn.	Signal Ahead Traffic signal at next intersection — be ready to stop	Warning Sign Shape Yellow diamond = warning; slow down, hazard ahead	Do Not Pass Regulatory sign — passing prohibited in this zone	Stop Sign Red octagon — stop completely, yield to all traffic	Chevron Alignment Road curves sharply left — follow the chevron direction
					
Soft Shoulder / Drop-Off Shoulder lower than road — stay on pavement or lose control	Do Not Enter Wrong-way entry — one-way road or expressway ramp ahead				

Sign Shapes & What They Mean

Octagon (8-sided) — Stop sign only — always red

Triangle / Pennant — No passing zone — always yellow, points right

Diamond — Warning — yellow or orange background

Rectangle (vertical) — Regulatory — white with black text

Rectangle (horizontal) — Guide / informational — green or blue

Pentagon (5-sided) — School zone or school crossing ahead

Rules of the Road

Right-of-Way

Uncontrolled intersection — Vehicle on the right has right-of-way

Two vehicles at intersection — Vehicle on the left yields to vehicle on the right

Left turn — Yield to all oncoming traffic before turning

Emergency vehicle — Pull to right curb and stop when lights or siren active

Entering from alley/garage — Yield to all traffic on the street

Roundabout — Yield to all vehicles already inside the roundabout

Turning & Signaling

Signal distance — Signal at least 100 feet before turning or changing lanes

Right turn position — Move to about 3 feet from the right edge of the road

Multi-lane turn — Turn into lane closest to your previous lane

Turn signals required — Always signal — even when no other traffic is visible

Failed turn signals — Use hand signals when turn signal light fails

School Buses & Pedestrians

School bus — two-lane road — Stop in both directions when red lights are flashing

Divided highway — Oncoming lanes need not stop; stop if on same side

After bus stops — Watch for children walking along the roadside

Pedestrian at crosswalk — Yield even if pedestrian crosses carelessly

Blind pedestrian — Slow down; prepare to stop for white cane or guide dog

Railroad Crossings

Flashing warning lights — Stop at least 15 feet from nearest rail

Gates — Never drive around or under gates — even if no train visible

No signals or gates — Look and listen both ways; proceed only if safe

Blocked crossing — Do not enter track unless your vehicle can clear it completely

Vermont Test at a Glance

Test questions 20 (smallest test in the nation)

Passing score 16 correct (80%)

Permit fee \$40

Minimum permit hold 12 months

Supervised hours 40 total, 10 at night

Supervisor minimum age 25 years old

Night curfew NONE — VT is the only state with no night curfew

Safety, Parking & Impaired Driving

Hazardous Conditions

Rain / wet road — Slow down; use low beam headlights

Fog — Use low beam headlights — not high beams

Ice / snow — Reduce speed; increase following distance

Hydroplaning — Usually caused by excessive speed — slow down

Skid — Steer in the direction you want to go; ease off gas

Tire blowout — Hold wheel firmly; ease off gas; slow to a stop

Soft shoulder — Stay on pavement — shoulder is lower than road

Snowstorm stranded — Stay in the car — most likely to be found there

Night Driving

Hardest to see at night — Pedestrians — greatest visibility risk

Oncoming headlights — Look to the right edge to avoid glare

Long trip fatigue — Stop and rest every two hours

Following other vehicles — Switch to low beams within 500 ft of vehicle ahead (Q23402).

Safe Driving Habits

DO

- + Check behind car before backing — walk to rear first
- + Change lanes or slow to deal with tailgaters
- + Move out of another driver's blind spot immediately
- + Slow down and pay attention through work zones
- + Look over shoulder to check blind spots when changing lanes

DON'T

- Use cruise control on ice, snow, or wet roads
- Text or use phone while driving
- Look into headlights of oncoming vehicles at night
- Drive slowly enough to disrupt normal traffic flow
- Drive around emergency vehicles stopped on roadside

Parking Rules

Never park — On a crosswalk or in a marked bicycle lane

Downhill (any curb) — Turn wheels right (toward curb)

Uphill with curb — Turn wheels left (away from curb); set parking brake

Uphill no curb — Turn wheels right (toward shoulder); set parking brake

Alcohol & Impaired Driving

BAC limit (21+) 0.08% — illegal to drive at or above

Open container Illegal on any public road — no exceptions

Body processing rate ~1 alcoholic drink per hour

Coffee / cold shower No effect on BAC — only time works

Drugs + alcohol Multiplies impairment — increases crash risk

Safe alternative Arrange a sober driver before you start drinking

Vehicle & Equipment

Seat belts — All occupants must be buckled — every trip, no exceptions

Lap/shoulder + airbag — Most effective restraint combination in a crash

Parking lights — Use only when parked — not as a substitute for headlights

Annual inspection — Vehicle must be inspected once a year