

MISSISSIPPI DRIVER'S MANUAL

MISSISSIPPI
HIGHWAY
SAFETY PATROL



COURTESY • SERVICE
SAFETY

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DRIVER LICENSE BUREAU
Post Office Box 958
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
www.mdps.state.ms.us**

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987-1217

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Phone 601-987-1283 601-987-1285

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Phone 601-352-6928

District No. 1 Troop – C – Pearl

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Phone 228-863-1819

District No. 9 – Brookhaven

Phone 601-833-0808



Phil Bryant
Governor
Mississippi

Operating a vehicle is an exciting privilege and is one that should be taken seriously. Learning and following the laws of the road is the best way to protect yourself and your passengers from harm while traveling the roadways of our great state.

Each year, so many motorists are injured or lose their lives, and Mississippi's per capita teen driving fatality rate is higher than any other in the nation. Keep yourself and others safe by learning, understanding and obeying the traffic laws outlined in this manual.

Take special care in school zones and when sharing the road with school buses; do everything in your power to protect our children.

It is also essential that you and your passengers buckle your seat belts each and every time you are in a vehicle. Seat belt use in Mississippi is higher than it has ever been, and seat belts have been proven to save lives. Buckle up; it is the law.

Best wishes to you as you prepare to become a responsible, licensed driver. The Mississippi Department of Public Safety strives for "Courtesy, Service and Safety" and stands ready to assist you in every way.

A handwritten signature of Phil Bryant in black ink, written in a cursive style.



Albert Santa Cruz
Commissioner
Mississippi Department of Public Safety



Colonel Donnell Berry
Assistant Commissioner, DPS
Chief, MHSP

Obtaining this driver manual is your first step toward becoming a licensed driver in Mississippi. We will do all we can to help you reach your goal.

In this manual, you will find the rules that govern the operation of motor vehicles on our roadways. We urge you to learn and obey them.

The men and women of the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol are committed to making your driving experiences safe and enjoyable. Call upon them whenever you need them.

As a licensed driver, you will be able to travel freely and enjoy the landscape and attractions of this great state and nation. When you do, please drive safely.

ORIGINAL

Fees for all original licenses must be cash. Fees for ID cards must also be cash for renewal, replacement, or originals. To avoid a delay, ***please bring exact amount.***

Regular License Class R	\$21.00
Intermediate License Class Y.....	\$ 6.00
Regular License Class R (Under 18) ...	\$ 6.00
Commercial License Class D.....	\$26.00
Identification Card.....	\$14.00
Learner's Permit	\$ 4.00
Motorcycle Endorsement	\$ 6.00

RENEWALS

Fees for renewals may be paid by cash or check. To avoid a delay, please bring the exact amount along with your renewal card to your local examiner.

Regular License, Class R	\$21.00
Regular License, Class R (Under 18)...	\$ 6.00
Commercial License, Class D.....	\$26.00
Identification Card.....	\$14.00
Duplicate License	\$ 8.00
2nd or subsequent duplicate license....	\$ 8.00
Late Fee.....	\$ 1.00

To obtain a copy of your driver license record, send \$11.00 money order or certified check, a notarized letter requesting your information and a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Department of Public Safety
Driver Records
P.O. Box 958
Jackson, MS 39205

*** “The Driver Services Bureau reserves the right to overrule any information obtained from our manual. However, we will make every effort to keep accurate information posted.”**

With the invention of the automobile in the early 1900's, a new era of law enforcement began. A new breed of policeman was needed to patrol our highways and keep motorists from maiming and destroying each other on our highways. The sheriff of each county was, and still is, the main peace officer in the county. But in the early 1900's, he not only had the responsibility of keeping the peace in the county, he had to work accidents on our state highways, and enforce the traffic laws in effect at the time. With the phenomenal growth of the automobile, the sheriff could not patrol the highways and still keep peace in the county area; so the inception of the Mississippi Highway Patrol began in 1938.

A HISTORY OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



On April 1, 1938, Senate Bill No. 161, passed earlier by the Legislature of the State of Mississippi, was approved, creating the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol under the supervision of an officer to be known as the Commissioner of Public Safety.

The initial act provided for fifty-three patrolmen, a commissioner and chief of patrol. It also provided for a driver license bureau director, chief record clerk, stenographer, and five assistants who were allotted to the driver license bureau.

Governor Hugh L. White appointed Major T.B. Birdsong as Commissioner, and Captain Webb Burke as Chief of Patrol.

In accordance with the provisions of the act, Birdsong conducted the first Recruit Training School at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. From 3,300 applicants, 633 were selected to take competitive physical and mental examinations, from which 97 were selected as recruits to attend school.

From this number, 53 were chosen upon graduation as patrolmen and 13 were placed on reserve. All patrolmen were issued uniforms, Sam Browne belts and holsters, and the newly designed Smith & Wesson .357 Magnum revolvers. Thirty-five Harley Davidson motorcycles and twenty automobiles were purchased by the State for the use of the department.

On a scorching hot Friday, 1938, patrolmen paraded from Camp Shelby to Jackson, and passed in review down Capitol Street before Governor Hugh White and other state dignitaries. A few minutes later, they were officially sworn into service as the State's Traffic Law Enforcement Agency. The following Monday morning, June 20, they reported to their assigned stations to become living legends as "Iron Men" on "Iron Horses."

The Patrol was housed in a building formerly used by Mississippi State Hospital on North State Street in Jackson. This inadequate facility was in use until December 1955, when a new headquarters building at 1900 Woodrow Wilson Drive was provided for occupancy.

The basic principles adopted in the early development of the Patrol soon convinced the people of Mississippi it had a definite place in the state government and gradual growth over the years from 53 men to an authorized strength of 475 and an increase in number of district areas is a tribute to those responsible for maintaining high standards of performance.

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Introduction

The Mississippi Driver's Manual has two main purposes: (1) to help you obtain a Mississippi driver's license, and (2) to help you become a safe driver. This manual has been written in simple, everyday language. It explains the basic intent of the Mississippi traffic laws. But the manual itself is not intended as an official legal reference to those laws. It is intended only to explain to you in layman's terms those laws and regulations you need to know to be the safest possible driver.

This manual has been divided into five main sections:

1. Your license to drive
2. Rules of the road
3. Safe driving practices
4. Legal procedures and driver responsibilities
5. Regulations for Class D commercial drivers

The first section explains license requirements, and lists the steps you must follow to obtain and keep a valid Mississippi driver's license.

A Message From Your Examiner

Careful study of the Mississippi Driver's Manual will increase your driving confidence and broaden your knowledge of traffic rules and regulations. Your examiner realizes that a driving test will probably be an unusual experience for you, and that you might even become nervous or uneasy. If you do become apprehensive, please remember that your examiner has accompanied many other people exactly like you,

The second section explains the traffic rules and regulations that have been established to protect you and other drivers on the road.

The third section lists and explains the specific procedures you must follow to be a safe and confident driver.

The fourth section covers such subjects as accident reporting, vehicle inspection, and safety responsibility.

The fifth section explains the rules and regulations that must be known in order to obtain a Mississippi commercial license.

While studying this manual, you should remember that the license to operate a motor vehicle in Mississippi is granted to you as a privilege, and can be withheld or withdrawn in accordance with law.

Also remember that everything in this manual applies to you. Your future as a driver will be determined by how well you study and familiarize yourself with the information in this manual. Read it carefully and thoroughly and then apply it to your driving.

and that he/she rides with you only to make sure that you can control your car and observe the rules of safety. ***Your examiner will not try to trick you in any way.***

Remember that over 80,000 people pass this test annually and become licensed drivers. If they can do it, so can you. Just relax and do the best you can.

Definitions

Many of the terms used in this booklet are

- **A highway** is every way or place of whatever travel and includes the streets of municipalities.
- **A motor vehicle** is an automobile, motorcycle, or other kind of vehicle (except on rails) which is run by an engine or motor in the vehicle itself.
- **An operator** is anybody who is actually driving a motor vehicle on the highway.
- **A school bus** is every vehicle owned by a public or governmental agency, or privately owned and operated for compensation; for the transportation of children to and from school.
- **A non-resident** is anybody who does not live in Mississippi.
- **Commissioner** means the Commissioner of Public Safety.
- **An intersection** is the place where roads come together or cross. The sidewalk crossings are counted as part of the intersection.
- **Business or residential district** is any place where most of the land along the road for 300 feet or more is used for houses or places of business.
- **Traffic** is pedestrian, ridden or herded animals, vehicles, streetcars, and other conveyances, either singularly or together while using any highway for the purpose of travel.
- **A stop** means complete cessation of movement.
- **Right-of-way** is the privilege of the immediate use of the highway.

Walk Facing Traffic



YOUR LICENSE TO DRIVE

PERSONS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A LICENSE

The law prevents the commissioner from issuing you a license if:

1. You have not reached the age of 16 years, six months and have not held an intermediate license for at least six months without certain convictions.
2. Your license has been revoked or suspended.
3. You have been adjudged insane.
4. You are a habitual drunkard or are addicted to the use of narcotics.
5. You have a dangerous physical or mental weakness.
6. You have not yet passed a driver's examination.
7. You do not provide proper documentation that you are enrolled in school (applies to persons under 18 years of age).

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Under the laws of Mississippi, if you operate any motor vehicle (except road and farm equipment) on the streets or highways, you must have a license or instruction permit.

You cannot receive a Mississippi driver's license until you have surrendered to the Department of Public Safety all driver's licenses in your possession.

APPLYING FOR A LICENSE

You must be at least fifteen (15) years old to apply for a temporary permit. You must hold the temporary permit for one (1) year before you can upgrade to an Intermediate License. You must hold the Intermediate License for six months and reach the age of 16½ before you can upgrade to a regular license. You must be 18 years old before you can obtain a license to drive a school bus.

There are over 60 driver license examining offices throughout the state. You may apply for a Mississippi Driver's License at the driver license office of your choice. For the operating hours of the local driver license office, you may contact the nearest Highway Patrol office or your local law Enforcement agencies.

PERSONS EXEMPTED FROM HAVING A LICENSE

You are exempted from having a Mississippi driver's license if:

1. You are operating any vehicle belonging to a branch of the United States Armed Services.
2. You are a non-resident over the age of sixteen (16) and have in your possession a valid driver's license issued to you by the proper authorities in your home state or home country. (If you hold a license from another state, and are over the age of eighteen [18], you may operate a vehicle in the state for a period of sixty [60] days without securing a Mississippi driver's license).
3. You are operating any road machine, farm tractor, or farm equipment temporarily on a road or highway.

YOUR APPLICATION

To obtain a license of any type, you must complete an application form furnished by the Department of Public Safety. The completed application must contain your full name, date of birth, home address, social security number,

physical description, and a brief history of your physical and mental condition and driving experience and record. You must sign the application after completing it. If you make a false statement on the application, you will be subject to a suspension of your driving privileges. The application will contain a complete record of your examination, and will be sent by the examiner to Department Headquarters, where it will become part of your driving record. ***Your examiner will not accept the application if it has been soiled, mutilated, or folded where it should not be.*** Application of persons under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a school certification form issued by the school principal, headmaster, or county superintendent of education, or his designee. Form must not be over 30 days old. If you are home-schooled, you can obtain a blank Certification of Attendance from a school or from the Superintendent of Education and the parents will have their notarized signature on it.

SOCIAL SECURITY CARD REQUIRED

Before your examiner can approve your application, he must visually check your social security card. If you do not have a social security card, you must obtain one. You must have it with you when you apply for a license.

PROOF OF IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED

If you do not have a driver's license from another state, you must show a certified birth certificate issued by the state and social

security card before a license or permit can be issued to you. *All persons under 18 years of age must show a certified birth certificate regardless.*

OUT-OF-STATE DRIVERS

If you move to Mississippi, you must obtain a Mississippi driver's license within sixty (60) days. You must obtain a Mississippi license plate (tag) within thirty (30) days. In addition, you must also obtain a Mississippi inspection of your vehicle.

When you apply for a Mississippi driver's license you must surrender any and all driver's licenses from other states and show your social security card. Your driving record in other states will be checked before a Mississippi license is issued to you.

If you have a valid driver's license from another state, the Written and Skills Test may be waived. You will be required to pass a vision screening. If you are transferring from another state and your license has been expired over 30 days, you will be required to take the written test. If you are applying from out-of-state to obtain a Mississippi license and your license has been lost, you must obtain an Affidavit of Inability to Surrender form the Driver License office. You must have your signature notarized on it.

PROOF OF DOMICILE STATE STATUTE: 63-1-19 (1999 SESSION)

Effective July 1, 1999, any applicant for an original license who is over eighteen (18) years of age must show proof of domicile in this state to receive a license. No post office box number may be used as evidence of domicile.

Any proof of residency must contain a physical address. The examiner shall note on the application the type of documentation used to determine domicile. Applicants under 21 years of age may use documentation that applies to their parents' domicile.

MILITARY PERSONNEL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

Department policy permits non-resident military personnel and their family, and any out-of-state college student, to drive in Mississippi provided they hold a valid driver's license from another state. This same policy applies to auto license plates.

Any person in the armed services of the United States, holding a valid license and is out-of-state due to military service at the time said license expires, may renew said license at any time within (90) days after being discharged.

(From such military service or upon returning to the state, without payment of any delinquent fee or examination, unless the department has reason to believe that the licensee is no longer qualified to receive a license.) Said person shall make proof by affidavit of the fact of such military service and of the fact of such military service and of the time of discharge return.

Mississippi now offers to renew or replace driver license or identification card for military personnel and College can renew their license by mail. They should go to www.dps.state.ms.us, select type of license, and select either military or college for instructions that apply.

APPLICATIONS FOR UNDER 17 YEARS OLD

If you are under seventeen (17) years old, your application for a Mississippi driver's license or learner's permit must be signed by

your parents, if both are living, and have legal custody of you. If neither of your parents are living, then your application may be signed by the person who has legal custody of you (your guardian), or by your employer. If you do not have a guardian or employer, then your application may be signed by a responsible adult who is willing to assume the obligations this act imposes on him. Whoever signs your application must have his or her signature notarized.

If married and under 17, you must show a marriage license in lieu of a School Certification of Attendance.

Any person who signs your application may in the future file with the Commissioner a verified written request that your license or permit be cancelled.

UNAUTHORIZED DRIVING

It is important to remember that you cannot lawfully drive a motor vehicle without a learner's permit or a driver's license, even if you are accompanied by one of your parents. Driving without a learner's permit or license may make both you and the owner of the car subject to arrest.

REGULAR LEARNER'S LICENSE

If you want to learn to drive on the public roads or highways, you must first obtain a learner's permit from an examiner. To be eligible for a learner's permit, you must pass the same examination which is given for a driver's license, except for the driving

test and the vehicle inspection. A learner's permit is valid for one (1) year, and will entitle you to drive a motor vehicle when accompanied by a licensed driver age 21 years or older who is actually occupying the seat next to you. The fee for this permit is \$4.00. If you do not pass your road test before your permit expires, it can be renewed within one year, without another test for an additional \$4.00 fee. (Your examiner has the right, for justifiable cause, to require you to wait up to thirty (30) days from the date your permit is first issued before allowing you to take your next test.) **To take your road test you must have a valid learner's permit in your possession.**

REGULAR LEARNER'S PERMIT (14 YEAR OLD)

If you are a high school student at least fourteen (14) years old, and are currently enrolled in an approved high school driver education course, you may apply for a temporary learner's permit. Your driver's education instructor must furnish the examiner with proof that you are presently enrolled in an approved driver education program.

Your temporary permit will be restricted in two important ways: ***(1) It will be valid only while you are enrolled in an approved driver education course, and (2) It will allow you to drive only a driver education vehicle while accompanied by your driver education instructor. Upon turning age 15, you must go to the driver license office and upgrade to a 15 year old permit.***

The Department wants to remind you how beneficial a good driver education program can be. Statistics show that drivers who have had

driver education courses are far less likely to be involved in accidents. Because of this, many insurance companies set lower rates for drivers who have participated in approved high school driver education courses.

ORIGINAL DRIVER'S LICENSE

You are eligible if:

1. After August 1, 2009, you have reached the age of sixteen (16) years, six (6) months and have held a intermediate license for six (6) months without certain convictions.
2. Under 18, present proper documentation on form obtained from the school or Department of Education that you are currently enrolled in school.
3. The Written Test and Skills Test may be waived if you are over 18 years of age and have held an out of state license for at least six (6) months.
4. You meet the required physical conditions.
5. **PROOF OF DOMICILE**
STATE STATUTE: 63-1-19
(1999 SESSION) Effective July 1, 1999, any applicant for an original license who is over eighteen (18) years of age, must show proof of domicile in this state to receive a license. No post office box number

may be used as evidence of domicile. Applicants under 21 years of age may use documentation that applies to their parents'

domicile.

A Mississippi driver's license cost \$21.00 for a Class R license. A Mississippi driver's license issued to anyone between the ages of 16 and 18 will be issued for one year at a time at a cost of \$6.00 per year.

DRIVER'S LICENSE CLASS D (ORIGINAL)

A Class D license is required only when you are operating a vehicle commercially and it is under 26,000 pounds GVWR. You do not need a commercial license to drive a pick-up truck, regardless of what the truck is used for, unless used to transport placard amounts of hazardous materials.

If you already have a regular driver's license and would like to obtain a commercial license, you must apply through an official driver's license examiner.

A Mississippi Class D commercial license cost \$26.00 and is issued for a four (4) year period.

MOTORCYCLE LICENSE

If you are applying for your first Mississippi driver license and want to operate a motor-driven cycle, you must obtain a motorcycle endorsement. You are required to take a written test on the operation of a motorcycle and a skills test. If you hold an out-of-state license which is valid for the operation of motorcycles, the written and skills test may be waived.

When applying for a motorcycle endorsement, advise the examiner in order for the proper test to be administered.

You may obtain a Mississippi Motorcycle

Operator's Manual from the nearest driver license office.

According to law, if you drive a motor-driven cycle on the roads or highways of Mississippi, you must wear a crash helmet of the type approved by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. Fees for all original licenses must be cash.

all other requirements except for providing a social security number for a driver's license or identification card. The license or ID will be valid for 1 year from date of issuance for a fee of \$11.00. You must present valid immigration papers for originals or renewals, including a birth certificate (translated from a university), Passport, 1-94, Proof of Domicile and Alien Resident Card if you have one.

Non-U.S. Citizen License or ID Card

If you are a non-citizen, you must meet

The Examination

Before you can be issued an original Mississippi driver's license, you must pass the prescribed examinations. If you are under the care of a physician, for any reason, a certificate concerning your physical or mental condition may be required by the examiner before you take the examination.

The examination is designed to answer the following questions about your driving knowledge and abilities:

1. Do you know the Mississippi traffic laws and the rules of safe driving?
2. Do you see well enough to drive safely?
3. Are you able to read and understand the signs used to regulate, warn, and direct traffic on Mississippi roads and highways?
4. Are you willing to keep your vehicle in safe condition?
5. Are you a safe and skillful driver?
6. Do you have any physical or mental handicaps which might interfere with your driving ability?
7. Do you have the proper attitude toward the rights of pedestrians and other drivers?

So that your examiner may answer these questions fairly and thoroughly, the examination is divided into three parts: a computerized test, an eye test, and a driving test.

If you fail the computerized or driving test, you cannot repeat it the same day. If you should fail to pass the examination after three (3) attempts, you must wait thirty (30) days to take it again.

COMPUTERIZED TEST

The questions on your test will be based on information taken from this manual and will concern the Mississippi traffic laws and the rules of safe driving. If you cannot read, have someone teach you this manual. Then ask your examiner for additional information on how to take your test.

If you fail the test, return to this manual and study it carefully and thoroughly. It contains all the information you need.

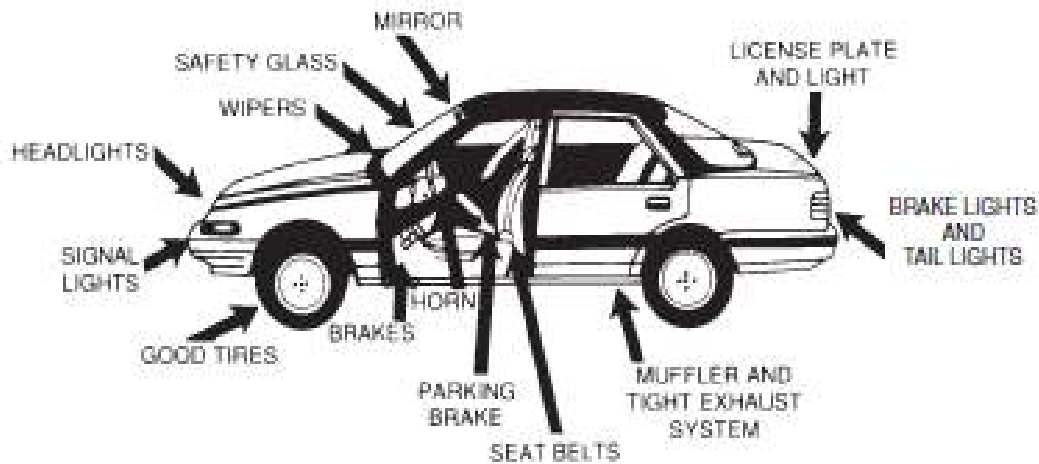
EYE TEST

As part of your examination, your eyes will be checked to make sure you see well enough to drive safely. If your eye test shows that you need glasses to improve your vision, you must arrange to have your eyes tested by an eye specialist or optometrist. You will be given an eye form (DE26) to be filled out by your eye specialist or optometrist.

PREPARING FOR YOUR DRIVER'S TEST

When you are ready for your driving test, you must:

1. Have your application, learner's permit, Social Security card, and certified birth certificate.
2. Be accompanied by a licensed driver.
3. Be in a legally licensed motor vehicle.



4. Be sure the motor vehicle you bring for your road test has all the equipment and passes motor vehicle inspection.
5. Proof of valid insurance on vehicle prior to Road Test.

DRIVING TEST

The driving test is a practical examination of your ability to operate a motor vehicle. It is designed to detect incorrect or dangerous driving habits on your part. Because it determines your ability to operate a motor vehicle safely, the driving test is the most important part of the examination.

On the day of your examination, you must be accompanied by a person who holds a valid driver's license to the assigned testing place. In your driving test you will use the vehicle you arrive in. It is suggested that you bring the vehicle that you have been practicing in.

The lights, horn, brakes, inspection certificate and registration of the vehicle will

be inspected by the examiner. ***If the vehicle does not pass this inspection, the driving test will be postponed until you return in a vehicle that meets legal requirements.***

A trained examiner from the Department of Public Safety will accompany you on your driving test. (Only you and the examiner may be in the vehicle during the test.) The examiner will tell you where to drive and what driving maneuvers to make. ***He will make no attempt to trick or confuse you.***

His only purpose is to make sure that you are able to operate a vehicle safely and in accordance with the traffic laws. He will direct you to execute right and left turns; to make a safe, smooth stop; to back properly; to park and stop on a hill; to parallel park; and to do a turn- about. He will note your posture, use of signals, and how you control the car. He will pay strict attention to your attitude toward pedestrians and how you approach and obey warning signs, stop signs, and traffic lights. He will note if you use driving lanes properly. His observations will be listed on your Record of Examination, and you will be graded accordingly.

Your application will not be approved if you have too many errors in safe driving on the driving test, or if you drive dangerously, violate the law, have an accident, or refuse to

follow the examiner's instructions.

Rules of the Road

In this section you will find information about the traffic rules and regulations in Mississippi. Please study these rules and regulations carefully. You will need to know them for your examination and you will need to observe and practice them throughout your driving career. Only by knowing and obeying them can you truly become a safe and confident driver.

Remember: Safe driving just takes common sense, courtesy, and self control. Always drive defensively and always treat pedestrians and other drivers with the same respect you want them to show you.

TRAFFIC LANES

You are in a traffic lane whenever you are driving on any street or highway. These lanes may or may not be marked, but they exist just the same.

If a street or highway is wide enough for only one car, or one line of cars, it is a one-lane street or highway. If it is wide enough to allow two cars to pass one another safely, it is a two-lane street or highway. A three-lane highway has room for three cars side by side. A four-lane highway is wide enough for four cars, with two lanes on the right side and two lanes on the left.

The right lane is the lane nearest the right side of the street. If parking is permitted, however, then the right lane is the lane immediately to the left of the parked cars.

The left lane can vary in location. On a four-lane street or highway, it is the lane immediately to the right of the center line. On

boulevards, divided highways, or one-way streets, the left lane is the lane nearest the left curb.

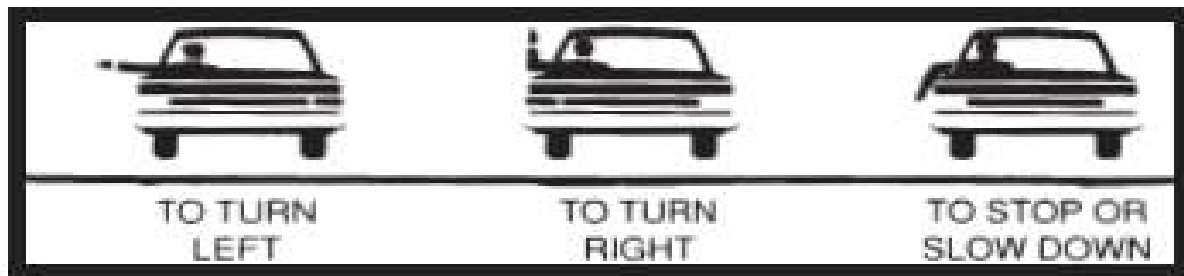
Change lanes carefully. Make sure that you have safe clearance ahead and behind you before you change. This means that you should look for bicycles, motorcycles, other cars, and pedestrians walking along the roadside. In order to notify other drivers who might be affected by your movement, be sure to give a proper signal with the arm or by use of turn indicators.

Drive in the proper lane. Most hard-surfaced roads are divided into lanes by painted strips. Two lane highways have a single broken yellow center stripe. You should not cross this stripe unless you are overtaking and passing another vehicle. If you are driving on a road with three or more lanes, stay in the extreme right lane, except when passing another vehicle. Otherwise you must drive in the right lane.

SIGNALS

The best way to notify another driver of your intentions to turn or pass is to use signals. If you use signals correctly and consistently, you will protect yourself against accidents and make yourself a safer driver.

If you are using arm signals, be sure to signal continuously for at least 100 feet before you slow down, turn, stop, or change lanes.



For a left turn, extend your arm and hand straight out. This signal is also used when you are changing from the right lane to the left lane, or when you are starting from a parallel parking position.

For a right turn, extend your arm and hand upward, with your arm bent at the elbow.

You may use mechanical or electrical signals to indicate your intentions. In bad weather conditions, however, it may be hard for other drivers to see those signals. Arm signals provide an extra safeguard.

Mechanical or electrical turn signals should not be used unless you are actually going to turn. If you approach an intersection where the car ahead of you has stopped, waiting for oncoming traffic to clear before he turns left, it is not necessary for you to turn on your left turn signal to warn the driver behind you, unless you are going to turn left. Your brake lights are sufficient warning and are actually more effective.

Drivers of large trucks or slow moving vehicles should not use their left turn signal to advise the driver behind that it is safe to pass. An intended left turn signal could be mistaken for a "clear to pass" signal and place the following driver in peril should he attempt to pass.

To stop or decrease your speed, extend your arm and hand downward, with the palm toward the rear.

Signal lights are required if your vehicle is built or loaded so that an arm signal would be difficult to see by drivers to the front and rear. Whenever you use arm signals, always extend your arm fully, so that other drivers can clearly make out your intentions.

Littering on Mississippi Highways

Mississippi is one of America's most beautiful states. Show pride in that beauty. Never toss any sort of litter from your car. Never dump garbage on the roadside. Always carry a litter bag in your vehicle.

Any person found guilty of throwing litter on the roads and highways of the state or within the

limits of the right of way of such roads and highways shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) or more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00). When any litter is thrown or discarded from a motor vehicle, the operator or owner of the motor vehicle or both, shall be deemed in violation of the law.

TURNING AT INTERSECTIONS

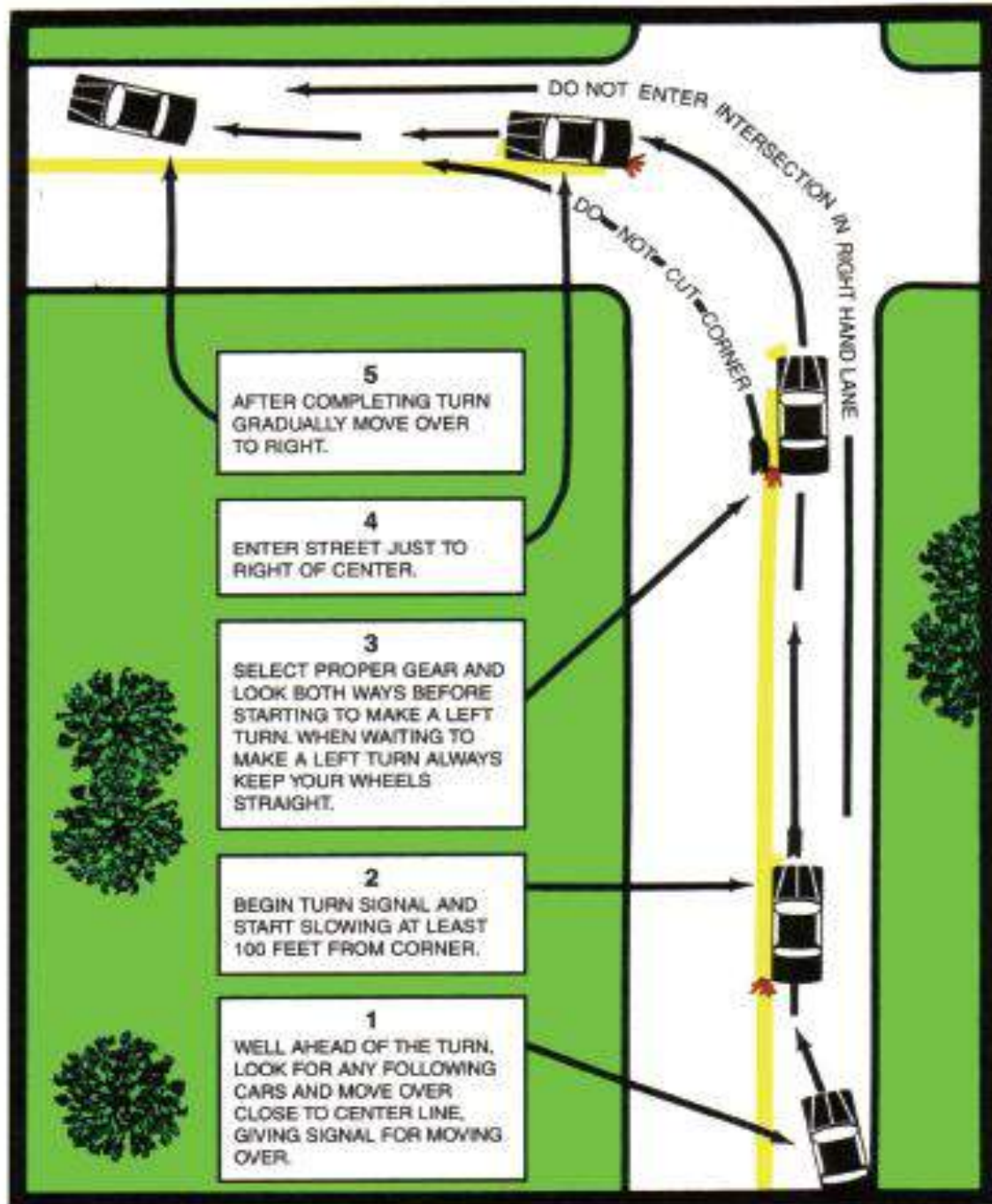
More accidents occur at intersections than anywhere else. Often there is a failure of communication among drivers, or someone takes an unnecessary chance when turning. To make a safe turn, follow these suggestions:

1. Know where you want to turn. If you are not sure, drive slowly and read the street signs or road markers. Avoid last-minute turns.
2. Signal what you intend to do. Give pedestrians and other drivers advance notice of your intentions.
3. Get into the correct lane as soon as possible.
4. Look around you in all directions before you change lanes or turn. Do not assume that other drivers will see you. Be sure.
5. Slow down well before you reach the crosswalk of the intersection, and complete the turn at a consistent speed. Do not push down the brake or clutch while you are turning. And do not shift gears while entering the intersection.
6. Finish the turn in the proper lane.

The diagrams on the following pages show the correct methods for making safe left and right turns. Study them carefully.

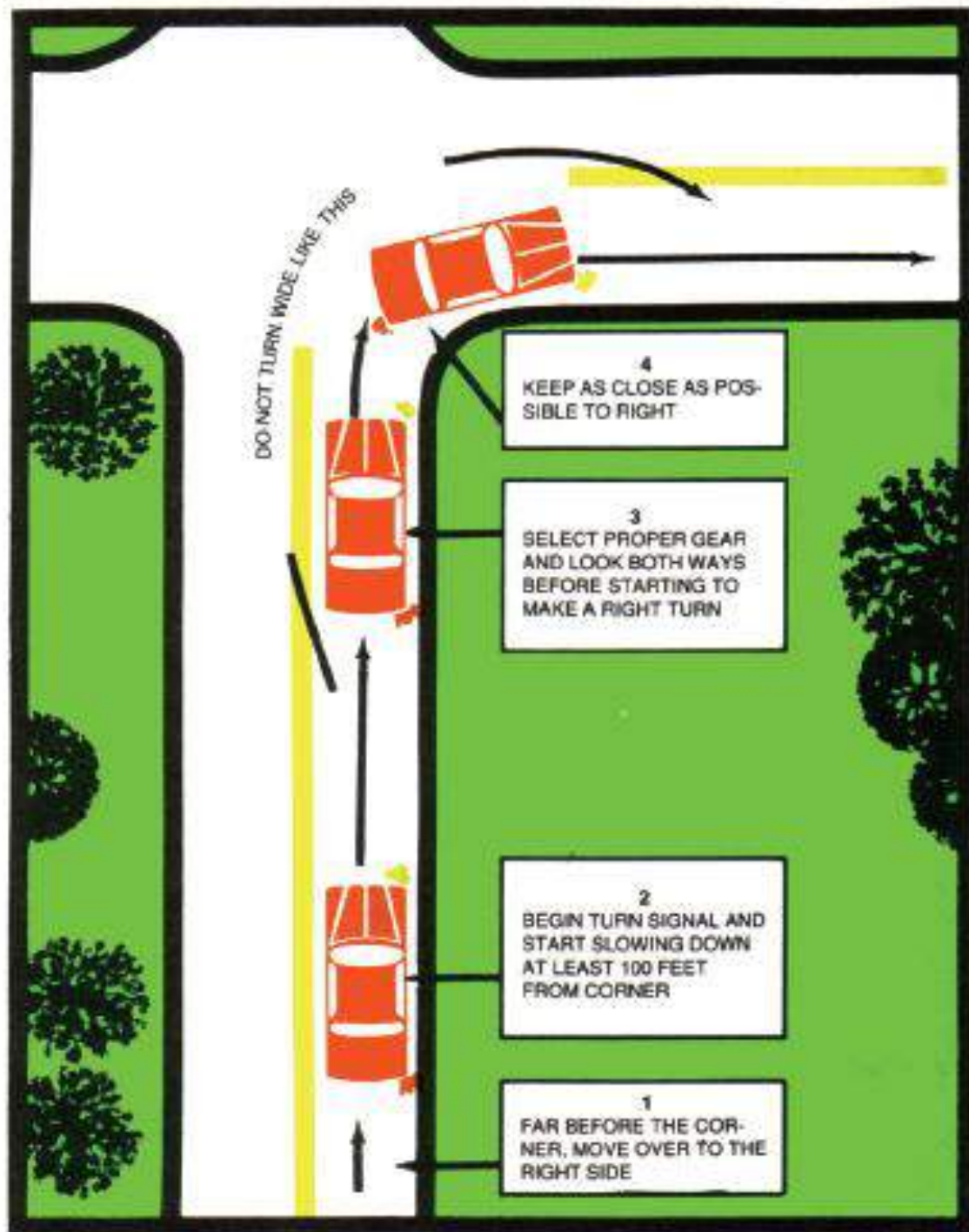
How to Make a Left Turn

There are five things you should remember in making a left turn. Take care to keep close, but not cross the centerline.



How to Make a Right Turn

There are four things you should remember in making a right turn. Be careful not to swing to the left before or during a turn.

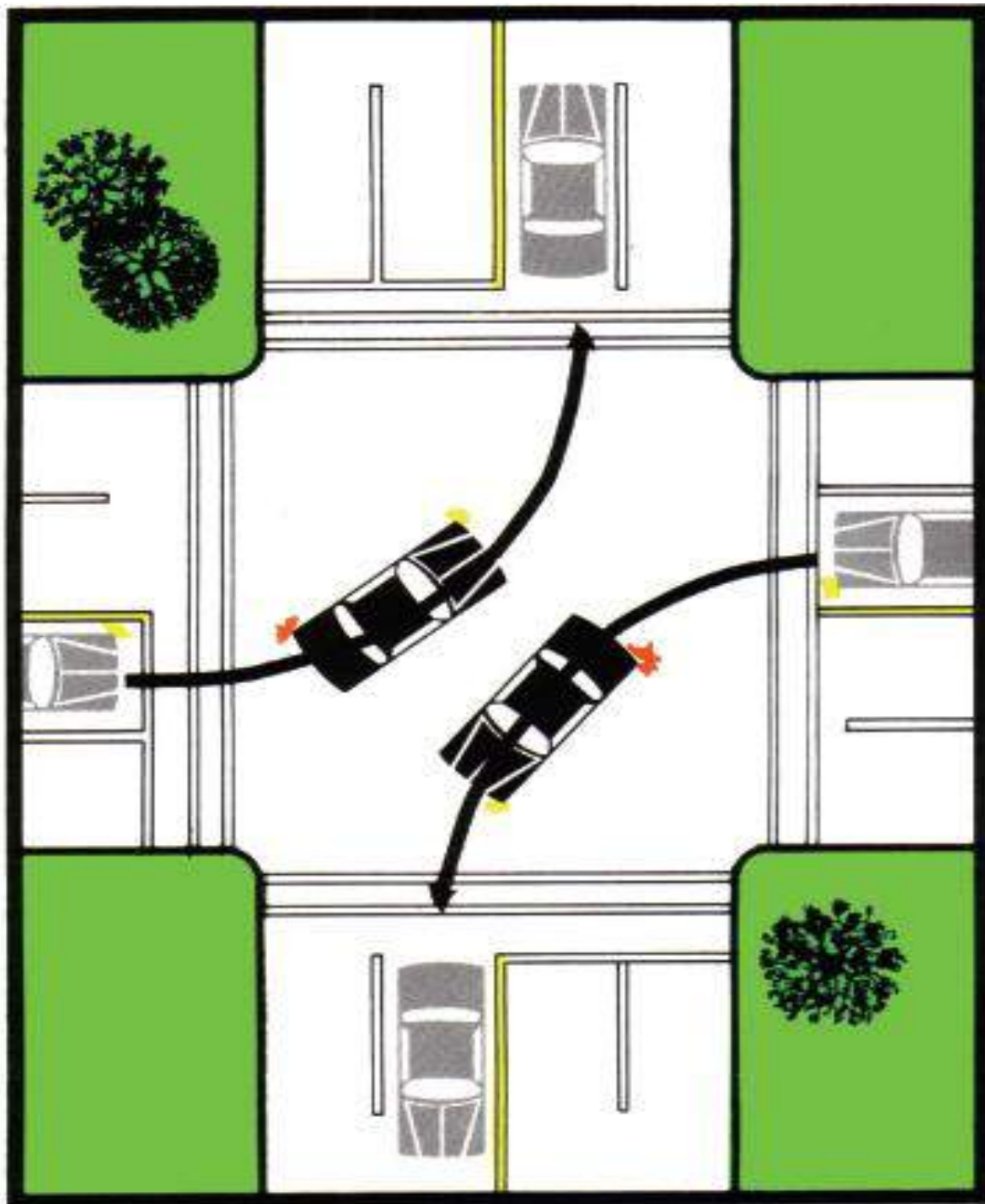


When to Turn Left of Center

LEFT TURNS -TWO VEHICLES

When you are approaching another driver at an intersection, and you both want to make a left turn, each of

you should turn to the left of the other. Leave from the left lane and enter into the left lane.



ONE-WAY STREETS

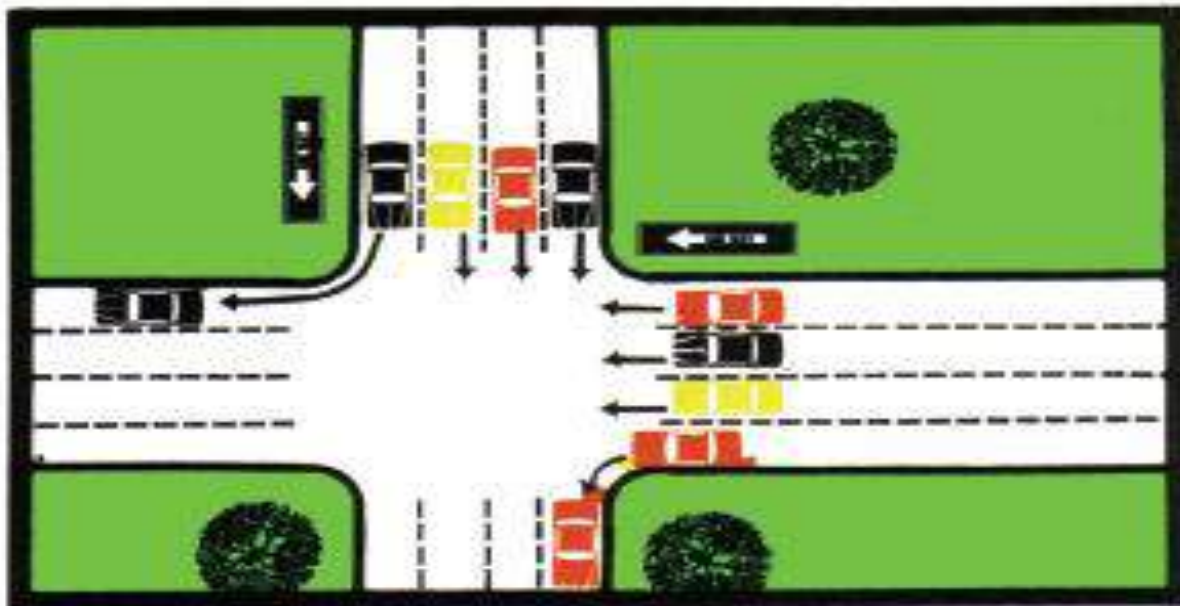
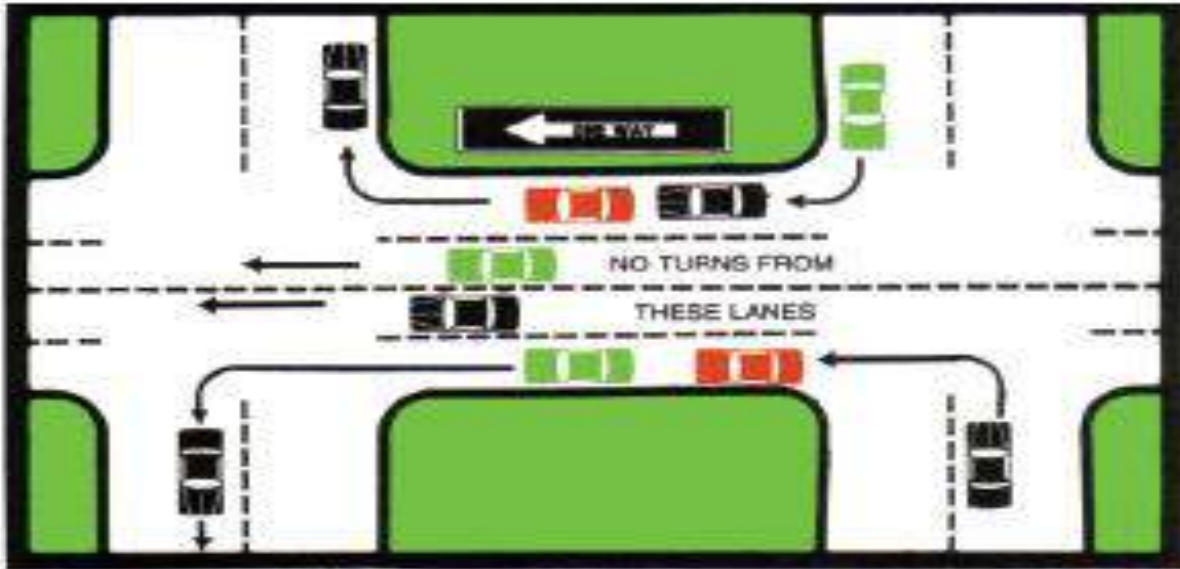
When you are leaving a one-way or divided street, always turn from the lane nearest the curb. When entering a one-way or divided street, always

turn into the lane nearest you. When you are traveling straight, you may use any lane except the extreme right of left lanes, which are turning lanes. Do not jump from lane to lane.

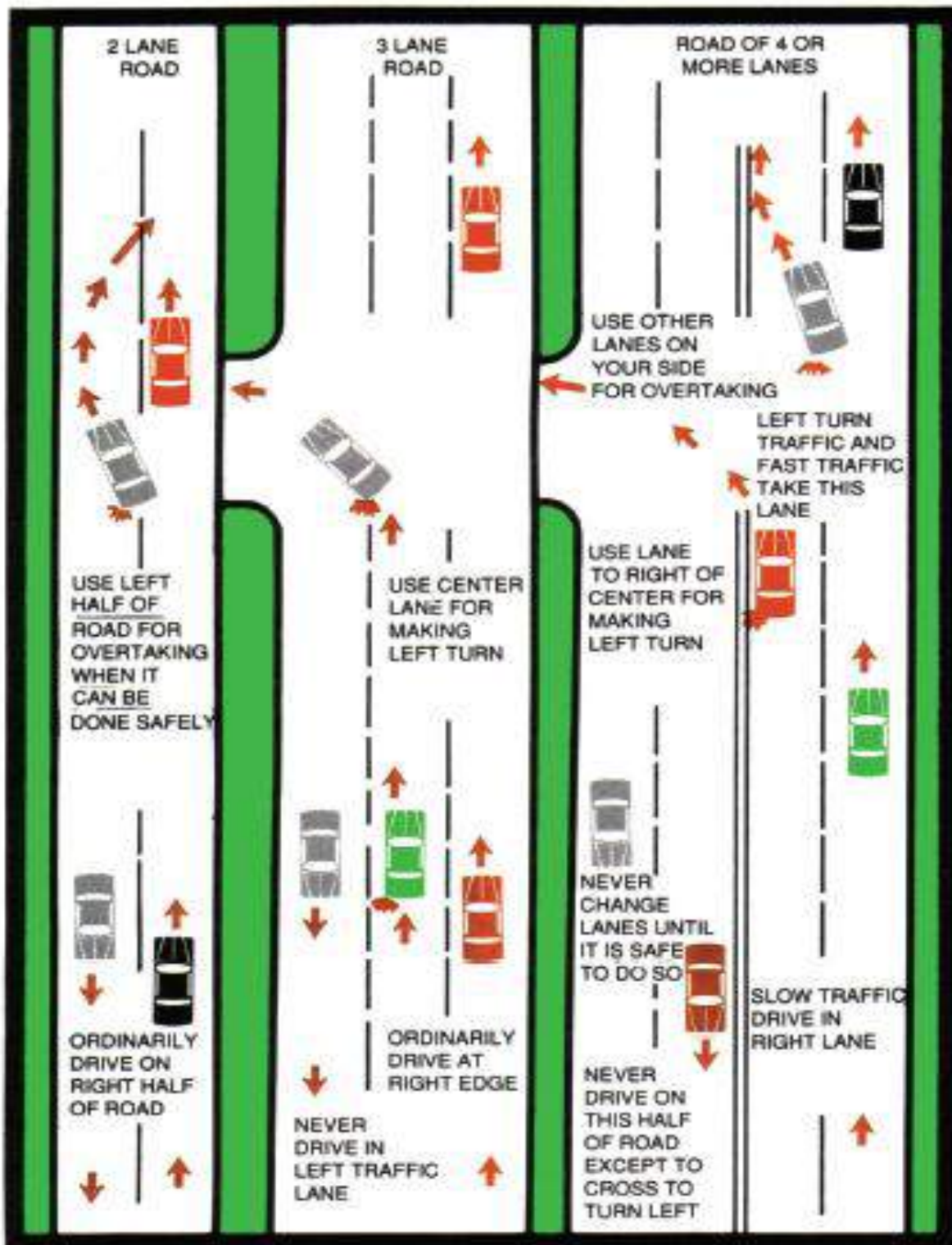
INTERSECTING ONE-WAY STREETS

At a place where one-way streets intersect, as in

the diagram below, west-bound vehicles in the left lane may turn left, and south-bound vehicles in the right lane may turn right. All vehicles in the other lanes must continue straight ahead.



DRIVE IN PROPER LANE



RIGHT-OF-WAY

"Right-of-way" refers to a number of important

traffic rules which determine who shall yield and who shall wait at intersections or other places where two or more vehicles or pedestrians meet. Right-of-way rules are designed to help traffic flow smoothly and safely, but the first rule you should follow is to always use your common sense. ***Your right-of-way is important, but it is not worth an accident.***

In any right-of-way situation, be patient and use

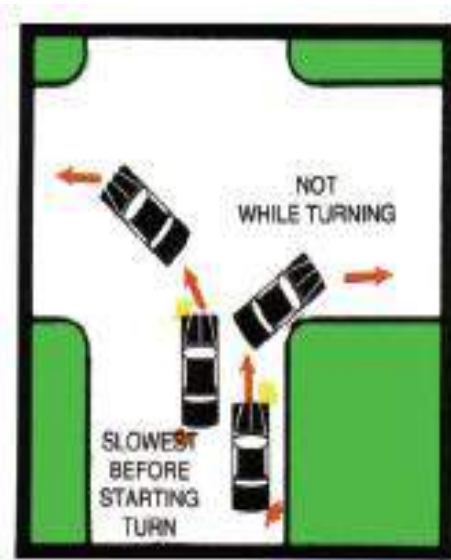
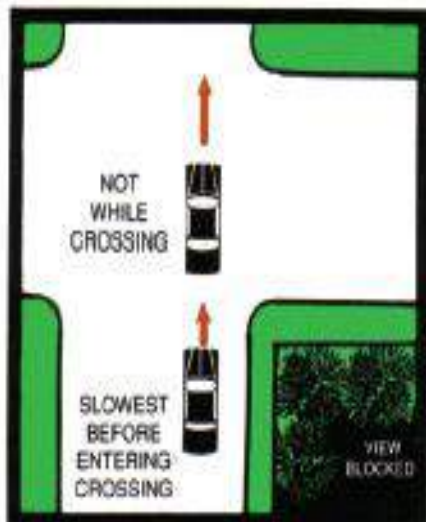
caution. Determine your right-of-way before you enter an intersection. If another driver yields to you, proceed immediately. If not, slow your vehicle and let him proceed. By becoming annoyed or angry at other drivers you can only endanger yourself.

Always remember that you must yield to a bicycle exactly as you would to any other vehicle.

CROSSING AN INTERSECTION

As you cross, drive defensively. Do not assume that pedestrians or other drivers understand your intentions. If you cannot see the entire intersection as you approach, slow down and proceed cautiously.

Be sure to look in both directions as you cross. Slow down as you approach, then gradually increase your speed until you clear the intersection.



RIGHT-OF-WAY AT INTERSECTIONS

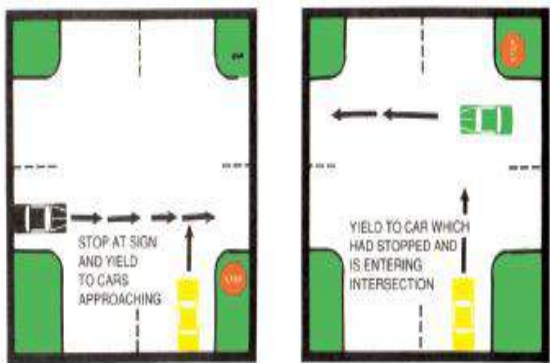
Before entering or crossing any state or federal

highway where there are no traffic signs or signals, you should yield to any approaching traffic, and proceed only when it is safe. If there are no signs or

signals at an intersection which you are approaching and another vehicle arrives at the same time, remember that the driver on the left must yield to the driver on the right.

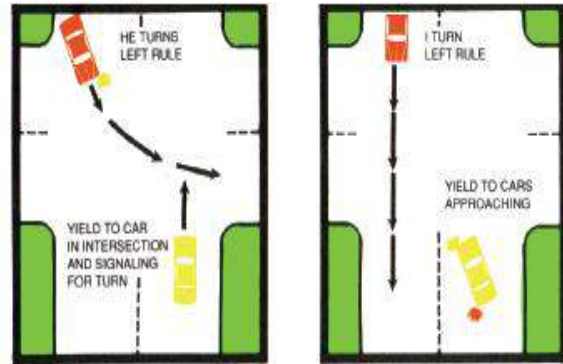
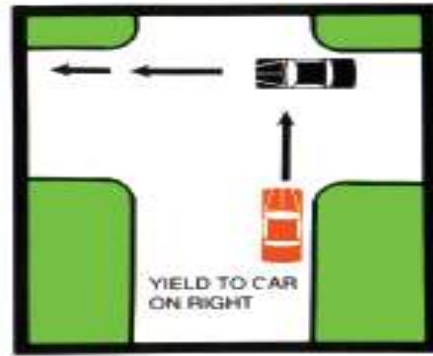
RIGHT-OF-WAY AT STOP STREETS

When two or more vehicles stop at an intersection at the same time, the vehicle on the right has the right-of-way. Remember that you must bring your vehicle to a complete stop at the crosswalk, and that you must yield the right-of-way to any vehicle or pedestrian in the intersection. You may carefully proceed if your way is completely clear.



RIGHT-OF-WAY AT THROUGH STREETS

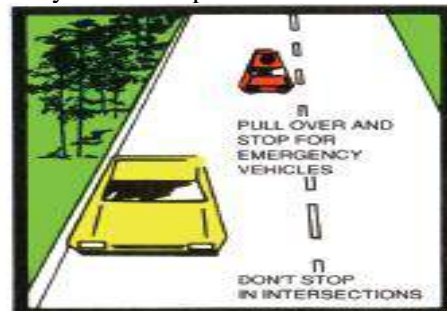
If you are approaching an intersection on a through street and another vehicle is stopped and waiting to enter, be courteous and yield the right-of-way. If a vehicle is in the intersection and signaling for a left turn just as you approach, you must let him go first. If you both arrive at the intersection at the same time, the vehicle going straight on the through street must be given the right-of-way.



RIGHT-OF-WAY TO EMERGENCY VEHICLES & FUNERAL PROCESSIONS

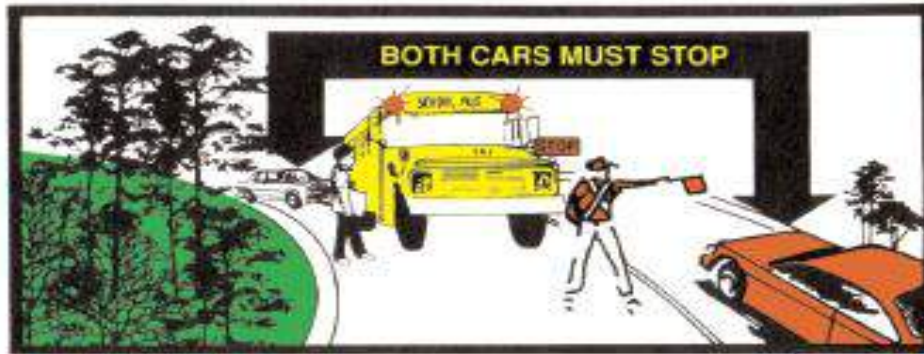
Any ambulance, fire engine, or police car flashing red or blue lights or signaling with a bell or siren always has the right-of-way on any street in any traffic situation. If at all possible, pull your vehicle over to the extreme right hand side of the road until the emergency vehicle has passed. If you are at an intersection, proceed through, and then pull over to the extreme right.

Although you are not required to do so by law, common courtesy dictates that you yield the right-of-way to funeral processions.



RIGHT-OF-WAY TO SCHOOL BUSES

YOU MUST STOP FOR A SCHOOL BUS, regardless of your direction, whenever the bus is stopped and receiving or discharging children. You may not proceed until all children have safely crossed the street.



Nathan's Law, amended Section 63-3-615,

1. (a.) The driver of any vehicle meeting or overtaking any school bus that has stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging any school children shall come to a complete stop at least ten (10) feet from the school bus before reaching the school bus when there is in operation on the school bus the flashing red lights provided in Section 63-7-23, or when a retractable, hand-operated stop sign is extended; the driver shall not proceed until the children have crossed the street or highway and the school bus has resumed motion or the flashing red lights are no longer actuated and the hand-operated stop sign is retracted.

(b.) The driver of a vehicle upon a highway that has four (4) lanes or more, whether or not there is a median or turn lane, need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus that is on a different roadway or when upon a controlled-access highway if the school bus is stopped in a loading zone that is a part of or adjacent to the highway and where pedestrians are not permitted to cross the roadway.

2. (a.) A first conviction there shall be fined not less than Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$350.00) nor more than Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00), or imprisoned for not more than one (1) year, or both. For a second or subsequent offense, the offenses being committed within a period of five (5) years, the person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not less than Seven Hundred Dollars (\$750.00) nor more than One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00), or imprisoned for not more than one (1) year, or both. In addition, the Commissioner of Public Safety or his duly authorized designee, after conviction for a second or subsequent offense and upon receipt of the court abstract, shall suspend the driver's license and driving privileges of the person for a period of ninety (90) day.

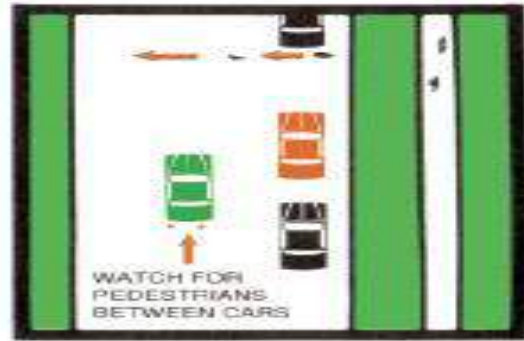
If the driver of any vehicle is witnessed by a law enforcement officer or the driver of a school bus to have violated this section and the identity of the driver of the vehicle is not otherwise apparent, it shall be a rebuttable inference that the person in whose name the vehicle is registered committed the violation. If charges are filed against multiple owners of a motor vehicle, only one (1) of the owners may be convicted and court costs may be assessed against only one (1) of the owners. If the vehicle that is involved in the violation is registered in the name of a rental or leasing company and the vehicle is rented or leased to another person at the time of the violation, the rental or leasing company may rebut the inference of guilt by providing the law enforcement officer or prosecuting authority with a copy of the rental or lease agreement in effect at the time of the violation.

Right-of-Way to Pedestrians

A motor vehicle, with its weight and speed, can be a very dangerous weapon. Because of this you must be extremely careful around pedestrians. As a driver, it is your responsibility.

You should keep two rules in mind at all times: (1) always keep your vehicle under control, and (2) never try to anticipate the movements of a pedestrian. As in other driving situations, caution is the key word.

Remember that a person walking across the street within a crosswalk, whether or not the crosswalk is marked, always has the right-of-way.



Blind people are the most vulnerable pedestrians, and you have a special obligation to protect them. If you see a blind person attempting to cross a street within a crosswalk or at an intersection, take every

precaution and extend every courtesy. If this means that you must come to a complete stop, then do so.

Your Responsibility to Children

You must use extreme caution wherever children are playing or gathering. This means not only around schools and playgrounds, but in neighborhoods, where their playground may be the streets. Watch carefully for children riding bicycles. Most have not been taught that the bicycle is a vehicle and must be ridden in a lawful manner.

§ 63-3-1309 Rights and duties of operator of motor vehicle with respect to bicycles

1. While passing a bicyclist on a roadway, a motorist shall leave a safe distance of not less than three (3) feet between his vehicle and the bicycle.
2. A motor vehicle operator may pass a bicycle traveling in the same direction in a non-passing zone with the duty to execute the pass only when it is safe to do so.
3. The operator of a vehicle that passes a bicyclist proceeding in the same direction may not make a right turn at any intersection or into any highway or driveway unless the turn can be made with reasonable safety.

Legal Speeds

Speed not only makes accidents more likely, it makes death in accidents more likely. Consider this fact: if you were to hit a stone wall while driving at only 40 miles an hour, the damage done to your car and you would be the same as though you had driven off a four story building. Even with such modern safeguards as seat belts and air bags, you would not be likely to walk away from such an accident.

Use your common sense when driving. Adjust your speed according to the situation and conditions. You must reduce your speed on curves, when approaching intersections, when on a narrow or twisting road, or when traffic is congested. If the weather is poor, slow down accordingly. Remember that the posted speeds are intended only for the most ideal conditions.

Speed Limits

AUTOMOBILES

	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM
Interstate (Rural)	70 mph	40 mph
U.S. Roads	55mph	30 mph
U.S. Roads, 4 Lane, if Posted	65 mph	40 mph
State Roads	55 mph	None
Natchez Trace Parkway	50 mph	None

TRUCKS OR TRUCK-TRAILER COMBINATION

Over 1/2 Ton

Interstate, if Posted	70 mph
All Other Roads	55 mph
Inclement Weather When Visibility is Bad (All Roads)	45 mph

1/2 Ton and Under (Loaded)

Same as Trucks

1/2 Ton (Unloaded)

Same as Automobiles

BUSES

Interstate (Rural)	70 mph	40 mph
U.S. Roads 55 mph 30 mph		
U.S. Roads, 4-Lane, if Posted	65 mph	40 mph
State Roads 55 mph None		
Inclement Weather When Visibility is Bad (All Roads)	45 mph	
SCHOOL BUS	45 mph	

SCHOOL ZONE

Inside City	15 mph
Outside City as	POSTED

Passing

PASSING ON THE RIGHT

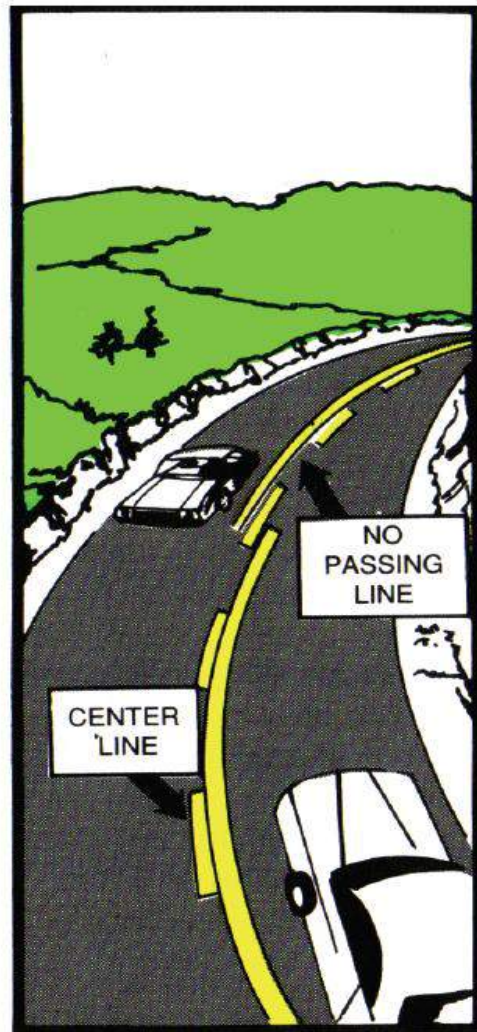
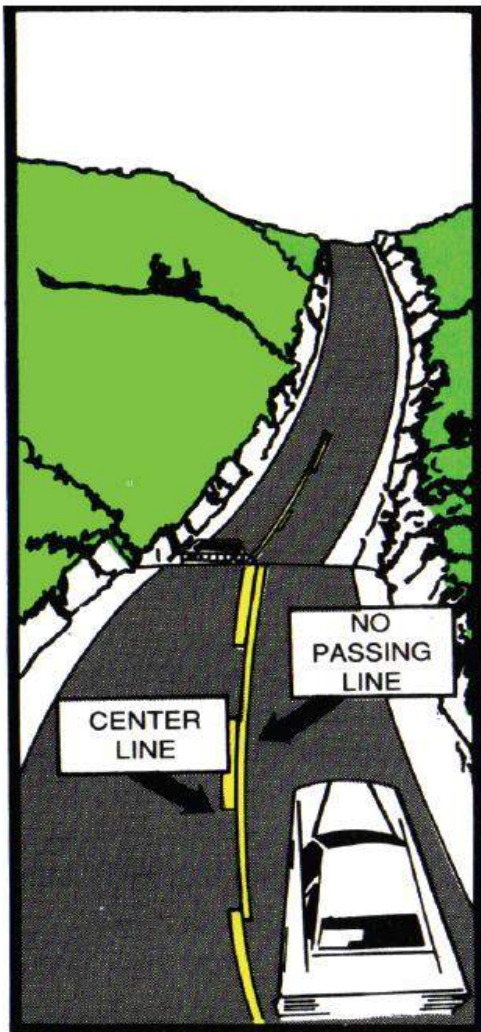
You may overtake and pass another vehicle on the right in the following situations:

1. When the vehicle you are passing is making or is about to make a left turn.
2. On a four-lane highway of adequate width where there are no obstructions or parked cars.

3. On any one-way highway of adequate width.

If you do pass on the right, do so only when conditions permit you to do so safely. Under no circumstances are you allowed to drive off the pavement or on the shoulder.

“NO PASSING WHEN YELLOW LINE IS IN YOUR LANE”



PASSING ON THE LEFT

When you decide to pass another vehicle on the left, be sure that the lane ahead is clear before you move. Do not tailgate a vehicle which you intend to pass. Drop back far enough so that you can see around it before you try to change lanes.

Before you attempt any move into the left lane, remember to signal your intentions. Check carefully, and then move cautiously, but quickly into the left lane. Do not pull back into the right lane until you are well past the other vehicle. Before moving back into the right lane, make sure that you can see the passed vehicle in your rearview mirror. Do not pass on hills, curves, or within 100 feet of bridges, viaducts, overpasses, railroad crossings, crosswalks, intersections, or any place where your view is obstructed in any way. And pass only when the weather is good, never when it is raining or sleeting.

It is illegal for you to move across the center line of a four-lane highway to pass another vehicle. It is

also illegal for you to pass when the yellow line is in your lane. Any double yellow line means that there is no passing in either direction.

When being passed on a two or three lane highway, you are required to keep to the right, and you should not increase your speed until the other car has completely passed you.

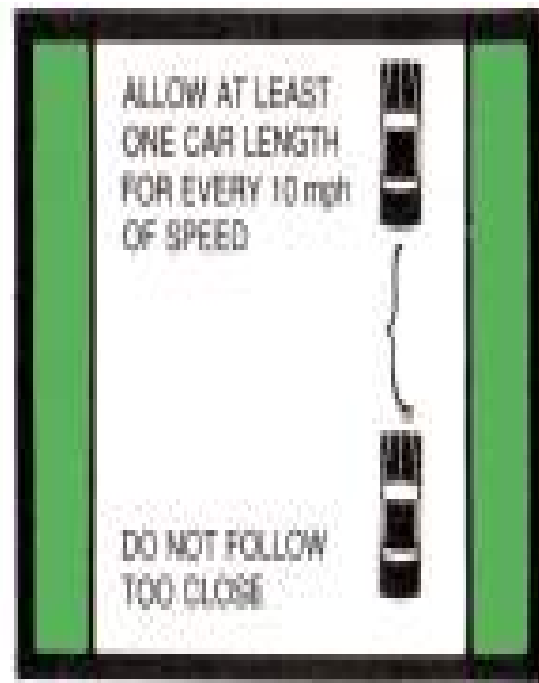
Most no-passing zones will be marked by a solid painted yellow line beside the dash stripes which are used for the center line marking, when a solid line is on your side of the center dash stripe, you must never cross the center line.

A double yellow line indicates "no passing" from either direction. Before you change lanes, make sure it is safe to do so. Look in the mirror, give a turn signal, and glance over your shoulder then change lanes if it is safe.

FOLLOWING ANOTHER VEHICLE

When you are following another vehicle, allow at least one car length between you for every ten miles per hour of speed. That way, you will have enough room to see around the vehicle ahead. When you are following a truck or bus, try to allow yourself even more room.

If you are taking part in a motorcade outside business or residential districts, you must allow enough space between cars ahead and behind you so that other vehicles may safely pull into those spaces. If you are driving in a motorcade such as a funeral, be careful not to tailgate. Try to measure your speed against the other vehicles so that everyone is moving along smoothly.



TURNING AROUND

At times you will have to turn your car in close quarters. To do so safely, start from the extreme right side of the road, give the correct signal, and turn the steering wheel sharply to the left while inching forward. When you have turned the wheels completely to the left, drive slowly forward to within a few inches of the left curb or edge of the road. Then turn sharply to the right while inching backward. When you have turned the wheels completely to the right, back slowly to within a few inches of the curb. Repeat these steps until you have completed the turn. Because this maneuver may be part of your driving test, you need to become familiar with it.



DRIVING AT NIGHT

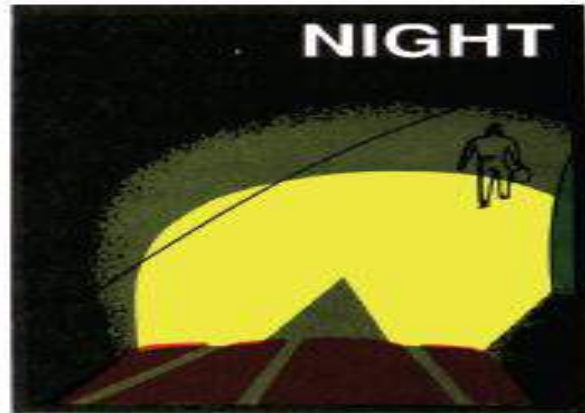
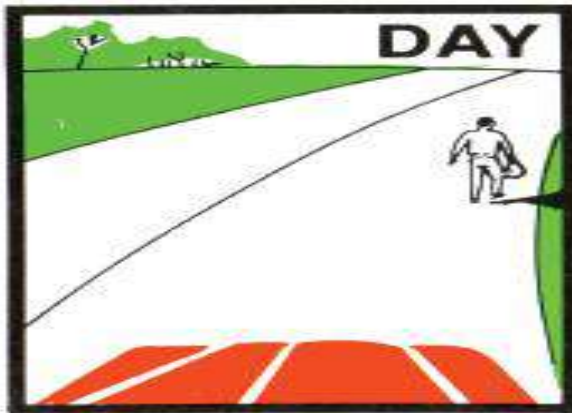
At night your visibility is greatly reduced. You cannot see as far or as clearly. This makes it necessary for you to reduce your speed accordingly and to exercise greater caution. Because you can only see as far as your lights can reach, you should always control your speed so that you can stop within the distance your lights illuminate.

The glare of oncoming headlights and off-street advertisements may be a serious distraction, but you should never attempt to compensate for this

difficulty by wearing darkened glasses. At night, or on dark days, the use of such glasses will only reduce your vision further.

If you meet a vehicle at night with bright or blinding headlights, the safest thing to do is to dim your lights and keep your eyes on the right side of the road.

You should not use only your parking lights when driving on highways. If you need lights, turn on your headlights.

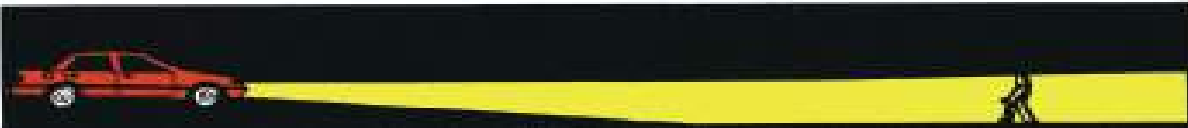


Using Your Headlights

You are required by law to use your low beams when you approach within 500 feet of an oncoming vehicle or when you are following within 500 feet of another vehicle (except when you are attempting to pass that vehicle). You should use your lights at

sunset and sunrise or at any other time when you cannot see clearly ahead for a distance of 500 feet.

When driving in fog, you should always remember to use your low beams. Using high beams will only reduce your visibility.



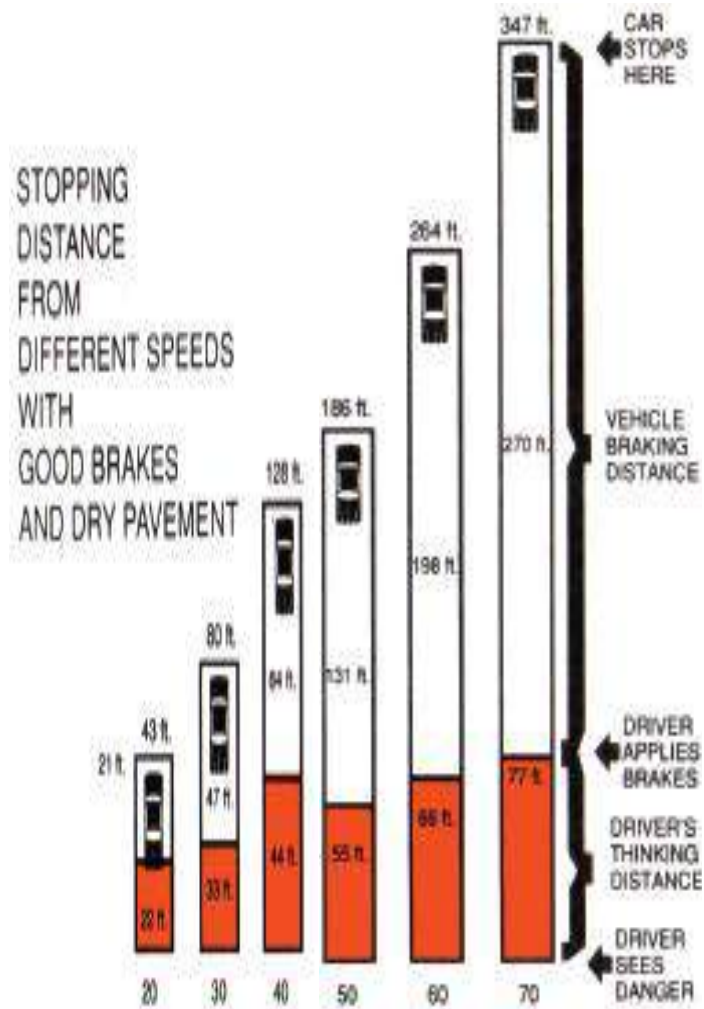
Use upper beam only when driving in the open country without other cars near. Even with the upper beam, speed should be lower than by day.



Always use lower beam when approaching other cars so as not to blind the driver. Also use lower beam when driving where there are street lights, in fog and when following another car.

Braking Distances

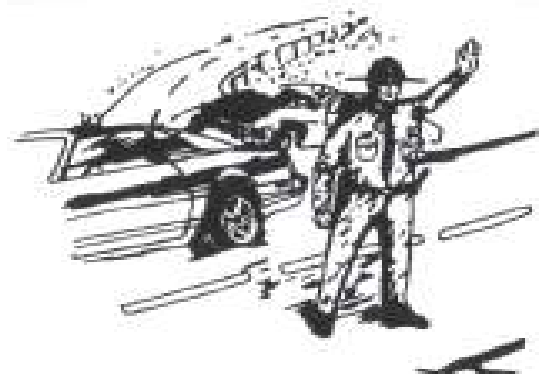
The chart below shows the shortest total stopping distances under ideal conditions. If the weather is bad, the road is slick, or if you are tired or intoxicated, then the distances will be drastically different.



Traffic Control

TRAFFIC OFFICERS

Traffic signs and signals are placed on the highways and streets to control the movement of traffic and to prevent accidents. Drivers and pedestrians must obey these signs and signals except when an officer is directing traffic. An officer will usually signal you to stop by holding up his hand, palm toward you, and then giving a long blast on his whistle. He will usually signal you to start or to continue by motioning with his hand and giving a series of short blasts on his whistle. At night an officer may signal with his flashlight.



Traffic Signals

A **RED LIGHT** means you must make a complete stop before entering the crosswalk or intersection. Remain stopped until the light turns green. Right turns are permitted on red after stopping, except where such turn is prohibited by a sign stated "No Right Turn on Red". When turning right on red, you must yield to any oncoming traffic.



A **YELLOW LIGHT** warns that the light is changing from green to red. Slow down and prepare to stop.



A **GREEN LIGHT** means you may go if it is safe to do so. You must first, however, yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other vehicles still within the intersection. If you are turning left, you must yield to all oncoming traffic.



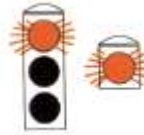
A **YELLOW ARROW** may appear after a green arrow. It means the same thing as the yellow light but applies only to the lane indicated by the green arrow.



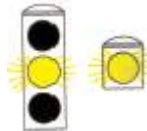
A **GREEN ARROW**, pointing right or left, means you may make a turn in the direction of the arrow, if you are in the proper lane for such a turn, after yielding the right-of-way to vehicles and pedestrians within the intersections.



A **RED FLASHING LIGHT** means you must stop completely then proceed with caution.



A **YELLOW FLASHING LIGHT** means you must slow down and exercise caution before proceeding through the intersection.



LANE DIRECTION CONTROL

When you see directional signals placed over individual lanes, you may drive only in the lane or

lanes which have a green light. You cannot enter or drive in any lane or lanes with a red light.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING



Leave the curb to cross street.



"Flashing" - don't leave curb but complete crossing.



Do not leave curb.

RAILROAD GRADE CROSSING

Always be especially alert at railroad crossings. The approaches to public railroad crossings are usually marked with warning signs and pavement markings. The crossings themselves are marked with one or more of the following devices.



The round railway advance warning

sign, yellow with black cross buck X and the letters RR, means a highway railroad crossing is ahead. In rural areas, this sign is normally posted from 500 to 900 feet in front of the tracks. It tells you to look, listen, and slow down because you may have to stop.

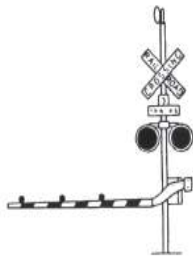
Pavement markings are used to warn and direct drivers and to regulate traffic. In front of railroad crossings, the pavement is marked with a large X and two Rs. A solid yellow line is used to prevent passing in advance of the crossing, and a white line is painted on each side of the track.



Railroad cross buck signs are posted at most crossings. If there is more than one track, the number of tracks is shown on a sign below the cross buck.



Flashing light signals are used with cross buck signs at many railroad crossings. **ALWAYS STOP** when the lights begin to flash because a train is coming and remain **STOPPED** until you can proceed with safety.

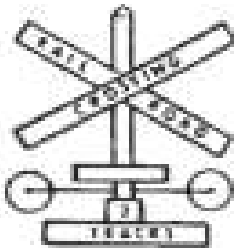


Gates are used with flashing light signals at certain crossings. **ALWAYS STOP** when the lights begin to flash before the gates lower across your side of the tracks. Remain **STOPPED** until the gates are raised and the lights stop flashing.

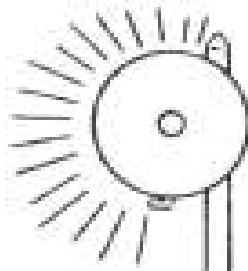
If you are driving a school bus carrying even one child, or a vehicle for hire carrying passengers, or a vehicle carrying explosives or flammable liquids, **YOU MUST STOP** within 50 to 10 feet of the outer rail of any crossing. After you come to a **complete stop**, you must check in both directions for any approaching train before you proceed. If a traffic officer directs you to proceed over any railroad crossing, however, follow his order immediately.

REMEMBER! You must always stop within 50 to 10 feet of the outer rail of any railroad crossing when you see a lowered crossing gate, a flashing electric signal, a posted **STOP** sign, a flag man giving you a signal, or a rapidly approaching train. You must then remain stopped until all the tracks are clear. It is against the law to drive around any lowered gates at a crossing.

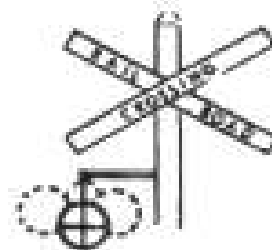
Use your common sense at any railroad crossing. Watch out for vehicles which must stop whether or not a train is coming. Do not shift gears as you drive across the tracks. Always check carefully for a second train following close on the first. Stay alert at all times and never be foolish enough to race a train. You will only lose once.



**Day-and-Night
Flasher**



Crossing Bell



**Swinging Disc and
Lights**

Road Signs

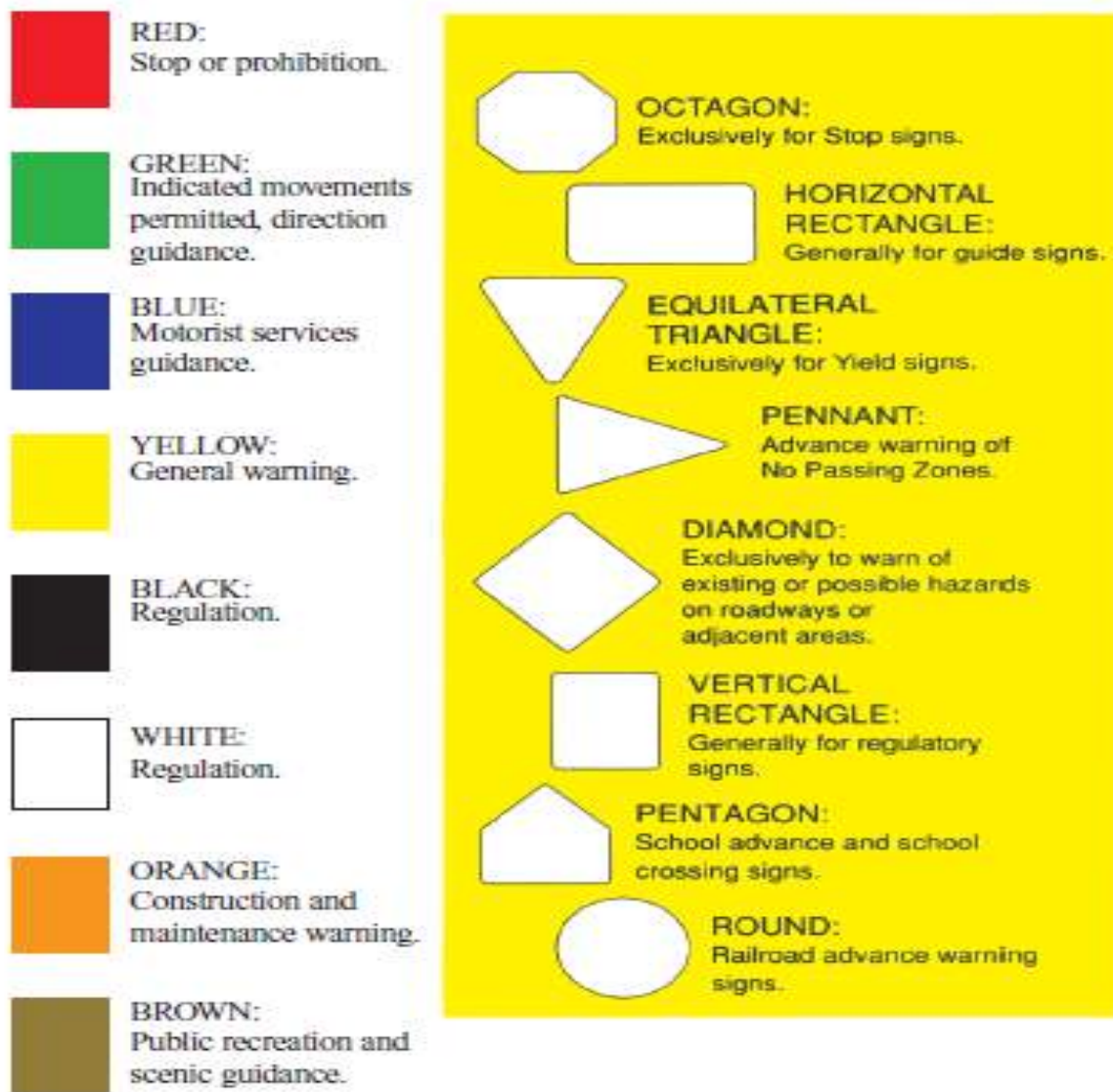
You must be able to recognize and obey traffic signs, signals, and road markings. At the present time, the United States is converting to an international style of traffic control devices, which uses pictures and symbols rather than written

messages. This change is taking place gradually, and at first the new signals will be accompanied by word messages until you become familiar with them.

Standard Shapes and Colors

There are eight shapes and eight colors of traffic signs. Each shape and each color has an exact meaning, so you must acquaint yourself with all of

them. Study the charts on the next few pages carefully.



Regulatory Signs



The **STOP** sign is the only sign with eight sides. It is placed at intersections and signals requiring you to come to a complete stop before entering the intersection. After stopping, you must yield to any traffic close enough to be a hazard. If there is a crosswalk at the intersection, you must stop before entering.



The **YIELD** right-of-way sign is an equilateral triangle. It means slow down so you can yield the right of way to vehicles on the roadway being entered.



The **NO PASSING ZONE** sign means you must not pass any vehicle going in the same direction as you are, while you are in this area. The new sign is shaped like a pennant.



The **DO NOT ENTER** sign marks a one-way roadway with traffic coming against you. You must not enter the one-way roadway at this point.



HANDICAP PARKING

ONLY - You are prohibited from parking in a handicap zone unless you have affixed to the lower left corner of your license plate a handicap parking decal. For information on how to obtain a handicap parking decal, you may contact your County Tax Collector's Office.



You must not make a left turn at this intersection.



You must not make a right turn at this intersection.



This sign prohibits turning around in an intersection, across the center of a street or a freeway median (center) strip.



Trucks are not allowed on this street or highway.



KEEP
RIGHT



KEEP
LEFT



LEFT TURN
ONLY



RIGHT TURN
ONLY

Warning Signs

Warning signs are black and yellow. They warn you of conditions ahead which require you to use

caution, slow down, and prepare to stop quickly.



You are nearing a railroad crossing.

Use caution.



Warns you that children must cross the street on their way to and from school and is sometimes located several blocks from the school.



Fifteen miles per hour when passing a school during school recess or while children are going to or leaving school during opening or closing hours.



You are on a two-way roadway and should keep to the right to avoid oncoming traffic.



The roadway is slippery if it is wet. Go slowly.



There is a "Stop" and "Go" traffic light ahead.



Warning that two roadways are joining and vehicles will have to blend or merge into one lane.



Left Lane Ends



Right Lane Ends



Divided Highway Ahead



Two-Way Traffic Ahead

GUIDE SIGNS

ROUTE MARKERS



Interstate Route



U.S. Route Marker



Mississippi Route

GUIDE SIGNS CONTINUED

AUXILLIARY MARKERS



DESTINATION AND DISTANCE MARKERS



These signs provide you with information about destinations, directions, and/or distances.

INTERSTATE AND EXPRESSWAY MARKERS



It tells you that you have reached a place where you can get off the interstate.

Use this lane if your destination is Hwy. 49 South or Gulfport.

Use this lane if your destination is Interstate 20 West.

SLOW MOVING VEHICLE SYMBOL



RECOGNIZE THIS SYMBOL

It identifies slow-moving vehicles (25 mph or less) and it can save your life. Watch for it by day and night.



BY DAY -

During daylight hours, you will see the yellow triangle in the center of the symbol. This triangle is visible for at least one-fifth mile.



BY NIGHT -

At night, the reflective red border of the symbol will glow in the headlights of an approaching vehicle.

Pavement Markings

The pavement on all main highways is marked to help you drive safely. These markings include center lines, lane lines, and directional arrows. Their

placement depends upon the type of highways and the particular traffic conditions. You must observe these markings at all times and comply with them.

LANE LINES, CENTER LINES, BARRIER LINES

A **broken white line** marks the edge of a lane where travel in the same direction is permitted on both sides of the line.



A **double solid white line** marks the edge of a traffic lane where travel in the same direction is permitted on both sides of the line, but crossing the line is forbidden.



A **broken yellow line** marks the left edge of a traffic lane where travel on the other side is moving in the opposite direction.



A **broken yellow line** immediately next to a solid yellow line separates traffic lanes moving in opposite directions. Passing with caution is permitted next to the broken line, but passing is forbidden next to the solid line.



A **solid white line** marks the edge of a traffic lane where traffic in the same direction is permitted on both sides of the line, but crossing the line is discouraged.



A **double solid yellow line** separates traffic lanes in opposite directions where passing is forbidden in both directions.



PAVEMENT DIRECTIONAL ARROWS

Pavement arrows mark the directions of traffic movement. When you approach intersections marked by directional arrows, look for the arrow which marks the lane you want to follow. If you get in the wrong lane, keep going in that lane until it is safe to turn off and get back on the correct street or highway. If you are on a lane marked by double-headed arrows, it means that the lane is for traffic going in the two directions indicated.

A straight arrow on the pavement means that you may only move straight ahead. You may not turn either right or left.



An arrow pointing to the left means that you may only turn to the left.



An arrow pointing to the right means that you may only turn to the right.



A two-headed arrow with one head pointing straight ahead and the other pointing to the left means that you may either proceed straight ahead or turn to the left.



A two-headed arrow with one head pointing straight ahead and the other pointing to the right means that you may either proceed straight ahead or turn to the right.



PAINTED CROSSWALKS

Painted crosswalks are placed at intersections and other locations where there is regular pedestrian traffic. You must approach crosswalks with care. And you must never stop your car on

any part of a crosswalk. Pedestrians using crosswalks should check in both directions before crossing the street.

Safe Driving Practices

Drivers cause 85% of all accidents

You do not become a good driver just through driving experience. You need to practice constantly while you drive, so that you can improve your reactions and skills. And if you understand and respect the traffic rules, you will become an even better driver.

Your emotional attitude can affect your driving. Acting out your emotions behind the wheel can easily lead to accidents. If you are preoccupied with personal problems, you may become too distracted to handle your vehicle. Domestic quarrels, financial concerns, or illness can make you temporarily accident prone. If you have just had an argument, you need time to cool off before you get behind the wheel. If you are worried, ill, angry, frightened, or grief-stricken, do yourself a favor and let someone else drive.

Over-confidence in your abilities or arrogance toward the rights of others can also make you a poor driving risk. You may drive like a bully or a law-breaker. Pause for a moment before you start your car. Remember that once on the road, the well-being of many other people will depend upon your calm and responsible behavior as a driver.

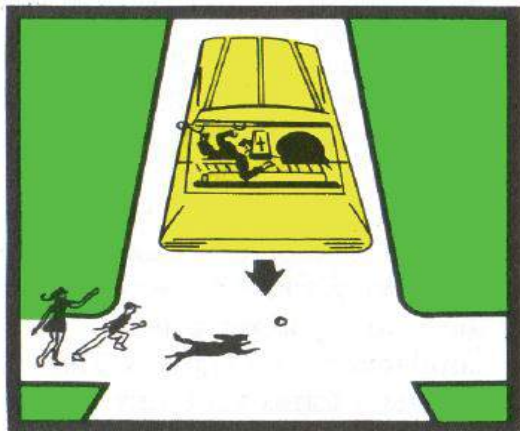
Once in control of an automobile's speed and bulk, many people undergo a personality change. They become careless or inconsiderate. As a well-adjusted adult, however, you will drive defensively and safely. Your thoughtful driving performance will reflect your maturity and understanding, and you will become an example, not a problem, for other drivers.

In the following section, you will find many tips on how to become a better driver. In the end, however, it is up to you and you alone to drive well.

Tips for Safer Driving

- **Adjust your seat to a comfortable position** so that you can reach the wheel and pedals easily and have good vision. Fasten your seat belt, and then adjust the rearview mirror so that you can see the roadway behind. If you have a left outside mirror, remember to adjust that too. Try to keep the front seat clear of objects which can fall off during a sudden maneuver or stop.
- **Drive with both hands on the wheel.** The ideal position for holding the wheel varies with each driver, but at least one third of the wheel should separate the hands. As a rule, the left hand should be on the wheel between 9:00 and 10:30, as on the face of the clock, with the right hand between 2 and 4. Never drive with your elbow resting in the window.
- **Never drive while wearing stereo headphones.** Never play your car stereo or radio loudly while driving. You will be unable to hear important warning signals such as whistles and sirens
- **Try not to smoke while driving.** Statistics prove that smokers have more accidents than non-smokers.
- **Keep your windshield and all windows clean** and free of obstruction (such as stickers) which might block your view.

- **Never ride with your foot resting on the clutch.** Learn to inch your car forward and backward by slipping the clutch. Never coast with the gears in neutral or with the clutch pedal pushed down except when you are changing gears.
- **When you back up,** turn your head so that you can see through the rear window. Never depend solely on the rearview mirror. Back up slowly. If you are not sure what is behind you, stop the vehicle, get out, and check. Never back into an intersection just to turn around. It is much safer and smarter to drive around the block.



Driving backward is one of the most dangerous maneuvers. It calls for great caution, patience, and constant observation. Don't back at high rates of speed.

- **If you develop a flat tire or have a blowout,** do not apply your brakes suddenly. Take your foot off the accelerator, and then apply the brakes slowly and cautiously. If you have plenty of stopping distance, let the vehicle stop by itself. If you run off the pavement for any reason, use the brakes lightly before returning to the roadway.
- **If your vehicle starts to skid,** turn the wheel in the direction of the skid, but only if you can do so without running off the road or hitting something. Never use the clutch when you are trying to stop a skid. Remember that braking suddenly will increase the skid.
- **Be especially careful when driving under rainy conditions.** Most drivers have the sense to pull off the road during a heavy downpour, but not everyone realizes that the opening minutes of rain or drizzle are actually the most dangerous. The first water to hit the roadway loosens the accumulated dirt and grease. This immediately forms a mixture which quickly coats the road with a dangerously slick film. So as soon as those raindrops begin to fall, slow down.
- **When there is water on the roadway,** reduce your speed. High speeds under such conditions can cause your vehicle to "hydroplane" out of control.
- **If you develop a flat tire or have a blowout,** do not apply your brakes suddenly. Take your foot off the accelerator, and then apply the brakes

AACCIDENT MAKERS@

- \$ Look for children, especially children playing with a ball. They will often act without thinking.
- \$ Look for signals that another vehicle may be pulling out into the flow of traffic.
- \$ Look for sudden turns and stops by other drivers.

- \$ Look for any movement at the street-side door of a parked car. Someone may be getting out on the wrong side of the car.
- \$ Look for people who are driving recklessly or illegally. Get out of their way if possible.

Equipment for Safe Driving

You may have the best intentions in the world, but if your vehicle is not properly maintained and equipped with the right safety devices, you will still be a dangerous driver. Check your vehicle carefully to make sure it conforms to the following standards.

BRAKES

Your vehicle must have a foot brake and a hand brake. The foot brake must be strong enough to stop the vehicle in 30 feet at a speed of 20 miles per hour. The hand brake must be strong enough to stop the vehicle in 55 feet at the same speed.

LIGHTS

Your vehicle must have two headlights (one for a motorcycle) and a tail light. With your headlights you should be able to see a person 200 feet ahead under good weather conditions.

You must dim your lights when an oncoming vehicle is within 500 feet of you and when you pull to within 500 feet of the vehicle ahead.

The tail light on your vehicle must be red and must be visible 500 feet behind you. You

WINDSHIELD WIPERS

For safe driving under poor weather conditions, you must have windshield wipers that work. Your windshield must be free of any signs or unofficial stickers. (Vehicles registered

Mississippi law does not require you to have a rear view mirror, but it is certainly a good idea to have one anyway. (If you drive a truck with a

TIRES

Your tires must have good tread and be free of breaks, cuts, and decay.

must also have a tag light which makes the numbers on your registration plate visible at 50 feet at night.

In addition to two headlights, your vehicle may have no more than one spotlight and no more than three auxiliary lights. It is against the law for any of these lights to be either red or blue, and at no time should you have more than four lights burning at once.

HORN

Your vehicle must have a horn which can be heard 200 feet away. It is against the law for you to have any siren or exhaust or spark whistle on your vehicle. Noise making devices are illegal.

MUFFLER

The muffler on your vehicle must be in good working order and must operate constantly. Straight, gutted, hollywood, glass-packed, or any other types of muffler which allow excessive noise or smoke are illegal. in this state may not have signs, posters, stickers or glassy material which causes a mirrored effect on the windows).

REAR VIEW MIRROR

body that blocks your view of the road behind, you are required by law to have a rear view mirror).

REGISTRATION PLATES

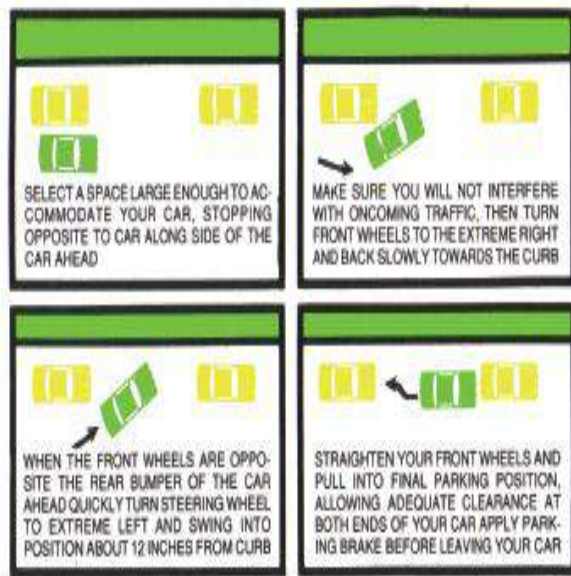
You are required by law to mount your Mississippi license plate on the rear of your vehicle. Trailer hitches, tag emblems, or any other decoration must not obscure any part of any letter or numeral on your tag.

You must purchase your plates in the county where you live. Contact your local Tax Collector for information about this purchase. For information on tags for large trucks, contact the State Tax

Commission in Jackson.

Parking

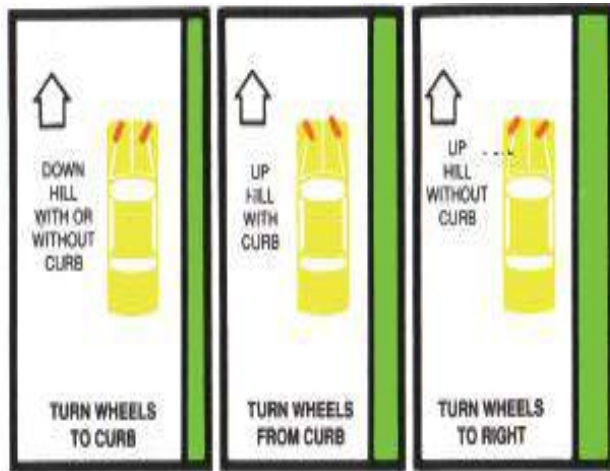
Not all accidents are caused by vehicles being driven. A parked vehicle is also capable of causing an accident that may result in loss of life or property. In general, when you park your vehicle, set the handbrake firmly, put the gears in either park or reverse, and remove the ignition key. Do not get out of your car on the street side unless you are absolutely sure that it is safe. If you unload your vehicle, do so from the curb side.



PARALLEL PARKING

In cities and towns, unless you are otherwise directed by local ordinances or law

enforcement officers, park your vehicle parallel and within twelve inches of the curb.



PARKING ON A HILL

To park safely on a hill, first give the proper signal, and then guide your vehicle within six inches of the curb in the parallel position. Next, cut your wheels sharply to the left and allow your vehicle to roll back slowly until the right front wheel is set against the curb. Then set the parking brake, turn off the ignition switch, and put the vehicle in low gear if your transmission is standard, and park, if it is automatic. If you have parked properly, the wheels should not be over twelve inches from the curb.

STARTING ON A HILL

First, remember to let the handbrake hold the vehicle until the engine starts the car moving. This will prevent your vehicle from rolling backwards. Shift into low gear, signal for a left turn, and look both to the right and to the left. If the way is clear, push down on the accelerator at the same time you release the clutch and the handbrake. This will allow you to move slowly into the street without racing the engine or letting the vehicle roll backwards.



PARKING ON A HIGHWAY

Outside of business or residential districts, you must park off the roadway. If possible, leave at least 20 feet for other vehicles to get by. Be sure that you are parked so that you can be seen from at least 200 feet in either direction. If you park your vehicle on a blind curve or in any other potentially dangerous place, you are breaking the law. You can be arrested, and your vehicle may be towed away. Of course, you will not be arrested if your vehicle breaks down, however, you should arrange to have it moved as quickly as possible. Be sure that you do everything you can to keep other cars from running into yours. If your vehicle breaks down at night, be sure to leave your parking lights or emergency flashers on, and if you have flares, use them also.

UNLAWFUL PARKING

Except when it is necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or traffic-control devices, you may not stop and leave your vehicle parked and unattended in any of the following places:

1. On a sidewalk;
2. In front of a public or private driveway;
3. Inside an intersection;
4. Within 10 feet of a fire hydrant;
5. On a crosswalk;
6. Within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection;
7. Within 30 feet of the approach to any traffic control device;
8. Within 15 feet of the nearest rail of any railroad crossing;
9. Within 20 feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station, or within 75 feet if it is so posted;
10. Alongside any obstruction when your parking would only add to traffic congestion;
11. On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge of the road or the curb;
12. On any bridge or elevated structure;
13. In any highway underpass;
14. At any place where traffic signs prohibit stopping.

LEAVING A PARKING SPACE

The chief responsibility for avoiding a wreck lies with the driver who is leaving a parking space. When you prepare to pull out of a parking space, you should never assume that other drivers understand your intentions. Be certain that the way is clear, that no pedestrians are attempting to cross in front or behind your vehicle, and that you are using the proper signals. When pulling out into traffic from a parallel parking position, look back, signal for a left turn, and yield to approaching traffic. When backing out from a diagonal or straight-in position, be sure that the way is clear, look over your shoulder while backing, and yield to approaching traffic. Never rely on your rearview mirror alone. Turn around and look.

When entering an interstate, obey the posted ramp speed. As you reach the end of the ramp, increase your speed in the acceleration lane until you reach cruising speed. Yield to any approaching vehicles and never turn suddenly into the main flow of traffic. First, give the proper signal, and then slowly merge into the traffic. Once you are moving along with the main stream of traffic, switch off your turn signal.

Use the proper lane at all times. The left lane is considered the "fast" lane and is to be used by through traffic. If there is a center lane, you may use it only for passing.

Interstate Highway Driving

Driving on interstate highways requires special consideration. The higher speeds will generate more heat for your engine. Check your oil and water levels before setting out, and check them frequently thereafter. Check your tires for good tread and proper inflation. Stop occasionally along the way for brief rest periods.

The right lane is for slower traffic, vehicles traveling only short distances, and vehicles preparing to exit. If you are in the right lane, make adjustments when other vehicles enter the interstate. Merge left when possible so that vehicles may enter safely.

During rush hours, the center lane may be used as a through lane. The speed limit for interstate driving is 70 miles per hour for both day and night. Minimum speeds vary but are always posted. The speed limit is for ideal road and weather conditions, so adjust your speed according to circumstances. Of course, you can drive at less than the legal limit, but not less

You may pass either on the left or on the right. Do not cut in too soon. Take it slow. Remember that passing large trucks presents a special problem. Because differences in air pressure inside and outside the truck cab can create a "deaf spot," the truck driver may not hear your horn. Never drive alongside any vehicle longer than it takes you to pass. All vehicles should drive in the right lane except when passing. When being passed, do not speed up.

Tailgating is extremely dangerous at all times. On the interstate it can be fatal. If you are driving at 55 MPH, stay at least 400 feet from the vehicle ahead. The reflector posts on the right shoulder of the highway are usually 200 feet apart, so you can use them as guides. Do not follow the same vehicle or group of vehicles for long periods. You may become too relaxed and lose your concentration.

If you are involved in an accident on the

than the posted minimum speed limit. High speeds will wear out your tires more quickly and reduce your gas mileage. Vary your speed when on a long trip. It will break the monotony and keep you more alert.

Whenever you change lanes, check your rearview and side mirrors and check your blind spot for vehicles beside and behind you. Then signal your intentions clearly. When you are sure it is safe, move into the lane you wish to drive in. Follow the same steps when returning to your former lane. Remember to switch off your turn signal.

interstate, move your vehicle off the pavement onto the right shoulder, or as far to the right as is practical. Never get out of your vehicle into the main stream of traffic. At night, leave your lights on and use whatever warning devices (flares, etc.) you may have as well.

If you have a breakdown, follow the same procedures. In addition, raise the hood of your vehicle and tie a white handkerchief or piece of cloth on the antenna or another prominent place so that other drivers will see that you need help. Do not stand beside your vehicle. And do not walk along the interstate or attempt to hitchhike. Stay inside. Lock the doors. Then wait for reliable help. It will be there soon.

When you decide to leave the interstate, get into the right lane at least one-quarter mile from your exit.

Check your rearview mirror for vehicles beside and behind you. Then signal your intentions. Do not slow down until you have safely moved into the deceleration lane. Then reduce your speed to the posted limit and turn off your signal. If you take the wrong exit, do

not stop, continue on off the exit. If you miss your exit, do not stop and back up, continue on to the next exit. To avoid going to sleep at the wheel, do not stare. Keep your eyes moving. Keep the interior of your car as cool as possible and take a break out of the car every 100 miles.

CHECK YOUR BLIND SPOTS

1. Driver of front car cannot see the other two cars inside mirror.
2. If traffic conditions permit, do not cruise in blind spot of vehicle ahead of you. (See diagram.)

Interchanges

Below, you will find diagrams showing the correct way to use the four principal types of interstate interchanges. All ramps and exits are normally marked quite clearly. But if you are not sure about how to enter the interstate, pull off of the road and stop and check for correct route. Do not proceed until you are sure how to take the ramp you want.

The Safe Driver

If you have come this far in the Mississippi Driver's Manual, you should know how to drive safely and lawfully. You have become familiar with the traffic rules and regulations in Mississippi, and you have studied ways to become the safest possible driver. But knowing how to do something, and doing it, is often two very different things. You cannot, for example, drive safely if you cannot think clearly. All the knowledge and all the good intentions in the

world will not help you if your thinking is impaired. In the next few pages you will be warned about ways in which your thinking can become impaired. Take these warnings to heart.

Remember, the first step to safe driving is clear thinking!

ALCOHOL & THE DRIVER

Alcohol is the driver's greatest enemy. Alcohol cannot make you smarter, smoother, sexier, or more self-confident. All it can make you is drunk. And when you get behind the wheel drunk, it can make you extremely dangerous. Tests show that even two beers can markedly decrease your reflexes. If your reactions slow down only a half-second, and you need to hit the brakes at 55 MPH, your vehicle will travel another 44 feet before stopping. That additional distance could be the difference between life and death.

Alcohol can also affect your temperament and judgment. When you are drunk, you take foolish chances and ignore the rights and safety of others. Tests show that even a small amount of alcohol can change your behavior. So, if you drive, do not drink. And if you drink, do not drive. Take a cab. Catch a bus. Get a friend to take you home.

Be a good friend yourself. Never let a drinker get behind the wheel. Give your friend a safe drive home.

MARIJUANA & THE DRIVER

Marijuana, like alcohol, only slows down your reflexes, impairs your judgment, and makes you very dangerous when you drive. Its possession and use is a crime in Mississippi. Driving under the influence is not only foolish, risky and self-destructive, it is against the law.

If you are operating your vehicle and you have one gram to one ounce of marijuana on your person, or a passenger in your vehicle is carrying that amount, or you are keeping that amount somewhere in your vehicle, you are guilty of a misdemeanor. You can receive a sentence of up to 90 days in jail and can be fined up to \$1000.00.

If you are tempted to drive while under the influence of alcohol, marijuana, or any other intoxicating substance, you should remember that:

The People of Mississippi Will Not Tolerate Drunk Driving!

Implied Consent

When you operate a motor vehicle in the state of Mississippi, you are giving your implied consent to testing for the presence of intoxicating substances in your body. If a law enforcement officer has good reason to suspect that you are operating your vehicle under the influence of an intoxicating substance, he can request you to take a breath or chemical test. You have the right to refuse this request. If you refuse, you must surrender your driver's license to the officer on the spot. The officer will give you an official receipt for your license and will then forward it, together with his sworn report, to the Commissioner of Public Safety, who will review your case. The receipt will serve as your temporary license for 45 days.

If you submit to the test and your blood is found to contain .08% or more by weight volume of alcohol (.02% for anyone under the age of 21), you

1st Offense: 90 day suspension; may be reduced to 30 days with hardship order from Circuit Court having original jurisdiction or circuit court of that person's county of residence. Shall be fined \$250.00. Must complete an alcohol safety education program.

2nd Offense Within 5 Years: 1 year suspension; may be reduced to 6 months upon completion of in-

will be considered to be under the influence of intoxicating liquor. The officer will demand your license and will give you a receipt for it. This receipt will serve as a valid permit to drive for a period of 30 days.

Zero Tolerance for Minors - Under 21 Years Old

Any driver under the age of 21 who registers a blood alcohol content of .02% or greater but less than .08% falls under the guidelines of zero tolerance.

Penalties for Zero Tolerance Convictions

depth diagnostic assessment program approved by the Department of Mental Health. Fine up to \$500.00.

3rd or Subsequent Offense Within 5 Years: Suspended until age of 21 or for 2 years, whichever is greater. Fine up to \$1,000.00.

Mississippi Implied Consent Law Penalties

DUI - FIRST CONVICTION; FINE - \$250-\$1000; **SUSPENSION** - One year/90 days if MAESP is completed/not less than 30 days with Circuit Court ordered hardship; **JAIL TERM** - Up to 48 hours.

DUI - SECOND CONVICTION (within five years); FINE - \$600-\$1000; **SUSPENSION** - Two years/can be reduced to one year upon successful completion of alcohol and/or drug abuse treatment; **JAIL TERM** - Not less than 10 days.

DUI - THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT CONVICTION (within five years); FELONY, FINE - \$2000 - \$5000; SUSPENSION - Five years/can be reduced to three years upon successful completion of alcohol and/or drug abuse treatment; JAIL TERM - Minimum of 1 year to 5 years Mississippi Department of Corrections. Vehicle subject to forfeiture law.

DUI CONVICTION WITH REFUSAL TO TAKE TEST; FINE - Same as first, second, or subsequent; SUSPENSION - First Refusal - 90 day Administrative suspension in addition to any suspension upon conviction of Section 63-11-30; Second or Subsequent Refusal - A one year administrative suspension in addition to any suspension upon conviction of Section 63-11-30. JAIL TERM - Same as first, second, or subsequent.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED BECAUSE OF DUI (Section 63-11-40); FINE - \$200-\$500; SUSPENSION - Six months added to original suspension; JAIL TERM - 48 hours to six months.

CONVICTION OF NEGLIGENT OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE CAUSING SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH (FELONY); FINE; SUSPENSION; JAIL TERM - Up to 25 years in a Mississippi Department of Corrections facility.

Protecting Your License

Your license represents your privilege to drive in Mississippi. Protect this privilege by driving safely and lawfully. If you disobey the laws of the state, or if you prove yourself unable to drive in accordance with those laws, your license may be taken away by the Commissioner of Public Safety.

SUSPENSION OF LICENSE

The Commissioner of Public Safety is authorized to suspend your license without a preliminary hearing if public records or other sufficient evidence indicate that:

2. You have been involved, as a driver, in any accident resulting in the death or personal injury of another person or in serious property damage.
3. You are a habitually reckless or negligent driver.
4. You have been so frequently convicted of serious traffic violations that your behavior shows a complete disrespect for the law and for the safety of others.
5. You are mentally or physically incompetent to drive.
6. You have allowed a fraudulent use of your license.

1. You have committed an offense for which mandatory revocation of license is required upon conviction.

7. You have committed an offense in another state which would, in Mississippi, have resulted in the suspension or revocation of your license.
8. Failure to pay child support.

REVOCATION OF LICENSE

The Commissioner *must* take away your license for a period of one year if:

1. You are convicted of manslaughter or negligent homicide resulting from a driving accident.
2. You are convicted of any felony in which you used a motor vehicle.
3. You are convicted of driving while under the influence of any intoxicating liquor or drug. (See DUI information in preceding section.)
4. You fail to stop and render aid as required under the laws of this state in event of a motor vehicle accident resulting in the death or injury of another.
 2. The privilege to drive shall be revoked for anyone having two (2) DUI convictions within any five (5) year period; such revocation shall be for two (2) years.
 3. The license of any person convicted of three DUI charges within any five (5) year period shall be revoked for five (5) years.
 4. The privilege to drive shall be revoked for six (6) months for any conviction under the Uniformed Controlled Substance Act.
 5. The license of anyone who has obtained a Mississippi driver's license while under suspension in another state shall be suspended until the out-of-state suspension is cleared.

5. You are convicted of perjury or making any false oath or statement to the department concerning your ownership or operation of a motor vehicle.

6. Conviction of three reckless driving charges within a 12-month period.

If you put up bail and fail to appear for trial, the court can try you in your absence.

DRIVER IMPROVEMENT: POLICIES & PROCEDURES

The following actions can be taken by the Department of Public Safety to force you to drive safely and lawfully.

1. A person's privilege to drive shall be revoked on the first DUI conviction for one year. The revocation may be reduced to 90 days by completion of the MASEP school or reinstatement by order of court.
6. The privilege to drive shall be suspended for anyone convicted of DWI or DUI in another state.
7. If a breath test is refused, a person's license shall be revoked for a period of 90 days.
8. Anyone suspended where such person's license was deposited in lieu of bond must show a corrected court abstract from the judge before being reinstated.
9. Anyone suspended, where such person failed to appear in court, must show a corrected court abstract from the judge before being reinstated.

The Fees for Reinstating Suspended or Revoked Driving Privileges

If your driving privileges were suspended or revoked under the provisions of the Mississippi Implied Consent Law or as a result of a conviction of a violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Law, you must pay a reinstatement fee of \$100.00.

If your driving privileges were suspended for a bad check, you must pay a reinstatement fee of \$10.00.

The reinstatement fee of all other suspensions is \$25.00.

You must pay by cashier's check, certified check, or money order.

DO NOT SEND CASH OR A PERSONAL CHECK.

Make payable to:

Department of Public Safety

and mail to

P.O. Box 958,

Jackson, MS 39205.

If suspension is for a DUI or unpaid tickets, mail to Driver Improvement Branch; if suspension is for an accident, mail to Safety Responsibility Branch, or if suspension is for a bad check, mail to Driver Services Bureau.

Legal Procedures & Driver Responsibilities

Your Mississippi driver's license represents your privilege to drive in the state of Mississippi. It also represents your pledge to drive safely and in accordance with the laws of

the state. When you accept your license, you accept the legal responsibilities that go with it. This section will discuss those responsibilities and will explain to you how to honor them.

1. Stop at once and help anyone who has been injured.

2. Report immediately to the proper law enforcement authorities if the accident involves injury, death, or apparent property damage exceeding \$500.00.

3. Give all other parties involved in the accident your name and address. Show them your driver's license and your vehicle's license plate. For your own protection, be sure to get the same information from them.

When the officer arrives at the scene, you must show Proof of Insurance and Insurance Policy number.

Remember: Whether or not you are at fault in an accident, you must report it. If you are injured so badly that you cannot make an immediate report, any one of your passengers may do so. These reports are confidential and cannot be used against you in court. They are used to chart accident trends so that measures can be taken to prevent them.

Remember, the safety value of seat belts is measured by their use.

DON'T BE FOUND DEAD SITTING ON YOUR SEAT BELT!

DRIVING INSURANCE AND THE SAFETY RESPONSIBILITY ACT

The Safety Responsibility Act was passed by the Legislature to guarantee that all Mississippi licensed drivers take financial responsibility for accidents they may cause. The provisions of this act become effective in any accident which results either in death, personal injury, or in a minimum of \$1000.00 property damages.

The Safety Responsibility Act is intended to safeguard the interests of the safe, responsible driver, while hitting hard at those who drive recklessly and irresponsibly.

Within 60 days of an accident, if you do not furnish proof of your ability to pay any damages incurred by one of the following methods, your driving privilege will be placed

in severe jeopardy:

1. Show that you had an adequate insurance policy in effect at the time of the accident.
2. Show that you have either a certificate of deposit or securities valuing \$15,000.00.
3. Show that you have a certificate of Self-insurance supplemented by an agreement to pay the same judgments in the same amounts as you would have had to pay under an owner's insurance policy. A self-insurer must own a fleet of more than 25 vehicles.

4. Deposit cash, or a negotiable security, or a corporate surety bond in an amount judged sufficient by the department to pay all damages.

5. Present a release of liability, or a final

adjudication of non-liability for damages, or show payment of your damages by the other party.

For future contingencies, you must file a certificate of insurance (Form SR-22) showing that you have adequate coverage for liability. This coverage must be provided by a liability insurance company licensed in Mississippi and must remain in effect for a period of three years from the date of the accident.

Insurance limits for such coverage are at least \$5000.00 for property damage,

\$10,000.00 for any one person injured or killed, and \$20,000.00 for any two persons injured or killed.

Every motor vehicle operated in this state shall have an insurance card maintained in the vehicle as proof of liability insurance that is in compliance with the liability limits required above. The insured parties shall be responsible for maintaining the insurance card in each vehicle.

Motor Vehicle Inspection

If you have a car, truck, van, semi-trailer, pole trailer, house trailer, mobile home, or motor driven cycle registered in Mississippi, you must have it officially inspected before you can put it on the road. This inspection has to be carried out at a site approved by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety. The inspection costs \$5.00. No duplicate stickers can be issued. If your sticker, is lost, stolen, or mutilated, your vehicle must be re-inspected and you must pay another \$5.00.

If the gross weight of your trailer, semi-trailer, pole trailer, house trailer, or mobile home is 3,000 pounds or less when combined with any load carried on or in it, you do not need to have it inspected. A trailer vehicle is considered separate and is inspected separately. A fee of \$5.00 must be paid for each vehicle inspected.

You do not have to submit any vehicle bearing ***Factory Delivery License Plates*** or current ***Intransigent License Plates*** for inspection.

This inspection must be done every year. You must display the official sticker on the lower left corner of your windshield or in a position which is visible from the outside.

LOCATION OF STATIONS

Motor vehicle inspections are performed by various state-approved private businesses. To locate an inspection station in your local area, it is suggested that you contact different auto mechanic shops, car dealers, and area tire stores.

Certificate of Title

Every vehicle must have a certificate of title. The fee is \$5.00. Title applications are furnished by new and used car dealers for the vehicles they sell. Voluntary title applications must be supported by a bill of sale and two year=s tag receipts. If you are bringing a vehicle into Mississippi, you need only present your out-of-state title to apply

(you must obtain a Mississippi tag within 30 days). All licensed motor vehicle dealers and all county tax collectors must be qualified, by law, to accept title applications. Banks, finance companies, and other financial institutions may also qualify as designated agents by the Mississippi State Tax Commission.

Safety Tips for Cellular Phone

As the use of cellular communications increase at a rapid rate across the United States, the need for user education must be addressed. The Mississippi Highway Patrol discourages the use of a handheld telephone while operating a motor vehicle, but recognizes the need to offer the following useful safety tips for those

2. WHEN CONVENIENT, DIAL ONLY WHEN STOPPED at traffic lights, intersections, etc.

3. USE YOUR PHONE'S MEMORY features or speed dial.

4. MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS. No note taking or list making while driving.

5. ASSURE CORRECT PLACEMENT OF YOUR PHONE- Easy to see, easy to reach.

6. BE KNOWLEDGEABLE. Read your instructions manual.

who choose to use a cellular phone while driving.

1. KEEP YOUR HANDS ON THE WHEEL and eyes on the road. Use a hands-free speaker.

phone to report an emergency traffic situation to the Mississippi Highway Patrol. This is a toll free call and will be answered by the dispatcher. Be prepared to state your emergency and provide the location (highway and/or mile marker) where assistance is needed. Only actual emergencies should be reported to ***HP**.

**CELLULAR SAFETY MEANS
SAFE DRIVING FIRST!!**

Motorists may dial ***HP (*47)** on a cellular

seat designed for motor vehicle use.

If a child weighs over 60 pounds and is under the age of 4, the child can use a regular seatbelt. It is also recommended a child always be in the backseat.

When worn, a seat belt does make your trip safer, and it does help save lives!

Safety Belts and Child Restraints are Required

Mississippi law requires all front seat passengers to wear safety belts when driving or traveling in a motor vehicle on city streets, country roads, and state and federal highways within the State of Mississippi.

Mississippi law also requires children up to four years of age to be secured in a child safety seat; and any child who is at least 4 years of age, but under 8 years of age, regardless of the seat that child occupies, shall wear a properly fastened safety seat belt system. The number of children who are seriously injured or killed in motor vehicle crashes throughout the United States is alarming. The Mississippi Highway Patrol reminds drivers that it is their responsibility to buckle up children every time they ride.

Violators of these two laws can be fined.

It is recommended that:

§ The driver and all passengers in the vehicle be buckled up;

§ Children weighing up to 20 pounds be transported in a child safety seat facing backward;

§ Children ranging in weight from 20 to 40 pounds be transported in a child safety seat facing forward; and

§ Children weighing 40 to 60 pounds use a booster

Share the Road Safely with Large Vehicles

BEWARE OF BLIND SPOTS

Large vehicles have limitations which motorists may not be aware of. The most significant of these are blind spots - areas around the oversized vehicle where the driver's ability to see and react to other vehicles is restricted. To avoid being in the driver's rear blind spot, don't follow the vehicle too closely. Instead, position your vehicle so that the professional driver can see your vehicle in his side mirrors. Remember, if you can't see the side mirrors on the front of the oversized vehicle you are following, the driver cannot see you.

FOLLOWING SAFELY

When following a large vehicle at night, always dim your headlights. Bright lights from the vehicle behind can blind the driver when they reflect off the vehicle's large side mirrors.

If you are stopped behind a large vehicle on an upgrade, leave additional space in case the vehicle drifts backwards slightly when it starts to move. Remember to keep to the left in your lane so the driver can see that you're stopped behind the vehicle.

An average tractor-trailer weighs approximately 80,000 pounds, and generally, it takes longer to stop an oversized vehicle. However, at highway speeds or on wet roads, these vehicles may have better traction and stability allowing them to stop more quickly. A vehicle following too closely may not be able to stop quick enough to avoid a rear-end collision.

PASSING

When passing a large vehicle, first check to your front and rear, and move into the passing lane only if it is clear and while in a legal passing zone.

On a level highway, it only takes 3 to 5 seconds longer to pass a large vehicle than a car.

On an upgrade, it is usually easier to pass a large vehicle, as it often loses speed. While on a downgrade, the large vehicle's momentum will cause it to go faster, so you may need to increase your speed. Before returning to the lane of the vehicle you have passed, be sure to move back only when you can see the front wheels of the truck meeting the pavement in your rear-view mirror. Remember to maintain your speed once you have completed the passing maneuver.

When a large vehicle passes you, you can help the driver by keeping to the far side of your lane. In any event, don't speed up when an oversized vehicle is passing you.

When you meet a large vehicle coming from the opposite direction, keep as far to the right as possible to avoid a sideswipe crash and reduce the wind turbulence. Remember that the wind turbulence pushes the vehicles apart, it does not pull them together.

RIGHT TURNS

Large vehicles require more space to make a turn and need to swing to the left of the lane when preparing to make a right turn. To avoid a crash, don't pass a truck on the right if there is a possibility that it might be making

a right turn.

Regulations for Class D License

Most of the driving rules and regulations covered so far in this manual have been meant for the ordinary driver. But commercial drivers must be familiar with many additional rules and regulations, especially those concerning trucks. If you intend to drive a commercial vehicle, you should study this section carefully. As a driver of a commercial vehicle, your responsibilities are much greater than those of any ordinary driver.

EQUIPMENT

All reflectors on your truck must show a red color on the rear and the side nearest the rear. You need two red reflectors on the rear of the truck. Any reflector mounted on the vehicle should reflect an amber color on the front and the side nearest the front of the trailer.

Every truck must be equipped with a red tail light.

Your clearance and side-marker lamps must, when lighted, display an amber color on or near the trailer's front, and must, when lighted, display a red color on or near the rear.

A stop light is required on all trucks. It may be incorporated with the tail lamp. When you apply the foot brake, this light must show a red or amber color.

If your truck is designed or loaded so that arm signals cannot be seen by drivers to the rear, you must have a mechanical or electrical device for giving such signals.

Your truck's muffler must be in good working condition. You may not use a muffler cutout, bypass, or any similar device.

Any vehicle which is designed or loaded so that the driver's rear view is obstructed must have a side mirror located so that the driver can see at least 200 feet to the rear.

All lights and reflectors must be clean and in working order and be visible 500 feet to the rear of your truck.

SAFETY AND WARNING DEVICES

If you operate a bus or truck at night, you must carry at least three flares, fuses, electric flares, or reflectors. If your vehicle becomes disabled, place one of these warning devices approximately 100 feet ahead of your location, a second 100 feet to the rear, and a third at the roadway side of the vehicle.

In daylight hours, you should use red flags in these same positions.

If you carry explosives or flammables, such as gas or oil, you must carry at least three electric flares, lanterns, or large flares for emergencies. Under no circumstances may you use any type of burning flares or fuses.

If you carry explosives or flammables, you must also have two or more fire extinguishers which should be in good working condition, completely filled, and positioned so that you can reach them quickly in an emergency.

SIZE REGULATIONS

The total outside width of any vehicle, including the load being carried on that vehicle, cannot exceed 8- 2 feet. The total outside width of a farm tractor shall not exceed 10 feet.

Under no conditions may any vehicle, loaded or unloaded, exceed a total height of 13-1/2 feet. This height is permitted *only* if no

Under normal conditions, the load on the rear of a vehicle transporting forest or agricultural products in their natural state can project no more than 28 feet beyond the vehicle's rear axle. However, if these products cannot be shortened without making them useless for their intended purpose (such as utility poles), a special permit may be obtained from the Mississippi Department of Transportation allowing their transportation. In any case, vehicles with such projecting loads may legally operate only during daylight hours, and only with the load safely secured by at least 2 chains or 2 wire ropes, 1 positioned behind the front bolster and 1 in front of the back bolster.

No more than 2 vehicles in any combination may be towed by saddle mounts, and no more than 1 motor vehicle may be towed by tow-bar.

The load on any vehicle operated alone, or

company, corporation, local government, government agency, or the State of Mississippi has to raise, alter, reconstruct, or change in any way any underpass, trestle, wire, pole, or any other structure. If your vehicle exceeds 12-1/2 feet in height, then either you or the vehicle's owner will be held responsible for any damage caused by the excess height.

No single vehicle, loaded or unloaded, may have an overall length in excess of 40 feet, including both front and rear bumpers.

No semi-trailer operating in a truck tractor-semi-trailer combination and no trailer drawn by a motor vehicle may have an overall length in excess of 50 feet.

No semi-trailer or trailer operating in a truck-semi-trailer-trailer combination and no trailer operating in a double trailer combination drawn by a motor vehicle may have an overall length in excess of 30 feet.

No semi-trailer or trailer combinations in excess of 2 units, excluding the towing vehicle, will be allowed to operate on Mississippi highways.

with the load on the front unit of any combination of vehicles, must not extend more than 3 feet beyond the front wheels of the vehicle or the front bumper.

For regulations governing gross weights of vehicles and loads, contact the nearest office of The Mississippi Department of Transportation.

EXEMPTIONS TO SIZE & WEIGHT REGULATIONS

Farm machinery is exempt from size, weight, and height limitations when operated during daylight hours on any state highway within 50 miles of the point of origin. Farm machinery cannot be moved on interstate highways. Such machinery, or the vehicle towing it, must be equipped with front and rear reflector lights and a blinking light clearly

visible from the front and rear.

If you need to move a load which exceeds any size or weight limitation, you may request a permit to do so from the:

Mississippi Department of
Transportation
Maintenance Division Permit Section
P.O. Box 1850
Jackson, MS 39205
601-359-1148

WEIGH STATIONS

You will find weigh stations located on most main highways. You must pull your truck into these stations so that it can be weighed to determine if it is overloaded.

PROHIBITIONS ON SPILLING

You may not put any vehicle on the road unless it is built or loaded so that none of the load can spill, shift, leak, or in any way escape onto the roadway. Dropping sand onto the roadway to secure traction is permitted. Authorized vehicles spraying water or any other substance to clean the roadway are

exempt from this regulation.

If you are driving a truck, trailer, or any other open-topped vehicle on a state, U.S., or interstate highway in Mississippi, and are carrying sand, dirt, gravel, rocks, or any similar material, you must use a tarpaulin, canvas, or other top to cover the load. (You may dispense with this cover only if the load does not reach within 6 inches of the top of the bed.) You must also use four 6-inch sideboards, one attached to the front, one to the back, and one to each side of the body. These sideboards must be lowered when you are loading the vehicle, and none of the load can extend above the body. After loading is completed, you must raise these sideboards and secure them for the trip.

Remember: if you use a tarpaulin, canvas, or cover of any kind, you must secure it soundly so that no end, string, or binding flaps as the truck moves down the roadway.

MISCELLANEOUS RULES FOR TRUCKS

Never disengage the clutch while driving your truck on a downgrade. This "coasting" is illegal and very risky. If you are driving a truck, truck trailer, or other similar vehicle on a roadway outside business or residential districts, you must not follow within 300 feet of other trucks except when you are attempting to pass.

If your vehicle is carrying explosives or flammable liquids, you must stop at all railroad crossings. Passenger buses and school buses must also stop.

All the lights and reflectors on your truck must be kept clean and in good working order so that they may be seen from a distance of 500 feet from the rear of the truck.

When you are preparing to back up a truck or

large vehicle, always get out and carefully check clearance limits. Make sure that you have plenty of room to maneuver. If possible, have someone guide you when you back up. Never back into an intersection in order to turn around.

See that the rear door locks on trucks are fastened.

explosives. Turn off the ignition when you put gasoline in the tank or unload the truck. Don't smoke at any time on or near the truck. In case of an accident, keep people, especially smokers, away. When driving a truck with such a load, you should keep out of business districts and heavy traffic as often as possible, and do not park more closely to buildings or other cars than necessary.

Check all your equipment, such as tires, lights, brakes, and load, after each stop.

You should always keep in mind the danger of fire if you drive a truck carrying gasoline, oil, or

COMMERCIAL DRIVERS LICENSE (CDL) CLASS A, B, C

You must have a CDL to operate:

1. A single vehicle with a GVWR of more than 26,000 pounds.
2. A trailer with a GVWR of more than 10,000 pounds if the gross combination weight rating is more than 6,000 pounds.
3. A vehicle designed to transport more than

15 persons (including the driver).

4. Any size vehicle which requires hazardous materials placards. To get a CDL, you must pass both knowledge and skills test. You may wish to obtain a copy of the Mississippi Professional Driver's Manual for study.

Appendix A

A QUICK REFERENCE OF REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR MISSISSIPPI DRIVER=S LICENSE OR LEARNER=S PERMIT

A. If you are a 14 year-old applicant and a driver education student, you must: Have your application properly completed and signed by both parents unless they are divorced or one is deceased.

1. Have your parents signatures notarized.
2. Must present original birth certificate, social security card, school attendance form (valid for 30 days) and driver education form DE-7.
3. Must be able to pass vision examination.
4. Must pass the computer examination by 80%.

Note: This permit is only valid when driving with a Driver=s Education instructor.

B. If you are a 15-16 year-old applicant, you must:

1. Have your application properly completed and signed by both parents unless they are divorced or one is deceased.
2. Have your parent=s signatures notarized.

3. Must present original birth certificate, social security card, school attendance form (valid for 30 days).
4. Must be able to pass vision examination.
5. Must pass the computer examination by 80%.
6. The student must hold permit for 6 months from issue date.

C. If you are a 17 year-old applicant, you must:

1. Have your application properly completed and signed by applicant.
2. Must present original birth certificate, social security card, and school attendance form (valid for 30 days).
3. Must be able to pass computer examination by 80% and must be able to pass the vision examination.
4. After requirements have been met, a 17 year-old applicant can proceed to take the road test on the same day.

D. If you hold an out-of-state license, you must meet all of the requirements in your corresponding age group, the road and written test may be waived. Your out-of-state license must be surrendered. If you do not have a hard-copy license, you must obtain an inability to surrender affidavit, and it must be notarized.

(Note: Learner=s permits can only be used for driving with a licensed driver, but are not honored from any other state.)

Remember: When you come to take your road test, you must be accompanied by a licensed driver who is driving a legally licensed vehicle which can pass inspection.

E. If you hold a regular Mississippi driver=s license and you want a Class D commercial license, you must:

1. Take and pass computer examination.
2. Take and pass eye examination.
3. Pay a fee of \$26.00.

Appendix B

REGULAR OPERATOR TEST QUESTIONS

On your driver's license examination, you will be given a written test comprised of twenty questions and statements to be completed. Multiple choices will be provided. The following questions are intended as a guide to help you in preparing for the examination. These are examples only and do not appear in any order of importance. You should study this entire manual in preparation for the examination. And you should use the manual in the future when you want to refresh your memory about the rules and regulations governing traffic in Mississippi.

1. When you are driving on an interstate, why is it dangerous to follow the same vehicle for a long time?
2. When you overtake another vehicle at night, why should you use your low beams?
3. What should you do if you are being overtaken by an emergency vehicle (fire truck, police car, ambulance) flashing its emergency lights?
4. Why should you use your turn signals well in advance of a turn?
5. When making a turn at an intersection, what is the first thing you should do?
6. What should you do before backing out of a diagonal parking space?
7. When are paved roads most likely to be their slickest?
8. What does a flashing yellow traffic signal mean?
9. If there is any question about right-of-way in a particular situation, what should you do?
10. When may you drive at the posted speed limits in Mississippi?
11. As a driver, how can you help reduce accidents at intersections?
12. As a driver, what is your responsibility to pedestrians?
13. What should you do if you are involved in an accident in which there is personal injury or \$1,000.00 or more in property damage?
14. Why shouldn't you drive when you are ill, angry, or depressed?
15. What is the legal maximum distance at which you may park your car parallel to the curb?
16. What should you do when a law enforcement officer is directing traffic?
17. What is the best way to inform other drivers of any maneuver you are about to make on the highway?
18. When waiting to make a left turn, what should you do?
19. Where do most accidents occur?
20. What should you do if you take the wrong exit on the interstate?
21. What is your first step if your vehicle has a blowout?
22. Before you leave your vehicle parked on a downhill slope, parallel to the curb, what should you do?
23. On a two-way, four-lane street, which lane should you use to make a left turn?
24. Why are rear-end collisions so common on interstate highways?
25. If you are traveling in the right lane of an interstate highway, what adjustments must you make when other vehicles are entering the highway?
26. What action should you take if you encounter a pedestrian crossing the street where there is no marked

crosswalk?

27. What is the penalty for the first offense under Mississippi's DUI laws?
28. If you approach a school bus that is loading or unloading school children, what should you do?
29. If you are driving slower than other traffic on an interstate, which lane should you use?
30. What is the first step you should take before backing any vehicle?
31. What is a traffic lane?
32. If you are involved in an accident, what information should you give the other drivers involved?
33. What does a flashing light or a ringing bell at a railroad crossing signify?
34. As a general rule, what is the safest thing to do if your vehicle goes into a skid?
35. At night, when is it acceptable to drive with your lights on high beam?
36. What light beam should you use when driving at night in a heavy fog?
37. When is passing permitted?
38. When entering an interstate highway from the acceleration lane, how fast should you go?
39. If your vehicle has become disabled on an interstate highway, what is the proper way to signal other motorists that you need assistance?
40. Mississippi law requires children at what age to be secured in a child safety seat?
41. Refusal to submit to a chemical breath test upon the request of a law enforcement officer in this state will result in the suspension of your driver's license for how many days?
42. When you are approaching a flashing red traffic light at an intersection, you should:
43. Before making a turn at an intersection you should give a signal for at least how many feet?
44. When meeting a car at night with blinding lights, what is the safest thing to do?
45. When nearing an intersection marked with a "yield right of way" you are required to:
46. When overtaking a vehicle on a two lane highway, the safest thing to do before cutting back in front of the vehicle being passed is:
47. The most dangerous place on a highway is:
48. What traffic violation is most likely to cause deaths in automobile accidents?
49. When a traffic light shows both a red light and a green arrow in the direction you wish to turn, you:
50. A pedestrian using a white or white, tipped with red cane, is usually:
51. What is a driver's responsibility when driving through a congested area where children are playing?
52. A double solid white line is used to define a traffic lane where travel in the same direction is permitted on both sides of the line, but:
53. When meeting or following a vehicle at night, you should dim your headlights at least how many feet away?
54. When two vehicles enter or approach an intersection at approximately the same time and there are no traffic signs or signals, who has the right of way?
55. In driving what is meant by the term "Over-driving" your headlights?
56. What is the maximum speed limit for cars and trucks on the highways of Mississippi?
57. When the driver of a vehicle approaches an intersection, the question of right-of-way should be determined:
58. A right turn is permitted at a red traffic signal only after the driver of the vehicle has:

Appendix C

CLASS D COMMERCIAL TEST QUESTIONS

1. No vehicle unladed or with load shall exceed a height of how many feet?
2. Every motor vehicle which is so constructed or loaded as to obstruct the driver's view to the rear thereof from the driver's position shall be equipped with a mirror so located as to reflect to the driver a view of the

highway for a distance of at least how many feet?

3. Any vehicle loaded to within less than six inches to top of body with sand, dirt, gravel, or rock shall not be driven or moved upon any highway unless:

4. When your vision is limited due to bad weather conditions, the maximum speed on all highways for trucks, truck-trailers and busses is:

5. The driver of any motor truck or motor truck drawing another vehicle upon a roadway outside of a business or residential district shall not continually follow another truck within:

6. No semi-trailer operating in a truck tractor-semi-trailer combination and no trailer drawn by a motor vehicle shall exceed a length of:

7. No semi-trailer or trailer operating in a truck-semi-trailer-trailer combination and no trailer operating in a double trailer combination drawn by a motor vehicle shall exceed a length of:

8. How many vehicles in combination may be towed by saddle-mount?

9. How many motor vehicles may be towed by a tow-bar?

10. Trucks must stop at all weigh stations on the main highways for what reason?

11. No single vehicle unladed or with load shall have an over-all length inclusive to front and rear bumpers of how many feet?

12. The total outside width of any vehicle or load thereon shall not exceed how many feet?

13. If a vehicle that is over twelve feet and six inches in height does damage to any overhead structure or wire that is at least twelve feet six inches high, who is liable for the damages?

14. Permits to move a vehicle or load on the highway that is in excess of the legal size or weight must be obtained from?

15. If a truck or bus becomes disabled on the roadway at night, three flares or reflectors, must be placed to warn other drivers. One is placed alongside the vehicle. The other two are placed where?

16. All clearance side-marker lamps on or near the front of a trailer must be what color?

17. All reflectors mounted on the rear and on the side nearest the rear must be what color?

18. Every vehicle transporting explosives shall be equipped with fire extinguishers filled and ready for immediate use. At least how many are required?

19. All trucks must have a red or amber stop light and shall be lighted when?

20. The load upon any vehicle or combination of vehicles shall not extend beyond the front bumper of such vehicles more than how many feet?

21. When is it important that the driver of a commercial vehicle be better informed about the rules and regulations of safe driving than the ordinary driver?

22. Before backing a large truck, what is the first step you should take?

Appendix D

DRIVING TIPS

Be thoroughly rested before starting a long drive.

Avoid driving when emotionally upset.
Never drive more hours than your normal work day.

Map your trip out well in advance.

If possible, avoid driving during late afternoon hours or early dusk.

Avoid heavy meals or alcoholic beverages.

Prevent children from standing on seats or in front of the instrument panel.

Install and use safety belts.

Provide special seats with straps or belts for small children.

Never leave children alone in an unattended vehicle.

Keep doors locked, using an interlock with children.

Keep your speed not only within the law but always reasonable and prudent & well chosen for the existing conditions.

Help another driver who wishes to pass.

Avoid stopping if arriving at the scene of an accident unless you can render aid.

Avoid artificial stimulants to keep awake; stop and sleep.

Drive as far to the right as possible if meeting a one-eyed car.

Avoid overloading the car; distribute the weight evenly.

If you do smoke while driving, train yourself to do it without taking your eyes off the road.

Glance at your speedometer frequently; know at all times the exact speed you are traveling.

Make sure you see and that you are seen.

Saying, "I didn't know," is no excuse.

The inside rear view mirror was designed for safer driving. It was not intended as an object from which to hang foxtails, dice, baby shoes, or other souvenirs.

Remember that at least 9 out of 10 accidents are caused by human error.

Obey traffic rules and be prepared to adjust for driving errors of others.

Yield the right-of-way to a police car, ambulance or fire truck flashing a red or blue light and stopped along side of the road or at the scene of an accident.

Driving when tired is dangerous.

Always keep the windshield clean.

Appendix E

SHARING THE ROAD WITH BICYCLISTS

According to Mississippi law, a bicycle is considered a vehicle when ridden on public roads. Any person riding a bicycle has the same rights and responsibilities as a driver of a motor vehicle. This means observing all traffic laws such as stopping for stop signs, stop lights, and other road signs. Bicyclists are required to ride as far to the right in the lane as is safely possible. Generally, this means riding two to four feet from the right edge of the road. However, there are certain conditions where a bicyclist may move to the left farther out into the traffic lane.

§ When overtaking and passing another vehicle traveling in same direction as the bicycle. When preparing to make a left turn, the bicyclist is required to use proper hand signals when turning.

§ When unsafe conditions are present on the right side of the lane, such as: broken or missing pavement, pedestrians, animals, parked cars, or road hazards (gravel, tree limbs, broken glass, etc.).

§ At intersections, if the right most lane is for right turns only, bicyclists may move to the left if they intend to ride straight through the intersection.

When passing a bicyclist, use extra caution in order to pass safely. Do not try to share the lane with a bicyclist when passing. Reduce speed, move into the next lane and pass in the normal manner, just as you would pass a motor vehicle. If there is oncoming traffic, slow down behind the bicyclist and pass when the oncoming traffic has cleared. While passing a bicyclist on a roadway, a motorist shall leave a safe distance of not less than three (3) feet between his vehicle and the bicyclist and shall maintain such clearance until safely past the bicycle. The

wind effects from a moving vehicle can cause a bicyclist to lose control if the vehicle passes too closely. An experienced bicyclist can ride 20-25 miles per hour and may be closer than you think. When turning left at an intersection, yield to oncoming bicyclists just as you would yield to oncoming motorists.

Expect the unexpected from children, whether they are walking or riding a bicycle. A child may turn into your path suddenly without looking. Or the child may dart out into the street from a driveway or parking lot without stopping to look for traffic.

SAFE CYCLING TIPS

- **WEAR A HELMET!** This is one of the best things to do to reduce risk of serious injury.
- **RIDE PREDICTABLY.** Don't weave in and out of traffic or back and forth in the road; and don't dart out from side streets.
- **BE VISIBLE.** Wear bright clothing. A bright headlight, taillight, and reflective vest or clothing should be used if riding at night.
- **USE COMMON SENSE.** Even though you have a right to ride on the road, a little common courtesy goes a long way to improve relations between motorists and bicyclists. If traffic conditions are such that motorists are having difficulty passing you, pull off the road ever so often to let the motorists pass safely. Do not let long lines of cars back up behind you for extended periods. When state law does permit bicyclists to ride side by side, bicyclists riding two abreast should not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic. When riding on a multi-lane roadway, ride within a single lane.
- **USE A LUGGAGE CARRIER BASKET OR SADDLE BAGS (PANNIERS)** for carrying parcels, books or groceries. Never ride two people on a bicycle built for one. Never hitch your bicycle to another vehicle.
- **BEFORE YOU RIDE OUT OF ALLEYS, DRIVEWAYS, OR FROM BEHIND PARKED CARS,** always be sure sidewalks or streets are clear.
- **USE APPROPRIATE HAND SIGNALS.** (See Page 18 in this manual.)

ORGAN DONATIONS

The transplantation of human organs is the only therapy for people whose organs have failed. Kidney transplantation is the most common type of organ transplant and allows the recipient to lead a normal life, free from painful dialysis treatments several times a week. Heart, lung and liver transplants literally save the lives of thousands of people a year.

The serious shortage of organ donors means that at least 10 people a day will die while waiting on a transplant. The decision to donate organs can be the gift of life for another person. When organ donation is not possible, the donation of tissues, such as corneas, bone, skin, and vascular tissue can enhance the lives of burn victims and those faced with blindness or the loss of limbs.

In the state of Mississippi, your legal next-of-kin must give consent for organ donation at the time of death. The Mississippi Department of Public Safety provides information about organ donation at each driver's license

test site. That information, along with the facts found here, can help guide family conversations about organ donation.

INFORMATION ON ORGAN DONATION.

Anyone can donate, regardless of age, race or gender. Your medical condition at the time of your death will determine what organs and tissues can be donated. Mississippi's Gift of Life Act (1998) requires that all families be given the option to donate organs and tissue at the time of death.

The quality of hospital treatment and life saving efforts will not be lessened if you choose to donate. It is only after the primary physician has exhausted all efforts in trying to save your life and after the physician has declared death that donation will be considered and transplant professionals will be involved. At this time families are given the opportunity to donate their loved one's organs.

Your family is not responsible for any donation costs. However you are responsible for hospital expenses up until the time of death, when consent is given for donation. Funeral expenses are also the responsibility of the family or the estate.

Organ and tissue donation will not affect funeral plans. Organ Recovery takes place in a sterile operating room under the direction of skilled surgeons. Families can proceed with any type of funeral or burial arrangements, including an open casket funeral.

All major religions support donation as a final, charitable act of giving to others. Transplantation is consistent with the life preserving traditions of these faiths.

Appendix G

U.S.DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

The Natchez Trace Parkway is administered by the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior. When completed, it will run 450 miles from Natchez, Mississippi, to a point near Nashville, Tennessee. Mississippi's section is 350 miles long. The Parkway commemorates the Natchez Trace, a frontier road, prominent in the development of the Old Southwest. An elongated park including a high-quality roadway, the right-of-way averages 100 acres for each mile of roadway. The Parkway runs from 400 to 700 feet in width, and is widest at historical, scientific, and recreational areas. As a traveler along the Trace, you will find nearby Indian sites and settings relating to the history of the original road. Commercial vehicles are excluded from the Parkway motor road, and access is limited. Crossroads separated by grades, long curves, good sight lines, good slight grades, all combine to protect the motorist driving along the Trace.

The Parkway is protected and patrolled by National Park Rangers who are ready to assist you in having a safe and enjoyable trip. Report all accidents, fires, or other emergencies to the nearest Ranger. Natchez Park numbers are listed in local telephone directories under AU.S. Government.@

If you cannot locate the number and need assistance, dial AO@ for the operator and ask to be connected to the nearest Natchez Trace Park Ranger. Be sure to give your approximate location and to describe the circumstances.

Federal regulations govern vehicle traffic and public use of Parkway facilities. State traffic laws also apply. The maximum speed for travel on the Parkway is 50 MPH, except where lower speeds are posted. Radar is used for your protection.

The Superintendent of the Natchez Trace Parkway is in immediate charge of all facilities. For additional information, you may contact him at:

P.O. Box 948,
Tupelo, Mississippi 38801

Or by phone at:
(601) 842-1572.

This is your Parkway. It exists for you and for all generations to come. Heed all posted signs. Do not hunt or use firearms on Parkway lands. Extinguish all lighted cigarettes, cigars, and matches, and never throw them or other debris from moving vehicles.

If you have any doubts about any regulation governing use of the Parkway, do not hesitate to contact a Park Ranger. Remember that if you violate any laws while on the roadway or while using any of the Parkway's facilities, you will be tried in federal court.

Energy Conservation and the Automobile

Passenger automobiles consume about 14% of all the energy and about 31% of all the petroleum used in the United States.

If the fuel consumption of the average car were reduced just 15% through better planning of car use, better driving practices, and better maintenance, the nation's consumption of petroleum would fall by over 28,000,000 gallons per day.

This potential saving of daily fuel consumption is significant from several points of view. It would help stretch current fuel supplies further. It would save money and cut pollution.

SOME ENERGY SAVING SUGGESTIONS

- **DRIVE AT MODERATE SPEEDS.** As your speed increases so does your car's wind resistance - a big factor in gasoline mileage. Most automobiles get about 28% more miles per gallon on the highway at 50 mph than at 70 and about 21% more at 55 than at 70.
- **AVOID UNNECESSARY BRAKING, AND TRY TO ANTICIPATE THE TRAFFIC AHEAD.** When the traffic light far ahead turns red, take your foot off the accelerator immediately. The light may turn green again by the time you reach the intersection. If not, there's still a fuel saving. There is then less energy to be dissipated in braking. Don't tailgate. This necessitates additional braking too.
- **START SLOWLY.** Accelerate gently except when entering high-speed traffic lanes or when passing. Hot rod driving and jerky acceleration can increase fuel consumption by 2 miles per gallon in city traffic.
- **DRIVE AT STEADY SPEEDS.** Hold a steady foot on the accelerator as long as traffic conditions permit. On the highway, "see-sawing" or repeatedly varying the speed by 5 mph can reduce gas mileage by as much as 1.3 miles per gallon.
- **SAVE GAS WHEN CHANGING GEARS.** If you drive a car with a manual transmission, run through the lower gears gently and quickly for minimum gasoline consumption. Then build up speed in high gear. If you drive a car with an automatic transmission, apply enough gas pedal pressure to get the car rolling, then let up slightly on the pedal to ease the automatic transmission into high range as quickly as possible. More gas is consumed in the lower gears.
- **AVOID UNNECESSARY USE OF AIR CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT.** When in use, it reduces fuel economy by as much as 2-1/2 miles per gallon.

- **AVOID EXCESSIVE IDLING.** The average American car consumes a cup of gasoline every six minutes when idling. When you stop the car, don't idle the engine for more than a minute. If you are waiting for someone, turn off the engine. It takes less gasoline to restart the car than it does to idle it.
- **BREAK GAS-WASTING HABITS.** For instance, don't pump the accelerator or race the engine when your car isn't in motion. Use the brake pedal rather than the accelerator to hold your car in place on a hill.
- **JOIN A CAR POOL FOR COMING TO AND FROM WORK.**
- **CONSOLIDATE YOUR DRIVING.** Combine short shopping and commuting trips to reduce the miles traveled for each action. Patronize shops in your immediate area as much as possible to reduce mileage.
- **TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR CAR.** Proper engine tune, tire pressure, and wheel alignment will give you better mileage. Radial tires and multi grade motor oil also boost mileage.
- **SELECT YOUR NEW CAR WISELY.** Study the fuel economy figures carefully. Purchase only the options and accessories you really need.

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