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Driving Environments - Parking Lots

Activity	Goal
Backing Up	☐ Driver backs up slowly and with control, knowing what's around at all times.
Stopping and Starting	☐ Driver operates the car smoothly with control.
Introduction to Scanning	☐ Driver develops a scanning routine and uses it consistently.
Introduction to Lane Positioning	☐ Driver can easily follow a line and keep the car steady.

Driving Environments - Residential Roads

Activity	Goal
Speed Management	☐ Driver maintains an appropriate and steady speed.
Uncontrolled Intersections	☐ Driver shows a solid understanding of right-of-way procedures and turns into the appropriate legal lanes.
Turning	☐ Driver controls vehicle while turning and observes right-of-way procedures.
Controlled Intersections	☐ Driver can safely manage intersections and identify potential hazards.
Driving Straight	☐ Driver maintains position in the lane.
Hazard Detection	☐ Driver recognizes and anticipates hazards well in advance and uses caution around them.
Right-of-Way	☐ Driver is able to identify the right-of-way rules that govern each intersection prior to arrival.
Scanning and Hazard Detection	☐ Driver looks in the direction the car is going and watches for potential hazards.

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Driving Environments - Intermediate Roads

Activity	Goal
Lane Changing	☐ Driver is comfortable checking mirrors and blind spots and returning focus back to the road. ☐ Driver recognizes danger when looking in mirrors and blind spots. ☐ Driver recognizes the speed of other cars. ☐ Driver follows the steps correctly for safely changing lanes without needing any reminders.
Road Sharing	☐ Driver always checks blind spots. ☐ Driver is always aware of other road users.
Space Cushion	☐ Driver leaves space in front according to the rule of 1 second of space for every 10 mph. ☐ Driver maintains adequate space on all 4 sides of the vehicle.
Distance Estimation	☐ Driver leaves enough space in front of the car when stopped. ☐ Driver can judge how long it will take to slow down and stop.
Anticipating Others' Behaviors	☐ Driver takes extra precautions when risky drivers are on the road. ☐ Driver avoids confrontation by staying calm and driving courteously.
Higher Speed Management & Preparedness	☐ Driver does not exceed the posted speed limit. ☐ Driver judges situations and traffic appropriately and makes the correct speed adjustments. ☐ Driver leaves the appropriate cushion of space around his or her car. ☐ Driver looks well ahead and is prepared to make the next speed adjustment.
Communicating with Others	☐ Driver understands ways to communicate his or her intentions and uses them on a timely basis. ☐ Driver looks for a "2nd signal" that confirms the intention of the other car like the car slowing down or starting to turn.
Managing Intersections	☐ Driver slows down well in advance of red lights and stop signs. ☐ Driver understands the distance it takes to stop for an intersection and leaves an appropriate distance when stopping.
Right-of-Way Controlled Intersection	☐ Driver knows who has the right-of-way. ☐ Driver identifies the point of no return. ☐ Driver understands stale versus fresh green lights. ☐ Driver stops prior to turning right on red. ☐ Driver starts slowing down prior to the intersection.

Goal Guide

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Driving Environments - Commercial Roads

Activity	Goal
Speed Management	☐ Driver looks far ahead for clues to determine need to adjust speed and react appropriately. ☐ Driver slows down by releasing the gas pedal and covering the brake. ☐ Driver resumes speed by moving foot to depress the gas pedal when appropriate.
Entering and Exiting Parking Lots	☐ Driver does not cause surrounding traffic to slow down or swerve. ☐ Driver can judge the gap between oncoming traffic and exits the parking lot when appropriate.
Space Cushion on Four Sides	☐ Driver responds to unexpected behaviors on the road safely and cautiously. ☐ Driver keeps as much space as possible on all four sides of vehicle. ☐ Driver adjusts the space cushion according to surrounding conditions.
Parking in a Lot	☐ Driver smoothly maneuvers in and out of parking spots. ☐ Driver understands the potential hazards in a parking lot and takes all necessary precautions. ☐ Driver checks for hazards before and during the maneuver and reacts appropriately to them.
Reacting to Other Drivers	☐ Driver scans a wider range in a commercial area and accurately predicts other road users' behavior. ☐ Driver covers the brake when potential hazards are present.
Intersections with Crosswalks	☐ Driver understands who has the right-of-way at every type of intersection. ☐ Driver makes left turns safely. ☐ Driver understands the gap necessary to enter traffic.
Increasing Awareness of Risks	☐ Driver identifies and reacts appropriately to direct risks and indirect risks. ☐ Driver looks for critical information and reacts accordingly.

Goal Guide

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Driving Environments - Highways

Activity	Goal
Entering and Exiting	☐ Driver consistently checks traffic to evaluate whether the gap is sufficient and his or her speed has matched the traffic. ☐ Driver yields right-of-way to through traffic. ☐ Driver plans ahead for the exit. ☐ Driver is comfortable waiting for the next exit if missed opportunity.
Navigating Using Signs	☐ Driver understands what signs mean. ☐ Driver reacts appropriately to highway signs. ☐ Driver does not divert attention from traffic while reading signs at high speeds.
Monitoring Blind Spots	☐ Driver checks mirrors every 20 to 30 seconds, or more if the highway is crowded. ☐ Driver does head checks for blind spots. ☐ Driver leaves extra space in front when following a truck.
Six Second Rule – Space Cushion	☐ Driver uses the six second rule to maintain space cushion. ☐ Driver adjusts speed according to traffic density. ☐ Driver does not tailgate.
Disruptions in Highway Traffic	☐ Driver identifies changes in traffic and adjusts accordingly. ☐ Driver is aware of how other drivers react to traffic disruptions.
Anticipating Others' Behavior on Highways	☐ Driver assumes the worst of other drivers; other drivers can act unexpectedly. ☐ Driver is aware of aggressive drivers well in advance and increases space cushion.
Lane Changing on Highways	☐ Driver correctly judges distance necessary to pass. ☐ Driver changes lanes and passes other vehicles appropriately. ☐ Driver allows other vehicles to pass or change lanes safely by adjusting the space cushion.
Speed Management	☐ Driver maintains or adjusts speed as needed. ☐ Driver is not intimidated by tailgaters to speed. ☐ Driver makes the necessary speed adjustments needed to accommodate varying road conditions.
Staying Out of Blind Spots	☐ Driver identifies other vehicles' blind spots and avoids driving in them. ☐ Driver knows trucks and busses have larger blind spots and leaves extra space. ☐ Driver repositions the car when traveling in someone's blind spot.

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Driving Environments - Country Roads

Activity	Goal
Passing or Yielding to Other Vehicles	☐ Driver pulls over early to allow safe passing. ☐ Driver is not afraid to stop to allow other vehicles to go by. ☐ Driver is courteous. ☐ Driver communicates with other drivers. ☐ Driver is aware of other vehicles behind his or her vehicle.
Speed Management	☐ Driver never exceeds the posted speed limits. ☐ Driver adjusts speed to the road conditions. ☐ Driver looks out for animals and other obstructions. ☐ Driver manages speed effectively. ☐ Driver employs caution when road conditions are poor.

The Basics

Activity	Goal
Adjust the Seat Belts	☐ Wearing properly adjusted seat belts becomes a habit.
Adjust the Steering Wheel	☐ Driver checks the feel of the wheel each time when getting into the driver's seat.
Adjust the Seat	☐ Driver can easily adjust the seat each time.
Understanding the Car	☐ Driver can easily tell you where the controls are and what they do.
Adjust the Mirrors	☐ Driver adjusts mirrors as a habit before each drive

Goal Guide

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Additional Challenges

Activity	Goal
Driving at Night	☐ Driver drives at the appropriate speed for the road conditions. ☐ Driver uses high beams appropriately. ☐ Driver drives with correct lane placement at night.
Planning Routes & Following Directions	☐ Driver prepares in advance and develops an easy to follow route. ☐ Driver keeps attention on driving and the road while navigating the route. ☐ Driver handles unexpected changes well.
Driving in Inclement Weather	☐ Driver prepares the car before driving according to the conditions.
Potential Hazards in Each Environment	☐ Driver identifies and looks for all the typical risks in every environment and keeps eye out for others.
Managing Distractions	☐ Driver identifies distractions and actively minimizes them while driving.
What to Do in Emergencies	☐ Driver knows how to deal with the most typical emergencies: flat tire, car failure, accident, or getting lost. ☐ Driver keeps calm under pressure.