



I DRIVE SAFELY's Parent-Teen Driving Agreement

This contract is designed to be a mutually agreed by all parties involved, Parents AND the New Driver. By signing this agreement, both parties agree to obey all the rules and conditions stated in this contract.

We understand bad things happen, mistakes are made and things spoken are sometimes misunderstood, but by signing this contract and agreeing to the rules, we agree that we will obey the rules and will stand by the consequences should any rules be broken.

In addition, this is an evolving contract and can be reviewed and renegotiated at anytime.

_____ and _____
Parents New Driver

PARENTS' PLEDGE

I promise to help my New Driver learn how to drive by using love, patience and support. I understand and accept that this is a learning process and promise to do everything in my power to be a good role model and understanding instructor. I also pledge that I will be encouraging rather than critical, that I will demonstrate patiently, rather than complain. I will be patient and allow my New Driver to progress at his/her own speed and will not try to rush or hurry the process. I recognize that learning to drive is a mental AS WELL AS a physical skill that needs to be nurtured and practiced – in a loving and supportive manner.

_____ and _____
Parent Parent

NEW DRIVER'S PLEDGE

I understand that permission to drive is a privilege given to me by my parents. And as a privilege, it is their right to take that privilege away at any time they think it is necessary. I will abide by the rules and regulations established by my parents and if I break a rule I will willingly face the consequences we have agreed upon.

New Driver

FIRST THINGS FIRST - What Are We Agreeing To

- “Forgetting” any part of the contract is not an excuse.

New Driver’s Initials _____ Parent(s) Initials _____

- I will obey all laws regulating driving. I will observe and abide by posted speed limits. I will obey all rules established by my parents. I recognize this is for my protection and the protection of others.

New Driver’s Initials _____ Parent(s) Initials _____

- I understand that the car I drive is the property of my parents. Even a car that is a “gift” to me is still, legally, the property of my parents. As such, I will drive the car only with my parents’ permission.

New Driver’s Initials _____ Parent(s) Initials _____

- I understand that this written agreement is necessary. I understand that the terms of this agreement may be changed based on how I handle the freedom and responsibility of driving. I understand that if my parents judge that I am not doing well they can revise the rules and make them stricter AND if I’m doing well, they can relax the rules.

New Driver’s Initials _____ Parent(s) Initials _____

- If, for any reason whatsoever, the rules are broken, the car keys will be forfeited with no argument or debate.

New Driver’s Initials _____ Parent(s) Initials _____

- If a rule is broken and the New Driver asks for a review, a meeting will take place no earlier than 24 hours after the request.

New Driver’s Initials _____ Parent(s) Initials _____

- Refusal to immediately surrender the car keys will result in the car being taken away. NO EXCEPTIONS.

New Driver’s Initials _____ Parent(s) Initials _____

- If my parents take away my car privileges, I will not drive for two to four weeks depending on my parents’ choice. There will not _____, before any *discussion* will occur about driving again. Another incident of failure to surrender keys on demand will lead to indefinite suspension of driving privileges. If I drive in defiance of my parents’ order not to drive, my parents may call the police.

New Driver’s Initials _____ Parent(s) Initials _____

- _____ If the New Driver drives any car without or in defiance of the parents’ order, this contract will be cancelled and no driving will be permitted for at least one year.

New Driver’s Initials _____ Parent(s) Initials _____

- _____ If the New Driver is involved in an accident, no matter how minor, the New Driver will not leave the scene of an accident without the permission of police officers and/or the parents.

New Driver's Initials _____ Parent(s) Initials _____

THE FUNDAMENTAL RULES

The following rules will result in a suspension of all driving privileges for an agreed upon time as stated in this contract.

- **Permission to Drive**

The New Driver **MUST** ask for permission to drive each time he/she wants to drive. The only exceptions to the rule are for normal trips back and forth to school, work and weekly/daily meetings already agreed upon.

Trips other than the agreed upon locations will be discussed prior to leaving with the locations and route agreed upon. The New Driver will make sure he/she contacts the parents and lets them know where he/she is. The New Driver will not make any unscheduled stops or side trips.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **Breaking Curfew**

The New Driver may not drive after _____ p.m. The New Driver **MUST** be home at or before this agreed upon time.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **Limit of Passengers**

I will not be allowed to have any passengers without specific permission.

Exceptions include: _____

- **Areas That are Off-Limits**

I will not drive in any areas that are designated as off-limits and I understand these areas will expanded once I gain more experience and show that I am honoring this contract. For the time being, the following roads and areas are to be avoided:

This portion of the contract will be reviewed in ____ days and at that time new areas may or may not be included as safe driving areas.

- **No One Else Will Drive Our Car**

The New Driver will not allow ANYONE to drive the car without the parents' specific permission for each specific case.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **Car Radio/CD Player/iTune/MP3 Players**

I understand how distracting music can be in driving and agree that for the first month I will not have any music system playing in the car as I drive. After the first two months, and with the permission of my parents, I can use the radio but will not make any adjustments other than changing the volume while driving. Under no circumstances will I change a CD or cassette while driving and agree that I will only change these when I'm stopped or have pulled over.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **Texting, Cell Phones, MP3 Players, GPS System**

Under no circumstances will I use a cell phone, text message, adjust any MP3 players, or any other electronic device while driving. I will pull over for other operations of cell phones and electronic equipment.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **Weather/Road Conditions**

I will respect all weather and road conditions, slowing down as needed for safety and will contact my parents to discuss weather or poor road conditions when I am out driving.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **Emotional Upset**

I will not drive when I am upset or angry as I know this effect my judgment and driving skills. If I'm upset for any reason, I will contact my parents for transportation. My parents will also agree that I have the right to maintain my privacy and may chose not to discuss the matter. My parents agree not to ask a lot of unnecessary questions.

- **Taking Care Of Vehicle**

It is my responsibility to protect the car I drive. I will keep it reasonably clean and maintained.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **Passenger Behavior**

I will not allow my passengers to behave in such a way as to distract me while driving.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **Seatbelts**

I will wear my seatbelt at all times and insist that all passengers to wear theirs.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **Friends Ride Only With Their Parents' Permission**

If a situation arises that my parents have agreed to me having a friend ride with me, I will make sure that my friend's parents have given their permission to ride with me.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **Thank You For Not Smoking**

I will not allow smoking in the car.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **No Eating & Driving**

I will not eat while driving.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **No Rushing Or Hurrying**

I am aware that a majority of accidents occur when a driver is rushing or in a hurry. Therefore, my parents reserve the right to not allow me to drive if I'm running late. For example, if my parents tell me that I must allow 20 minutes to get to somewhere, I will leave before and NOT LATER than the 20 minutes it takes. If I cannot leave within their time frame, my parents will attempt to provide alternative rides.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

- **Attention To Driving**

I will not do things while driving that distracts me from the road. No applying makeup, getting things in and out of a purse or back-pack, etc.

Breaking of this rule results in ____ days/months of driving privileges.

PUNISHMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING INFRACTIONS WILL BE DETERMINED INDEPENDENT OF THIS CONTRACT

- **Tickets And Moving Violations**

Any tickets or moving violations will result in the suspension of my driving privileges for a period to be determined by my parents. My parents have no obligation to pay my fines for driving-related tickets.

- **In The Car Supervision**

My parents have the right to insist on additional in-the-car supervision while I am driving. This can be in response to an incident, or just to check on the development of my driving skills.

- **Financial Responsibility.**

I agree to the financial contributions regarding driving and the car as explained below :

- **Family Obligations**

I agree to provide drive any family members at the request of my parents. Fulfilling these obligations is a condition of my use of a car. Sometimes these responsibilities will override my own desires and interests in using the car.

- **General Life Responsibilities**

I agree that I must be responsible to drive safely and that my parents must believe I am relatively responsible in order to allow me to drive. They may, therefore, take into account how I handle my general responsibilities, including schoolwork, employment, household duties. I will also maintain a respectful attitude. I will not ask my parents to allow me to drive when I am rude and disrespectful to them or to others.

- **Right To Clear Expectations**

My parents have a right to expect me to be responsible. I have a right to be told what this means. For this reason, I may ask my parents for clarification of their requirement that I "be responsible."

- **Changes In This Agreement**

I understand that this contract can be made more strict at any time my parents believe that is the best thing to do. I understand that if I consistently follow and obey these rules that my parents will work with me to make the contract less strict as I gain experience. However, I understand that it is my parents' choice and their responsibility to change or not change the contract.

THE FOLLOWING VIOLATIONS WILL RESULT IN A COMPLETE LOSS OF ALL PRIVILEGES RULES

I understand that I will lose all my driving privileges if any one of these is violated even once.

- **No Alcohol Use/Abuse**

While I hold the keys to the car, whether I'm driving or not, I will NEVER drink ANY alcohol.

- **No Drug Use/Abuse**

I will not drive for 72 hours after using any "substance" including medicines that may impair my driving ability. If I need to driver prior to the 72 hours, I will inform my parents of any medications I have taken and let them make the decision is I'm capable of driving.

- **No Riding With Others Who Have Used Alcohol Or Drugs**

I will not ride as a passenger with any driver who has used alcohol or any substance that impairs their driving ability. I will not ride with anyone I think may have used alcohol or drugs.

- **Alternatives To Riding With Others Who Have Used Alcohol Or Drugs**

If I find myself in a situation where I may be riding with someone who is under medication or has used alcohol, I will contact my parents or another designated adult to arrange for a ride. I understand that my parents will make every effort to avoid asking me a lot of questions about it and I will not be punished for my friends' behavior.

- **No Alcohol Or Drugs In Car**

I will not allow any alcohol or illegal drugs in the car. This includes over the counter medications (cough medicines, etc.) when I have reason to believe someone has them in their possession for purposes of abuse. My parents will hold me responsible for any alcohol or drugs in the car, even if they don't belong to me or it is the fault of someone riding in my car.

- **No Thrill-Seeking/Stunts**

I will not engage in any thrill-seeking behavior while driving. I will not drive for recreation. I will not drive too fast, participate in racing of all kinds, or any kind of "stunt" that involves a car. Driving is for transportation ONLY.

- **No Driving With Passengers Who Are Not Wearing Seatbelts**

This includes driving for any distance.

- **Informing Parents About Accidents & Police Encounters**

I will inform my parents about any and all tickets, accidents, and encounters with police (including warnings.)

- **No Firearms Or Other Weapons**

I will not drive with any guns or other deadly weapons in the vehicle.

SUMMARY AND REVIEW DATES

- **Summary**

I agree to follow and obey the rules in this contract and will accept the consequences and penalties if I do not. I recognize my parents' authority in deciding if I may or may not drive and that the final authority is my parents.

- **Reviewing This Agreement.**

Both parents and New Driver agree that this agreement will be reviewed and perhaps changed on _____(date) or earlier if my parents or I wish to do so.

Signatures

NEW DRIVER _____ **(date)** _____

PARENT(s)/Guardian(s) _____ **(date)** _____