

What You Should Do Before Handing Over the Keys

Talk to Your Teen

- ▶ Lead by example. Your teens will mimic your driving behaviors.
- ▶ Discuss your teen's responsibilities when driving a car or riding as a passenger.
- ▶ Review the teen driving laws and set consequences for breaking the laws. For laws, visit: <http://www.dmvnow.com/webdoc/pdf/dmv16.pdf>
- ▶ Extend the period of supervised driving to closely monitor skills/behaviors.
- ▶ Give your teen practice driving on unfamiliar roads and driving conditions.
- ▶ Coach your teen on what to do in potentially dangerous driving situations like poor weather conditions, rough roads, heavy traffic, and running off the road.
- ▶ Enforce the teen passenger restrictions and the teen curfew law.
- ▶ Reduce nighttime driving for the first few months your teen has a license.
- ▶ Be sure your teen is well rested before hitting the road.
- ▶ Ask your teen questions and be ready to listen.

Establish Trust and an Agreement

Once you've had a conversation with your teen, create your own Parent-Teen Driving Contract detailing rules and consequences and have your teen sign it.

You can also print off a sample contract from our website at the link below:

www.yovaso.org/parent-info/

Family Rules: The 5 Keys to Safe Driving

1. No cell phone use or texting while driving
2. No extra passengers
3. No speeding
4. No alcohol and/or drugs
5. No driving or riding without a seat belt

*National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

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