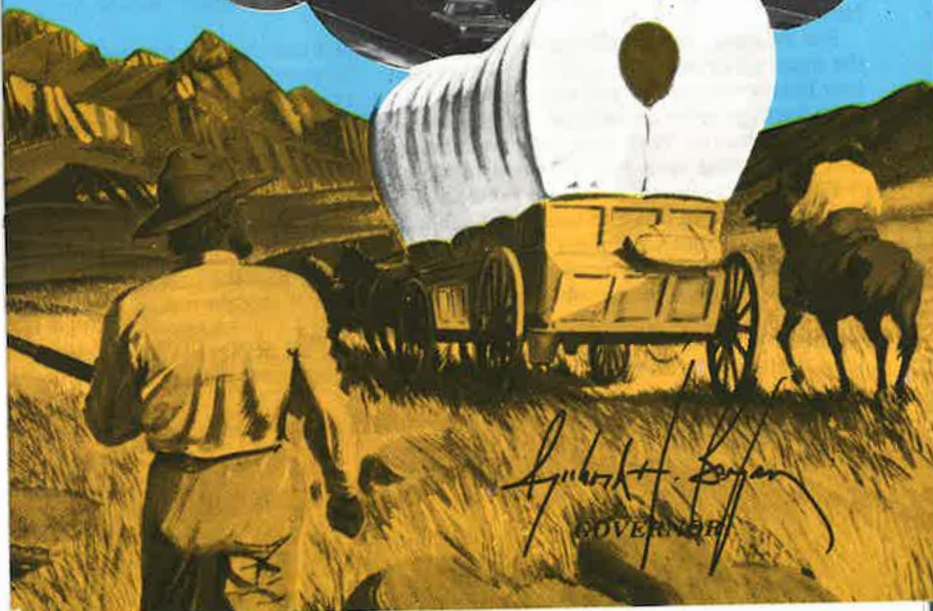


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NEVADA COLLECTION

Nevada DRIVING HANDBOOK



Hubert H. Bryan
GOVERNOR

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This *Nevada Driving Handbook* was revised August 31, 1987.

This handbook condenses or paraphrases pertinent major areas of the Nevada Vehicle Code. Courts go by the full and exact language of the law rather than the handbook.

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[4]

EXAMPLE OF WARNING SIGNS



EXAMPLE OF BLACK AND WHITE RECTANGULAR SIGNS



[5]

YIELD SIGN



OTHER IMPORTANT SIGNS



FREEWAY SIGNS UNDERSTAND AND OBSERVE



ROUTE SIGNS AND MARKERS THEY WILL GUIDE YOU TO YOUR DESTINATION



HIGHWAY AND ROAD SIGNS

The Department of Transportation has adopted the Uniform Traffic Control Devices Manual so that Nevada will eventually be uniform with other states in regard to highway and road signs.

The new concept throughout the United States is to use *symbol* type signs to gradually replace present *lettered* signs. This system is similar to the present system used in Europe, Canada, and Central and South America, whereby motorists are advised of warning and traffic laws by *symbols* and pictures rather than *lettered* type signs. Using this method eliminates language barriers.

Gradually, *symbol* signs will be integrated into the Nevada system by placing individual *symbol* signs next to appropriate *letter* signs. Eventually, motorists will become so familiar with *symbol* signs that *letter* signs will be removed.

Warning Signs

Warning signs are usually diamond-shaped, yellow in color with black lettering. These signs are used to warn you of dangerous conditions ahead where you are required to drive with great caution. (See pages 4 and 8.)

Black and White Rectangular Signs

Black and white rectangular signs are used to denote specific regulations for a particular area. (See page 4.) Notice the future symbol signs include a red design on the black and white background.

Yield Sign

The yield sign is the only triangular traffic sign. It means always give the right-of-way to vehicles on the through street or highway. Stop, if necessary, to avoid interference with traffic which is given the right-of-way. (See page 5.)

Orange and Black Construction and Maintenance Signs

Orange and black signs are used to denote the presence of construction or maintenance in particular areas. The signs indi-

cate you should be alert to hazardous conditions existing due to construction or maintenance. These signs may be a diamond or rectangular shape. (See page 8.)

Route Signs and Markers

Route signs will be in the shape of a shield or depict the boundary outline of the State of Nevada. On the bottom of page 5 are three such signs. At the left is a U.S. Route number marker. In the middle is a red, white and blue route marker traffic sign signifying you are driving on a portion of the national system of interstate and defense highways. At right is a Nevada state route number marker.

Other Important Signs

The stop sign is the only 8-sided traffic sign. (See page 5.) A complete stop is always required at the sign or the stop line on the pavement. The crossbuck is a railroad sign marking the actual location of the railroad crossing and shows the number of tracks. You should keep clear of the tracks when obliged to stop for an approaching train. The round railroad crossing sign warns of a railroad crossing ahead where a stop might be necessary. You should look both ways when approaching the crossing. (See page 5.)

Freeway signs are posted to direct traffic on freeways. (See page 5.)

ORANGE AND BLACK CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE SIGNS

YELLOW AND BLACK WARNING SIGNS



NEVADA DEMERIT POINT SYSTEM

<i>Conviction of violation of:</i>	<i>Demerit points assessed</i>
Reckless driving.....	8
Careless driving.....	6
Passing school bus while loading or unloading passengers.....	4
Speed contest, drag racing or exhibition of speed.....	8
Hit and run, leaving scene of accident, failure to stop in the event of accident resulting in property damage without personal injury.....	6
Speeding (1) 1 to 10 MPH over the posted speed limit.....	1
(2) 11 to 20 MPH over the posted speed limit.....	2
(3) 21 to 30 MPH over the posted speed limit.....	3
(4) In excess of 31 MPH over the posted speed limit.....	4
(5) Where the notice of conviction sets forth no speed breakdown. (Does not apply to speeding in a school zone.).....	2
Speeding in a school zone. (Regardless of miles per hour over the speed limit.).....	4

NEVADA DEMERIT POINT SYSTEM—Continued

<i>Conviction of violation of:</i>	<i>Demerit points assessed</i>
Failure to yield right-of-way.....	4
Disobeyance of traffic controlled devices including all traffic signs and street markings.....	4
Crossing over yellow line.....	3
Improper passing.....	4
Driving motorcycle without a helmet and/or proper eye protection.....	2
Other moving traffic violations.....	2

REMOVAL OF DEMERITS FROM YOUR DRIVING RECORD

If you have accumulated between 6 and 11 demerit points you may have 3 of those points removed upon successful completion of one of the many department-approved schools in Nevada.

Remember, if you receive 12 or more demerit points in any 12-month period your license will be suspended in the following manner:

1. For the first accumulation of 12 points in a 12-month period, the privilege is suspended for six months and the driver is eligible for a restricted license.
2. For the second accumulation of 12 points in a three-year period, the privilege is suspended for one year and the driver is eligible for a restricted license.
3. For the third accumulation of 12 points in five years the privilege is suspended for one year and the driver can not have a restricted license.
4. A driver who is convicted of six traffic offenses in five years and if all six offenses have been assigned a point value of four or more demerits, the privilege will be suspended for one year and no restricted license may be issued.

Persons attending department-approved schools with 12 or more points are precluded by statute from having three demerits removed from their driving record until their point total drops below 12.

Demerits remain on a person's driving record for a period of 12 months from the date of final conviction or forfeiture of bail.

You may attend traffic school only once in a 12-month period of time to remove demerits from your record.

DRINKING AND DRIVING

The penalty for driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs is severe. There are two penalties which can occur with each offense. First, an administrative penalty (license revocation), secondly, a criminal penalty (court conviction).

Administrative Penalty

When a law enforcement officer requests a driver to submit to a chemical test of his blood alcohol content, the driver is required to take the test by law (see Implied Consent Law, page 11).

If the driver is found to have 0.10 or more percent blood alcohol content, the driver's privilege to drive is immediately revoked. The law enforcement officer is authorized to take the license at the time of arrest.

The period of revocation is 90 days.

Criminal Penalty

First offense within seven years:

Jail sentence: Two days to six months (or 48 hours community service);

Fine: \$200 to \$1,000;

DUI school: Tuition average is \$150;

License revocation: 90 days.

Second offense within 7 years:

Jail sentence: Ten days to six months;

Fine: \$500 to \$1,000;

License revocation: One year.

Third or more offense within 7 years:

Prison sentence: One year to six years;

Fine: \$2,000 to \$5,000;

License revocation: Three years.

DUI causing death or serious injury:

Prison sentence: One year to twenty years;

Fine: \$2,000 to \$5,000;

License revocation: Three years.

If an individual receives a license revocation for the administrative penalty and also for the criminal penalty, the revocation periods run concurrently.

A restricted license can be issued after serving one-half of the revocation period, however, a restricted license cannot be given on a second offense.

IMPLIED CONSENT LAW—TO BENEFIT THE DRIVER

“Implied consent” under Nevada Statutes provides that any person who drives a vehicle upon a highway or on premises to which the public has access in this State shall be deemed to have given his consent to a chemical test which may include the use of a breathalyzer in testing for the presence of alcohol or controlled substances (drugs) in his blood, breath or other bodily substance for the purpose of determining the alcoholic content of his blood or the presence of controlled substances (drugs) when such test is administered at the direction of a law enforcement officer having reasonable grounds to believe that such person was driving a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or controlled substances (drugs).

Any person requiring the use of an anticoagulant due to hemophilia or a heart condition as determined by a physician is exempt from any blood test, but may be required to submit to a breath or urine test.

A police officer shall not direct a person to submit to a urine test, except as provided above and where the presence of a controlled substance in the blood of the person is in issue.

Except as otherwise provided below, for the purposes of NRS 484.384 and 484.385, an evidentiary test of breath to determine the percentage of alcohol in a person's blood may be used to establish that percentage only if two consecutive samples of the person's breath are taken.

If the person willfully fails to provide the second such consecutive sample, the results of the first test may be used alone as

evidence of the percentage of alcohol in the person's blood. If for some other reason a second sample is not obtained, the results of the first test may be used with all other evidence presented to establish the percentage.

A willful failure to provide a second sample is a failure to submit to a required evidentiary test.

Failure to submit to a blood or breath test results in a mandatory revocation of your driving privileges for a period of 1 year regardless of the subsequent court disposition of a "driving under the influence" charge. Subsequent failures to submit will result in the mandatory revocation of driving privileges for a period of 3 years. You will be notified that your privilege to drive is subject to revocation and you will be allowed to make a request for a hearing.

DONATION OF BODY PARTS

If you are at least 18, you may attach a special card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety to your driver license indicating your desire to have your kidneys, eyes or other vital body parts given to a person who needs them after your death.

In the event of your death, a doctor or law officer can see from your driver license that you are a donor, and quickly contact medical authorities to arrange for the removal of the donated body part. It is very important that this be done as soon as possible.

If you wish to give your eyes, kidneys or other body parts, you may pick up an informational brochure and the special donor card at your local Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety Driver License Office. You may also contact a representative of the Lions Club in your area, the Washoe Medical Center Hemodialysis Unit, Reno (785-6161), the Kidney Foundation of Nevada located in Las Vegas, the Nevada Eyebank, Las Vegas (386-EYES), or the Donor Organ Referral Service, Las Vegas (382-2122).

DRIVER LICENSE

Documents Required Upon Application

1. **Social Security Number card**—The number of any

driver license issued or renewed by the department after July 1, 1969, shall be identical to the Social Security number of the licensee. You must furnish proof of such number by displaying the Social Security card or other proof acceptable to the department. If you have never had a Social Security number issued to you, you must sign an affidavit indicating the same and the department will assign another number in its place.

2. **Proof of age**—If you were born in the United States you must furnish proof of age by displaying one of the following documents: original or certified copy of your birth certificate; baptismal certificate; a driver's license issued by another state or the District of Columbia; or other proof acceptable to the department.

If you were born outside the United States one of the following documents must be furnished: Arrival-Departure Record; Alien Registration Receipt Card; United States Citizen Identification Card or Letter of Authorization issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the United States Department of Justice; a Report of Birth Abroad of a United States Citizen Child issued by the Department of State; or a passport.

If you were born outside of the United States, and you have a driver's license issued by another state or the District of Columbia, you will not be required to furnish any of the documents listed under proof of age if the license is surrendered to the department.

3. **Application of minors**—If you are under the age of 18 applying for an instruction permit or a driver license you must appear before an official of the department with either your parent or legal guardian who must sign the license application to obtain a permit or license.

4. **Previous driving record**—When you make application for an instruction permit or for a driver license and you have been previously licensed in another state, the department will request a copy of the driver's record from such other state. When received, the driver's record shall become a part of your record in this State.

5. **Change of name**—When you make application for a change of name, you are required to furnish proof of legal name by presenting a marriage certificate or a court order.

6. **Lost or destroyed license (Duplicate)**—If your license is lost, mutilated or destroyed, apply immediately to the depart-

ment for a duplicate license. A duplicate license will void the previous license. You must apply in person to obtain a duplicate license or permit. You must present proof of identity by displaying one of the documents listed for proof of age or other documents acceptable to the department to substantiate your identity. If you are temporarily out of the State, you may obtain a duplicate license by writing to the Driver License Division, P.O. Box 248, Ely, Nevada 89301.

New Residents

A new resident must obtain a Nevada driver license and motor vehicle registration within 45 days of becoming a resident of Nevada.

Where to Apply

Application for a driver license can be made Monday through Friday in Carson City, Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Reno and Tonopah by applying to the Driver License Division office located in each of the above mentioned cities. You may also apply by contacting one of the traveling examiners who issue licenses in the following communities:

Alamo	Fallon	Mesquite
Austin	Fernley	Overton
Battle Mountain	Gabbs	Owyhee
Beatty	Gardnerville	Pahrump
Boulder City	Hawthorne	Pioche
Caliente	Henderson	Wells
Carlin	Incline	Winnemucca
Elko	Lake Tahoe	Yerington
Ely	Lovelock	
Eureka	Mercury	

Identification Card

If you are a Nevada resident at least 10 years old, and do not have a Nevada driver license, you may apply to the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety for an identification card. You must furnish proof of your age in the same manner as a driver license. The fees are the same as those required for a driver license. You may not hold both a driver license and I.D. card at the same time.

Driver License—Those Exempt

1. Any person driving a motor vehicle in the service of the Armed Forces of the United States.
2. Active duty personnel of the U.S. Armed Forces holding a Nevada license bearing a restriction "B" or "9" with the wording "military validation" may retain that restriction until discharged from active duty.
3. Residents of another state who do not intend to become residents of Nevada and who are at least 16 and possess a valid driver license from their home state.

Driver License—Who Cannot Be Licensed

1. Any person whose license has been suspended or revoked until the expiration of the suspension or revocation period or the issuance of a restricted license.
2. Any person who has previously been adjudged to be afflicted with or suffering from any mental disability or disease and who has not at the time of application been restored to competency by the methods provided by law.
3. Any person when the administrator has good cause to believe that such a person by reason of physical or mental disability would not be able to drive a motor vehicle with safety.
4. A nonresident.

Driver License Classification

Class 1*—Permits the driving of any type of vehicle or combination, including all vehicles listed under Classes 2, 3 and 6 (excluding motorcycles). Class 1 shall also include a doctor's report of a medical examination of the applicant renewable every 2 years. It must be on a medical form acceptable to the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety.

Class 2†—Permits the driving of a bus designed to carry 16 or more passengers or a single vehicle with three or more axles and all Class 3 and 6 vehicles (excluding motorcycles). You may tow one other vehicle weighing less than 6,000 lbs. gross weight. Class 2 shall also include a doctor's report of medical examina-

*Example—Truck towing a trailer over 6,000 lbs. gross weight.

†Example—Bus or single vehicle with three or more axles.

tion of the applicant, renewable every 2 years. It must be on a medical form acceptable to the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety.

NOTE: Companies which have been approved by the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety may certify as to the Class 1 and Class 2 applicants' driving ability in lieu of the actual driving test administered by the department.

Class 3‡—Permits the driving of any two-axle vehicle, including a moped or a bus designed to carry 15 passengers or less but not a motorcycle. You may also drive a three-axle housecoach. (Towing same as Class 2.)

Class 4—Permits the driving of a motorcycle and a moped.

Class 6—Moped. Defined as a vehicle which looks and handles essentially like a bicycle, propelled by a small engine which produces not more than 2 gross brake horsepower which has a displacement of not more than 50 cubic centimeters. A moped is designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, but is not a tractor. It is capable of a maximum speed of not more than 30 miles per hour on a flat surface with not more than one percent grade in any direction when the motor is engaged. To obtain a Class 6 license you must be 16 years of age. The holder of a Class 6 license is not authorized to operate any other motor vehicle.

INSTRUCTION PERMIT

If you are at least 15½ years of age, you may apply for an instruction permit. After successfully passing all examinations except the driving test, the department may, in its discretion, issue such a permit for a period of 8 months. However, while exercising the privileges of such permit, you must be accompanied by a licensed driver, who is at least 21, who must have had at least one year of licensed driving experience in the type of vehicle for which the permit was issued and who must occupy the seat beside you. Instruction permit time is not considered licensed driving time in this case.

‡Example—Passenger cars and pickup trucks.

Driver License—Fees

All classes of driver licenses.....	\$10
Except 70 years of age and older.....	5
Change of address label.....	5
Change of name.....	6
Duplicate license.....	6
Instruction permit (8 months).....	9
Motorcycle endorsement.....	6
Reinstatement fee (after cancellation, revocation or suspension except for violation of DUI laws).....	25
Reinstatement* (after revocation for violation of DUI laws).....	50
Renewal**.....	10
Except 70 years of age and older.....	5

*Civil Penalty Fee—An additional \$35 civil penalty shall be charged to anyone convicted under NRS 484.379, Driving While Intoxicated.

**Penalty Fee—A \$5 penalty shall be paid by you if you renew your license after it has been expired 30 days or more.

Driver License—Examinations—New Residents

If you are a former out-of-state resident holding a valid out-of-state driver license, are in good physical condition and have a good driving record, you must pass a vision test and written test to obtain a Nevada driver license. If you have an expired license, you must pass the vision, written and driving tests in order to obtain a Nevada driver license. Some driver license classifications may require additional information/testing.

Driver License—Examinations—Renewals

A vision test may only be required when renewing your valid Nevada driver license.

If the license has been expired for 30 days or more, you must pay a \$5 late penalty. If you possess a Nevada driver license which is expired over 1 year, to renew it you must pass the vision, written and drive tests in addition to paying a \$5 fee.

A person whose Nevada driver license expired while he is on active duty with any branch of the Armed Forces is exempt from the late penalty fee if he completes a renewal application within 30 days after his discharge.

NOTE—At the discretion of the driver license examiner and under certain circumstances (based upon a person's driving record, etc.) you may be required to take a written and/or a driving test.

If your vision problem affects your driving, you will be required to obtain corrective lenses. You may also be required to secure from a competent authority a statement that your vision cannot be improved, in which case driving restrictions will be imposed.

The driving test will usually be given only after all other tests have been passed. It will be necessary for you to have a vehicle of the type corresponding to the class license for which you are applying to drive. But since it is unlawful for you to drive a motor vehicle without a license, you must have a licensed driver bring you to the place of examination. The vehicle will be checked by the examiner before the test begins to determine if it is in a safe operating condition (lights, horn, etc.). Additionally, you must present current registration and evidence of insurance forms.

During the driving test the examiner will direct your driving and issue the instructions for the functions he desires you to perform. It will be up to you to perform these functions properly, giving the necessary signals and to demonstrate to the examiner that you have the knowledge and ability necessary to drive a motor vehicle. The examiner will not ask you to violate any laws.

Driver License—Renewal

1. Your driver license may be renewed at any time before the expiration date.
2. The department will send an expiration notice approximately 60 to 90 days prior to the expiration date.

Driver License—Expiration

All class licenses are valid for 4 years.

Motorcycle Endorsement

A motorcycle endorsement expires simultaneously with the expiration of the basic license to which it was endorsed.

Driver License—Social Security Number

Persons applying for a Nevada driver license must present evidence of their Social Security Number before a driver license will be issued. This requirement also applies to persons renewing a Nevada driver license if their current license does not contain a Social Security Number.

Persons who have never been assigned a Social Security Number, and so swear, will be assigned a number by the department.

Driver License—You Are Required By Law To

1. Have your driver license in your possession at all times when driving a motor vehicle.
2. Manually surrender your driver license for examination upon demand from a justice of the peace, a peace officer or an official of the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety.
3. Notify the department within 10 days of a change of address which can be done either through the mail or by appearing at the nearest Driver License Office. Failure to do so is a misdemeanor.
4. Notify the department in person within 10 days of a name change accompanied by supporting documents (such as marriage certificate, divorce decree or court order). Failure to do so is a misdemeanor.

Driver License—Suspension, Revocation and Cancellation

Suspension—Your license shall be suspended if you:

1. Receive 12 or more demerits against your driving record in any 12-month period.
2. Have committed an offense in another state, which if committed in this State would be grounds for suspension or revocation.
3. Become incompetent to drive a motor vehicle.
4. If you are convicted of a moving traffic violation and the court recommends suspension of the driving privilege.

In addition to the causes for suspension listed on these pages, your license will be suspended if you fail to appear in court and pay fines for traffic violations within the time allotted.

Revocation—Your license shall be revoked for the following:

1. Conviction of manslaughter resulting from the driving of a motor vehicle.
2. Conviction of any felony in the commission of which a motor vehicle is used, including the unlawful taking of a motor vehicle.
3. Failure to stop and render aid in the event of a motor

vehicle accident resulting in the death or personal injury of another.

4. Perjury or the making of a false affidavit or statement under oath to the department.

5. Conviction or forfeiture of bail, upon 3 charges of reckless driving committed within a 12-month period. Revocation is for 1 year.

6. A first violation within 7 years of driving under the influence—revoked for 90 days.

7. A second violation within 7 years of driving under the influence—revoked for 1 year.

8. A third or subsequent violation within 7 years of driving under the influence—revoked for 3 years.

9. Failure to submit to a chemical test of blood, urine or breath to determine possible intoxication when requested by a police officer if the police officer had reasonable grounds to believe you had been driving a vehicle upon a highway while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or controlled substances (drugs). The failure to submit to such a chemical test will result in the mandatory revocation of your driver license for 1 year, irrespective of the subsequent court disposition of the driving under the influence charge.

If the person who fails to take the chemical test has previously had his license suspended because of failure to take such test their license must be revoked for a 3 year period without the possibility of a restricted or work license.

Cancellation—Your license shall be cancelled if you:

1. Fail to give the required or correct information in applying for a driver license.

2. Commit any fraud in applying for a driver license.

3. If you are under 18 years of age, your parent or guardian may for any reason, at any time, request your license be cancelled.

Driver License—Suspended, Revoked or Cancelled in Another State

If prior to obtaining a Nevada driver license, your license had been suspended, cancelled or revoked in another state, you cannot obtain a license until the period of such suspension or revocation has expired and a letter of clearance is submitted from the state in which action occurred.

You should remember that a notation of all violations, convictions,

and accidents is made on your permanent driving record, and such record will be taken into consideration not only for the suspension, revocation or cancellation of your present license, but also upon application for renewal.

Driver License—Reinstatement—After Suspension or Revocation

In some cases, under the provisions of the Safety Responsibility Act and after termination of revocation or certain suspensions, proof of financial responsibility must be filed as a condition to reinstating one's driving privilege. The following is the usual way such proof is filed:

1. File an SR-22 form.

2. To file an SR-22 form you must obtain liability insurance coverage in the form of a certificate of insurance from an insurance agent.

3. The Driver License Division of the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety in Carson City must have the required financial responsibility information on file before you can be cleared to have your driving privilege restored.

4. You must be retested for a driver license.

5. Payment of a reinstatement fee is required: \$25 except for revocation due to violation of DUI laws; \$50 for revocation due to violation of DUI laws; plus a \$35 civil penalty for conviction under NRS 484.379, Driving While Intoxicated.

6. If you are suspended for No Insurance; Failure to Maintain Insurance; Security Deposit; Default on Agreement; Unsatisfied Judgment; Default on Installment to Satisfy a Judgment, you will be required to file an SR-22 form. If you are revoked under Nevada's DUI Law, you must also file an SR-22.

Driver License—Hardship Permit

Upon good cause acceptable to the administrator, the department may issue a restricted driving privilege.

Accidents—Duty When Involved in an Accident

1. Stop your car at once off the roadway. The first thing that must be done is render all possible aid to anyone injured. Call a physician or surgeon and an ambulance if necessary.

2. If the accident takes place outside the city limits, you should immediately notify the sheriff of the county in which the accident occurred, or the nearest office of the Nevada Highway

Patrol or office of a duly authorized police authority. If it happens within a city, the municipal police department should be notified.

3. If you are in an automobile accident, anyone who has been struck or was in another car that collided with yours, upon request, is entitled to examine your driver license.

4. You must make a written police report of every accident to the nearest law enforcement agency, whether you are at fault or not. If the driver is injured so badly that he cannot make the report, anyone else who may be riding in the car should make the report. Accident reports are also used to obtain information as to where and when accidents occur most often, and which people are most often involved.

SAFETY RESPONSIBILITY ACT

All Nevada motorists, residents or non-residents, are affected by the provisions of the Nevada Safety Responsibility Act.

The act requires that in the event of an accident that was not investigated by a law enforcement agency an SR-1 form must be submitted by the drivers within 10 days if:

(a) Anyone is killed or injured, or

(b) If the accident results in \$350 damage or more to the property of any one person.

If you are physically unable to make the report, you must have someone make it for you. You must make the report if you are the driver or owner of a vehicle involved even if you are the only person injured and regardless of whether or not you were at fault in the accident.

The department may require additional information of a driver if the report filed by a police officer or highway patrol trooper is incomplete.

Failure to file a complete SR-1 report form may result in your losing the protection of this law.

Injured pedestrians or passengers are not required to file an SR-1 report form.

The law provides for the suspension of the driving privilege of anyone who fails to file a report as required.

After your SR-1 report form is filed and if you indicate that you were not covered by liability insurance coverage at the time of the accident, you will be notified that you have the opportunity of a hearing to determine if there is a reasonable possibility

of a judgment being rendered against you in a court action to recover damages resulting from the accident, prior to suspension action being taken. If an Order of Suspension is issued, your driving privilege will be suspended unless, within the 10-day period before the order becomes effective:

1. You submit evidence of an automobile liability insurance policy in effect on the date of such accident;* or

2. You submit a release of liability by all persons who received any personal injury or property damage in such accident, sworn before a notary public; or

3. You submit a cash deposit in the amount stated in the notice; or

4. You submit evidence that you were free from fault or declared through court action not liable for damage from such accident.

Instructions for filling out Safety Responsibility Act forms:

Fill out completely the SR-1 report form giving special attention to the information required in Section 6. Be sure to fill in the name and address of your liability insurance company covering the vehicle.

Mail directly to:

Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety
Driver License Division
Safety Responsibility Section
555 Wright Way
Carson City, Nevada 89711

Do not mail the report to your insurance company, but notify your insurer of the accident at once and they will send you their report forms to be completed and returned to them.

SR-1 report form may be obtained from any police officer, Nevada Highway Patrol Trooper, sheriff's office, branch office of the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety or from the Safety Responsibility Section at the address stated previously.

The person in charge of any garage or repair shop to which a motor vehicle is brought which shows evidence of having been involved in an accident, shall report that fact to the local police

*The liability policy must be in amounts to cover \$15,000 for the death or injury of one person; \$30,000 for the death or injury of two or more persons; and \$10,000 for property damage.

department if such garage or shop is located within a city. Otherwise, the report made by the garage or repair shop shall be made to the office of the county sheriff or the nearest office of the Nevada Highway Patrol, within 24 hours after such motor vehicle is received by the garage or repair shop. The report shall indicate the serial number, registration number and the name and address of the owner of such vehicle unless a damage sticker has been affixed by a law enforcement agency.

MANDATORY INSURANCE COVERAGE

The registered owner, or in some instances the operator, of a motor vehicle in Nevada must be able to demonstrate proof of financial responsibility: that is, proof which shows the ability to respond to damages to persons and property caused by a motor vehicle accident. This proof may be established in several ways:

1. By a contract of insurance for a motor vehicle liability policy.
2. By a contract of insurance for an operator's policy of liability insurance.
3. By qualifying as a self insurer.

If the vehicle is not registered in Nevada, the legal owner assumes liability.

Registration Renewal—An application for an original or for a renewal of the registration of a vehicle must include a signed declaration by the applicant that he has and will maintain liability insurance covering the motor vehicle to be registered. The evidence of insurance card must be carried in the vehicle.

REGISTRATION AND LICENSE PLATES

Staggered Registration

Nevada registers passenger and certain other vehicles on the staggered system for twelve (12) consecutive months. However, the system is a daily expiration in that it expires 12 months from the day the registration was issued. Each year a renewal notice is mailed to the registered owner and the vehicle registration must be renewed by the same day of the expiration month or penalties will be assessed. **THERE IS NO GRACE PERIOD.**

Equipment—Your Vehicle Needs

Brakes—For safe operation, your car must have good brakes. The foot brake must be adjusted so that you can stop your car

within 25 feet from a speed of 20 miles per hour. The emergency brake must be strong enough to hold the car on any hill and should also serve as an auxiliary brake in cases where the foot brake has suddenly become inoperative. A very dangerous condition exists when the brakes exert unequal braking power on the various wheels. Such a condition can easily throw the car into a skid or pull it from the roadway.

Headlights—Your vehicle must have a minimum of two white headlights (one for a motorcycle), one on each side of the front of the car and two red taillights.

The headlights should be adjusted to light the road without throwing a dazzling or blinding light in the eyes of oncoming drivers. You should be able to see a pedestrian 350 feet ahead at night, under clear weather conditions.

Your car must be equipped with adjustable headlight beams, and the low (dim) beam must be used when an oncoming vehicle is within 500 feet or when driving in cities where there are street lights or other sufficient light to see a person on the street 500 feet ahead.

The law also states that when following another vehicle (within 300 feet), the headlights must be on low beam, except when overtaking or passing.

Headlights must be turned on one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, and during periods of insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions.

At night do not over-drive your lights, but instead drive at a speed so that you can always stop within the distance of safe vision.

Driving with your high beam in the fog is like shining your lights on a mirror. Most of the light is reflected back into your own eyes. Use your lower beam so that the light will go under the fog.

Avoid looking into the lights of an oncoming car as much as possible and watch the extreme right-hand side of the pavement as this reduces the amount of light that enters your eyes and makes it easier to see the road ahead after the car has passed.

Taillights—All motor vehicles, except motorcycles and those vehicles originally manufactured with one taillight, must have two red taillights visible for 500 feet to the rear.

Stoplights—The law further states that stoplights actuated by application of the foot brake shall be visible for a distance of 300 feet to the rear of the vehicle in normal daylight.

License plate light—There must also be a white light on the rear of the vehicle to illuminate the license plate so that it is visible 50 feet to the rear.

Other Equipment—Your Vehicle Needs

Horn in operating condition.

Muffler on the exhaust.

Rear-view mirror so placed that regardless of the load, the driver may see vehicles approaching from the rear for at least 200 feet. (Two mirrors for motorcycles.)

Tires should be in good condition and properly inflated. Rules and regulations have been adopted by the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety regarding the proper depth of tread on vehicle tires.

Windshield wipers in operating condition.

Windows should be kept clean and clear. Signs or stickers which obstruct the driver's vision are not allowed. Items may be displayed in the 6 inch square area of the lower right corner on the passenger side windshield, as well as signs or stickers required by state or federal law.

Seat belts—Your passenger car, if manufactured after January 1, 1968, must be equipped with at least two lap type seat belts for use in the front seat positions. If your passenger car was manufactured after January 1, 1970, it must be equipped with a lap type seat belt for each permanent passenger seating position and at least two shoulder harness type seat belts for use in the front seating positions.

A seat belt must be worn by the driver and by any passenger five (5) years of age or older if such a belt is available.

There are special regulations on equipment for trucks.

Equipment—Vehicle Should Not Have

Some of the things which you might put on your car are dangerous as well as illegal. They are:

1. A muffler cut-out.
2. More than two auxiliary driving or fog lights.
3. Ornaments hanging from the rear-view mirror which obstruct the driver's vision.
4. Red light or blue light showing to the front.
5. Signs, pictures or stickers (unless official) on the windshield or windows.
6. Siren, bell or whistle.

Equipment—Motorcycle

Every motorcycle shall be equipped with the following:

1. **Headlights**—At least one and not more than two head lamps.
2. **Taillights and stoplights**—One tail lamp mounted on the rear of the vehicle shall emit a red light and be visible for a distance of 500 feet from the rear. Stoplights shall be actuated upon application of the service brake and shall be capable of being seen and distinguished from a distance of 300 feet to the rear of the vehicle in normal daylight.
3. **Brakes**—Must have a front and rear brake.
4. **Horn**—A horn in good working order.
5. **Muffler**—A muffler which will effectively reduce the noise of the engine.
6. **Reflector**—At least one red reflector on the rear of the cycle.
7. **Electric turn signals**—Every motorcycle manufactured after January 1, 1973, which is sold or offered for sale and which is intended to be operated upon the highways of this State, shall be equipped with electric turn signals located at the front and at the rear of the motorcycle. This requirement does not apply to mopeds or those motorcycles propelled by a motor producing not more than 5 brake horsepower measured at the crankshaft and having a maximum speed not exceeding 30 miles per hour upon maximum acceleration from a standing start for 1 mile on a level surface.
8. **Two rear-view mirrors**—One on each handlebar.
9. The driver and passenger shall wear **protective head gear** securely fastened on the head and protective glasses, goggles or face shields.

OTHER DRIVING RULES

Overtaking and Passing

When you want to overtake another vehicle and wish to pass it, do not cross the center line if a solid yellow line is in your lane.

Do not attempt to pass another vehicle when there is no yellow line unless you are sure that you will not be in the way of an oncoming car.

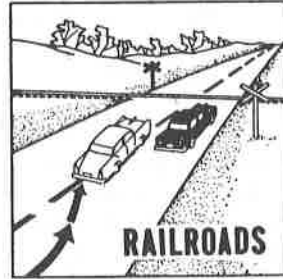
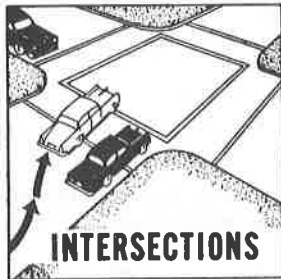
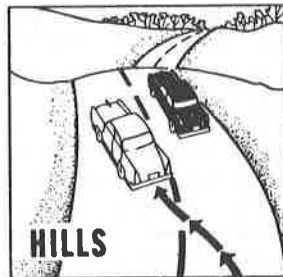
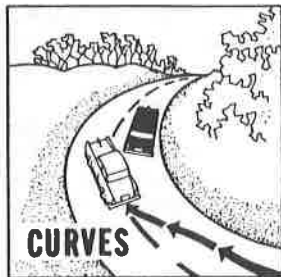
Except where otherwise provided you may drive across a pavement striping to make a left hand turn after giving the

appropriate signal and if the turn will not be an impediment to oncoming or following traffic.

Except in business or residential districts, sound your horn to pass so that the driver ahead will be aware of your presence and will know what you intend to do.

When passing you must give the appropriate signal. Do not pull back into the lane occupied by the car you have just passed until you can see it in your rear-view mirror. Always overtake and pass other cars on the left unless they are getting ready to make a left-hand turn, or in heavy traffic when cars are going along steadily in two or more lanes in each direction. A signal of intention to change lanes shall be given not less than the last 100 feet traveled in a business or residential district and not less than 300 feet traveled in any other area.

DO NOT PASS AT THESE LOCATIONS



When a driver behind you sounds his horn to pass, move over to the right if you can. You should also maintain the same speed or slow down a little. Never increase your speed until the overtaking car has passed and is well ahead.

Use Your Horn

Sound your horn in case pedestrians are not aware of your presence and when overtaking to pass, except in business or residential districts.

Following Too Close

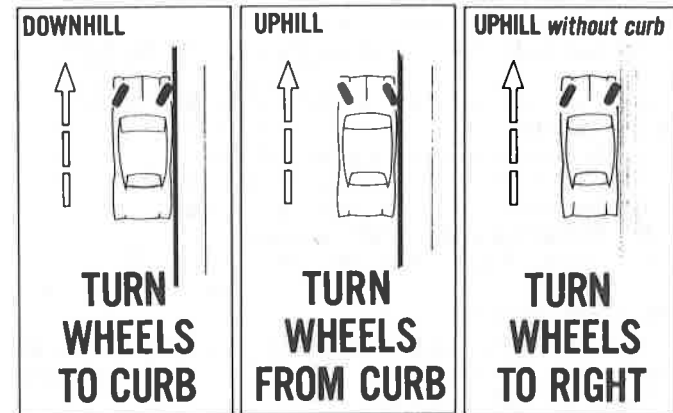
You must not follow another car too closely. The faster you drive, the more distance there should be between you and the car you are following. This helps to avoid rear-end collisions and also permits other drivers to pass you safely. Allow at least one car length for every 10 m.p.h. of speed.

Parked on Side of Road

The person driving or in charge of any motor vehicle, except a commercial vehicle loading and unloading goods, shall not permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition and removing the key.

When you stop and your car is headed down hill, turn your front wheels toward the curb, or the right-hand side of the road.

If you are stopped and headed up hill, turn your front wheels from the curb and move your car back until your right front wheel rests against the curb. If there is no curb, turn them sharply toward the side of the road (to the right), the same as when headed down hill.



When stopping on a hill, you should always leave your car in reverse or low gear if it has a manual transmission, or in "Park" if equipped with an automatic transmission.

Parking on a Hill

Park parallel, close to the curb or edge of the road, unless signs or pavement markings indicate angle parking.

Never park on the paved or traveled part of any highway outside of a business or residential district when it is possible to pull off the road.

If you have to make an emergency stop, get all four wheels off the hard surface.

Never park on a hill or curve unless it is impossible to move the vehicle.

When your car is parked it should be visible for 200 feet in both directions. If you have a mechanical failure of such nature that your car cannot be moved for a time, and it is not visible for at least 200 feet in each direction, every possible precaution should be taken to prevent traffic from striking the parked vehicle.

Parallel Parking

You must not stop or park your car in any of the following places whether there is someone in the car or not:

1. Within an intersection.
2. On a crosswalk or sidewalk.
3. Alongside any street repair where you would block traffic.
4. Within 30 feet of a signal light or stop sign placed at the side of the road.
5. In front of a private or public driveway.
6. Upon a bridge, overpass, underpass, or tunnel.
7. On the wrong side of a street or highway.
8. Within 5 feet of a private driveway.
9. Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.

Handicapped Parking

A person shall not park a vehicle in a space designated for the handicapped, whether on public or private owned property, unless he is eligible to do so.

Any person who violates this provision shall be punished by a fine of \$100.

Exiting Stopped Vehicle

It is unlawful for a person to open the door of or board or alight from the side of a vehicle which is closest to passing traffic in such a manner as to interfere with moving vehicular traffic. A person shall not leave open a door to passing traffic longer than is necessary for immediate loading or unloading of passenger or cargo.

RIGHT-OF-WAY

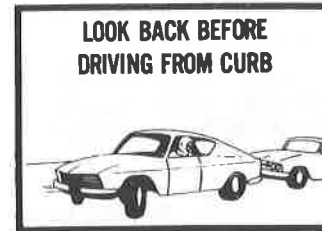
You must yield the right-of-way and when necessary stop before entering a main highway, whether it is marked with a stop sign or not.

Even though you have the right-of-way you should watch all cars and people on the road and drive in order to avoid an accident.

The important thing is not to insist on your right-of-way if there is a risk of an accident in so doing, as many people have been killed insisting upon their right-of-way.

You must never drive fast through an intersection; and having the right-of-way does not allow you to drive in a manner that might result in an accident.

Starting a Parked Vehicle



You should never start a stopped or parked vehicle unless you are certain that the way is clear and you can pull out or back in perfect safety. Also, the proper signals must be given when starting from a stopped or parked position.

If you do not use your electric turn signals, you must give the appropriate hand signal by extending your arm horizontally (same as for left turn). This does not apply when you are parked on the left-hand side of a one-way street.

Standard Right-of-Way Rules

1. If an intersection does not have any traffic control devices and another car reaches the intersection before you do, it has the right-of-way. You must let it go ahead of you. (See Illustration 1, page 33.)

2. If your car and another enter an intersection at about the same time, the driver approaching from the right has the right-of-way. The law says that the driver on the left must yield and let the vehicle on the right go ahead. (See Illustration 2, page 33, right-of-way.)

3. If you are preparing to enter a through street or highway from a side street after making a full stop at a stop sign, you do not have any right-of-way over cars approaching on the through street or highway. (See Illustration 3, page 33.)

4. If you intend to make a left turn at an intersection you must first give the appropriate signal and yield to all vehicles which have or are about to enter the intersection. Remember, the safety of yourself and others is aided by good defensive driving actions. (See Illustration 4, page 33.)

5. Any pedestrian or operator of a motor vehicle who approaches or encounters a person using a guide dog or carrying a cane or walking stick white or metallic in color or white tipped with red, shall immediately come to a full stop and take such precautions before proceeding as may be necessary to avoid accident to the blind person.

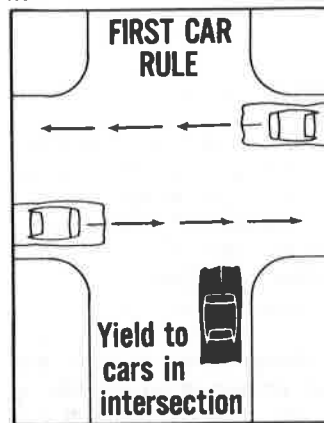
6. Any person other than a blind person who fails to heed the approach of a person as described in paragraph 5 above, or fails to come to a stop or take precautions against accident or injury to such a person is guilty of a misdemeanor.

7. When you are stopped at an intersection planning to make a left turn, you should keep your wheels straight, so if you are hit from the rear, your chances of colliding with oncoming traffic will be less. (See Illustration 4, page 33, right-of-way.)

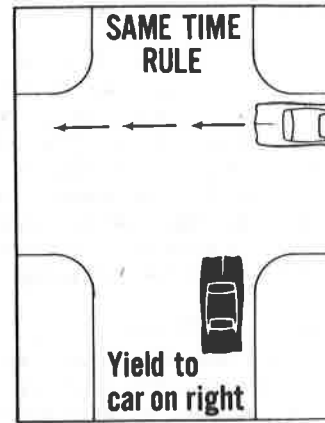
8. Police cars, fire engines, ambulances or other emergency vehicles using their red lights or their blue lights in conjunction with their red lights and/or audible warning devices, have the right-of-way. You should, if possible, pull over to the right at once and stop to let them go by. Police vehicles may be using audible warning devices only.

RIGHT-OF-WAY AT INTERSECTIONS

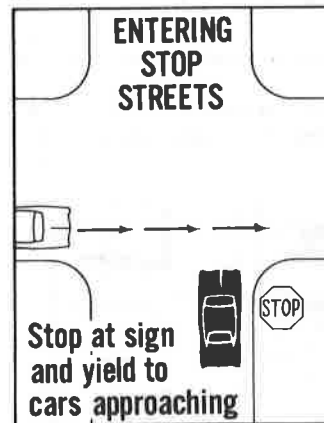
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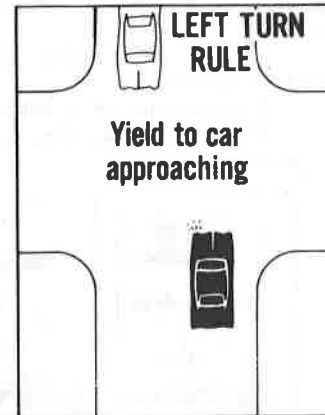
No. 2

**RIGHT-OF-WAY AT STOP STREETS**

No. 3



No. 4



9. Before you drive into a public street or highway from a private drive or side road, stop and let the cars on the street or highway pass first. You must make a complete stop, even if the way seems clear, and enter the street or highway only when it is safe to proceed.

10. If a pedestrian is crossing the street ahead of you, give the right-of-way to the pedestrian.

11. If a pedestrian has started across the street while the green traffic light is showing for the direction he is going, give him the right-of-way even if the light changes.

12. In regard to uncontrolled intersections, your speed should be slowest before entering intersection.

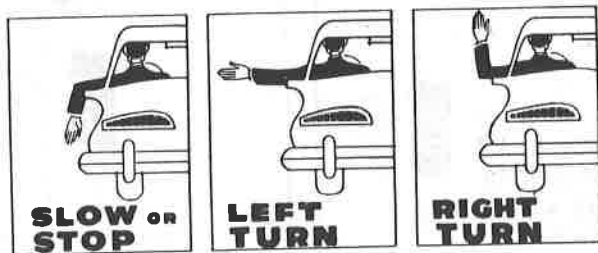
13. Watch for pedestrians between vehicles.

Signals for Drivers

When you slow down, turn, change lanes, or stop, you must do so safely, and give the proper signal to indicate your intentions to other drivers and pedestrians. Turn signals must be given for the driver approaching as well as for the driver behind you.

In an emergency condition when the directional lights are temporarily inoperative, signals must be indicated with the left arm as follows:

1. For stopping, arm extended downward with palm of hand to the rear.
2. For left turn, arm extended horizontally.
3. For right turn, arm extended at approximately 45° angle upward.



A signal of intention to turn right or left or change lanes shall be given not less than the last 100 feet of travel in a

business or residential district and not less than the last 300 feet traveled in any other area, and the signal must be completed and the hand returned to the wheel before starting the maneuver.

TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Drivers and pedestrians must obey the following signals:

1. *Red light*—Stop where the signal is a steady red signal alone, vehicular traffic facing such a signal and situated on the extreme right of the highway may proceed into the intersection for a right turn only when the intersecting highway is two-directional or one-way to the right, or vehicular traffic facing such a signal and situated on the extreme left of a one-way highway may proceed into the intersection for a left turn only when the intersecting highway is one-way to the left, but shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic proceeding as directed by the signal at such intersection. You may not enter an intersection when a red light is shown.

2. *Flashing red light*—The driver must come to a full stop before entering the intersection and proceed only when it is safe to do so. It has the same regulatory effect as a "STOP" sign.

3. *Flashing yellow light*—Slow down and proceed with caution.

4. *Steady yellow light*—Warning that a steady red light will appear next prohibiting further crossing. Pedestrians are warned there is insufficient time to cross the highway or roadway.

5. *Green light*—Go if it is safe to do so. Cars or pedestrians that are in the intersection have the right-of-way.

6. *Green arrows*—Vehicles may go with caution in the direction the arrow points. (Straight ahead; right turn; left turn.)

7. *"Walk" light*—Pedestrians cross when signal facing their crosswalk shows "Walk."

8. *"Don't Walk"*—Pedestrians do not cross.

9. *Flashing "Don't Walk"*—Pedestrians do not cross.

SPEED

Many persons drive their vehicles year after year without accident or violation because they drive at a speed that is reasonable for the conditions of the road, the car, the weather, the traffic, and their own ability.

Nevada has numerous hazardous areas that are controlled by speed zones. Watch for speed signs and observe the posted speed in these areas. Nevada has a 55-mile per hour maximum speed law.

How fast you drive should depend on the following: The amount of traffic; the distance you can see under the existing light and weather conditions; how quickly you can stop your car; your brakes and tires; whether the road surface condition is dry, wet, or icy; the sharpness of curves; the steepness of hills; and the frequency of crossroads.

In stormy weather, for example, 20 miles per hour might be excessive speed for certain stretches of road, while under ideal operating conditions the same stretch of road might be traveled at a higher rate of speed with equal safety.

The following is a speedgraph which indicates (1) different speeds, (2) yards traveled per second at each speed, (3) reaction time in regard to yards traveled before the average person steps on the brake after seeing a danger.

Please remember the figures are a close approximation and are not to be considered exact calculations for all driving conditions.

(1) Speed MPH	(2) Yards Traveled Per Second	(3) Reaction Time Yards*
55 MPH	28 Yds.	21 Yds.
45 MPH	23 Yds.	17 Yds.
35 MPH	18 Yds.	13 Yds.
25 MPH	13 Yds.	10 Yds.
10 MPH	5 Yds.	4 Yds.

*Yards traveled from first reaction of danger until brakes are applied.

There are many cases where driving too slow is equally as hazardous as driving too fast for it not only has a tendency to back up traffic and cause congestion, but also encourages following traffic to pull into the line of opposing traffic. When there are two or more lanes of travel in the same direction, slower traffic must keep to the right to avoid congestion and allow more rapid traffic to pass. You should drive at a speed that is safe and reasonable; and if possible, try to maintain the average speed of the traffic moving on the particular road you are traveling. Be particularly careful while driving in school zones or in zones where traffic speeds have been established.

A person shall not drive a motor vehicle in excess of 15 miles per hour in a designated school zone during the hours while school is in session.

RECKLESS DRIVING

The law considers you guilty of reckless driving if you drive any vehicle in willful or wanton disregard of the safety of persons or property.

If you are found guilty of three reckless driving charges within a 12-month period, it is mandatory on the part of the Driver License Division to revoke your license. Your license will be revoked for a period of one year.

KEEPING TO THE RIGHT

Travel as close as possible to the right edge of the roadway or street, except when about to overtake and pass another car, or if you are getting ready to make a left turn.

In the following places you must never drive to the left of center of the roadway:

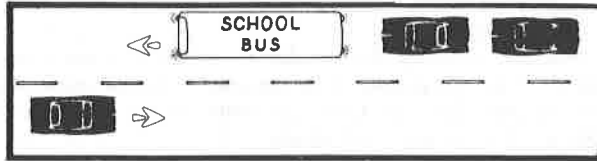
1. Coming up to a bridge, overpass, or tunnel.
2. At a railway crossing or an underpass.
3. At street or highway intersections.
4. Coming up to the top of a hill or on a curve where you do not have unobstructed sight distance for 500 feet ahead (often marked with a yellow line in your lane which you must not cross).
5. When an oncoming car is so close that it is not safe to cross the center line.
6. Where there are two or more traffic lanes in each direction.
7. During a road block established by legal authority.

SCHOOL BUS—REQUIRED TO STOP

1. When meeting or overtaking a school bus that has stopped to board or unload children.
2. Meeting or overtaking a school bus that has flashing red lights.

3. NEED NOT STOP upon meeting or passing a stopped school bus with flashing red lights, when the bus is on another roadway separated with a physical barrier.

BOTH DIRECTIONS, STOP REGARDLESS OF NUMBER OF LANES, IF NO PHYSICAL BARRIER BETWEEN LANES



ADDITIONAL REQUIRED STOPS

1. At a stop sign at an intersection on the street or roadway you are traveling.
2. Flashing red traffic signal.
3. Flashing yellow signal if roadway is not clear ahead.
4. Involved in an accident.
5. Requested by any police or peace officer.
6. Stop signs at railroad crossings with wig-wag or flashing signals in operation.
7. Yield right-of-way sign appears and there is traffic on intersecting highway.
8. Any other emergency posted signs.

MAKING TURNS

In Making Any Turn

1. Reduce your speed so that no further slowing is necessary after the turn has been started.
2. Get into the correct lane.
3. Give the correct signal.
4. Look and be certain that your way is clear.
5. Make the turn cautiously.

Center Turn Lane

Whenever a highway has been designed to provide a single center lane to be used only for turning, by traffic moving in both

directions, a vehicle shall not be driven more than 200 feet in that lane in preparation of making a left-hand turn.

“U” Turn

A “U” turn may be made on any road where such turn can be made with safety, *except* under the conditions listed below:

1. In a business district except on a divided highway where an opening is provided.
2. At any intersection controlled by an official traffic control device unless posted otherwise.
3. A vehicle shall not make a “U” turn upon any curve, or upon the approach to or near the crest of a grade where the vehicle cannot be seen by the driver of any other vehicle approaching from either direction within 500 feet.

Right and Left Turns

In making a right turn your vehicle must be in the right-hand traffic lane. Make the turn as sharply as possible and remain in the right lane until well away from the intersection.

A signal of intention to turn right or left or change lanes shall be given not less than the last 100 feet of travel in a business or residential district and not less than 300 feet traveled in any other area.

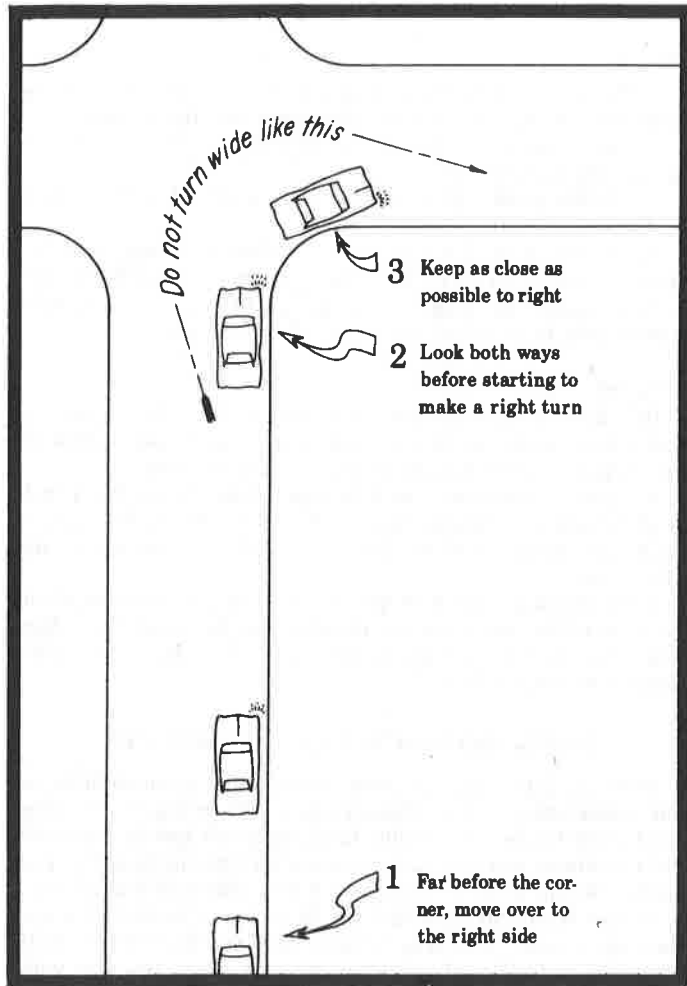
When making a left turn get into the lane just immediately to the right of the center line but do not cross the center line before you enter the intersection or after you leave the intersection. (See pages 40 and 41.)

WHEN MOTORCYCLES ARE PRESENT

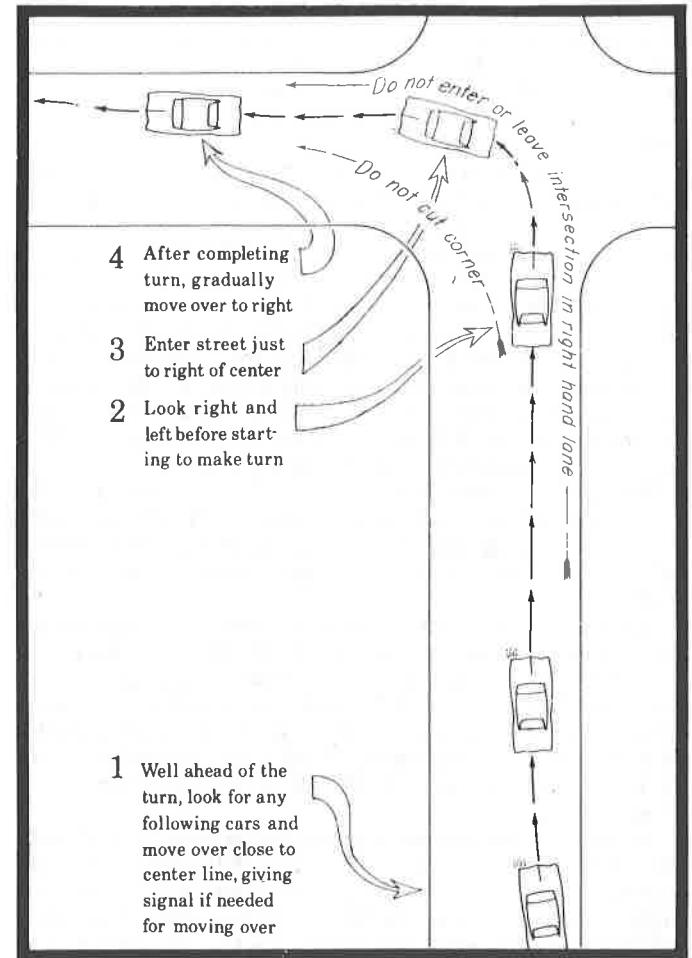
Motorcyclists have the same rights and responsibilities on public roadways as other highway users. While legally everyone must abide by the same traffic laws, there are special situations and conditions you need to be aware of so you can share the road safely with those who choose to use two wheels instead of four.

Why is it so important that you be aware of motorcycles and their operations? Primarily because motorcycles are not easily identified in traffic. Motorcycles are only about two feet wide compared with the five to six foot width of an automobile. Even when seen it is difficult for some drivers to judge how far away motorcycles are.

RIGHT TURNS



LEFT TURNS



Finally, even when seen and the distance away is correctly judged some drivers cannot tell how fast motorcycles are going. Being alert to this special perceptual problem and how motorcyclists react to specific situations can help you to avoid colliding with motorcyclists in traffic. The following are a few of the specific situations that call for special attention by motorcyclists and you.

Left turns in front of an oncoming motorcyclist account for a large percentage of car/cycle injury producing accidents. The problem of not seeing the motorcyclist is two fold: Car drivers may fail to pick the cyclist out of the traffic scene, or drivers may fail to judge the speed of the oncoming motorcycle. The correct behavior is to *look and look again. Make sure you see the motorcycle and know its speed before you make a left turn.*

Turn signals are not automatically self-cancelling on most motorcycles. At times, the rider may forget to turn the signal off. Before you make a turn in front of a motorcyclist, *be sure the rider is turning* and not continuing straight ahead into your path with a forgotten turn signal still blinking.

Following distance behind the motorcyclist should be the same 2-second following distance you would give any other vehicle. Following too closely may make the rider nervous causing the rider's attention to be distracted from the road and traffic ahead.

Lane usage for the motorcyclist is critical. Motorcycles are entitled to the same full lane width as all other vehicles. A skilled motorcycle operator is *constantly changing* positions within that lane to maximize his ability to see and be seen, and to compensate for objects in or near the road. Never move into the same lane alongside a motorcycle even if the lane is wide and the cyclist is riding far to one side. It is not only illegal, it is extremely hazardous.

Inclement weather and slippery surfaces can be real problems for motorcycles. Allow even more following distance for motorcyclists when it is raining or the road surface is wet and slippery. Skilled motorcycle riders will slow down under these conditions. Remember, motorcycles only have two wheels compared to your four.

Also, be alert to the problem of glare that rain and wet surfaces create, especially at night. It is easy to lose sight of a motorcycle and its rider under the best of circumstances.

Rain, wind, dust and smog affect the cyclist's vision more easily than yours in an enclosed vehicle. The cyclist's face shield, wind shield or goggles help, but cannot completely overcome all the vision limitations under these conditions.

Cross winds can be hazardous to motorcyclists. Windy conditions can actually move a motorcycle out of its lane of travel. Areas to look out for are wide open, long stretches of highways and bridges. Fast moving large trucks have been known to create wind blasts which can startle a motorcyclist, and under certain conditions actually move the motorcyclist out of his path of travel. Be alert to these conditions so you can prepare yourself for the possible quick change in speed or direction of the motorcycle.

Road surfaces and things in the road that do not normally affect other vehicles can create problems for the cyclist. Gravel, debris, pavement seams, small animals and even manhole covers may cause the motorcyclists to change speed or direction.

Railroad grade crossings may be rough or cross the road at an angle. The rider may slow down or change direction so the tracks can be crossed head on. The cyclist may rise up off the seat to help cushion the shock of a rough crossing.

Metal or grated bridges create a wobbling sensation in the front tire of the motorcycle greater than the feeling you experience in your car. This wobbling sensation may cause the inexperienced motorcyclist to quickly change direction or slow down.

Grooved pavement when first encountered by a motorcyclist may create a similar wobbling sensation. To over compensate for this feeling the rider may slow down or change lanes suddenly.

Be aware of these situations and follow these suggestions to share the road safely with motorcyclists. Regardless of who is legally at fault in car/cycle accidents, the motorcyclist usually is the loser. Your general awareness of motorcycles in traffic, combined with your special attention in the situations described above, can reduce motorcycle accidents, injuries and fatalities.

If you would like information about the actual operation of a motorcycle as well as the laws and equipment requirements pertaining to it, you may pick up a copy of the Motorcycle Operator Manual at any of the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety offices located throughout the State.

SHARING THE ROAD WITH BICYCLES

The bicycle is, by state law a vehicle. It has all the rights of a motor vehicle and all the obligations also. The bicycle should be ridden on the right side of the road. The correct position for the cyclist is in line with where an automobile's right front tire should be. If the lane is wide enough and the edge is not covered with gravel, glass or other hazards, the cyclist may ride far to the right to allow lane sharing. The bicyclist should signal for turns using the standard hand signals. The cyclist should stop for all stop signs and signals.

Most bike/car accidents occur at intersections. The three major causes of car/bike accidents are: Poor bicycle visibility, failure to yield, and improper turning actions. To reduce the chance of an accident, a motorist should: Search for a cyclist at all times (some hearty souls even cycle across the open stretches of desert) be prepared for the cyclist to run a stop sign or signal; be prepared for the cyclist to make a turn without signaling; merge right, even into a bike lane, when turning right to prevent a cyclist from overtaking on the right; not speed up to turn right in front of a cyclist because they often travel at speeds up to 30 mph; allow 3 to 4 feet for error when passing, changing lanes if necessary.

A motorist should almost never honk at a cyclist. Honking usually serves only to startle the cyclist, causing him to swerve or fall in front of you. Your car, unless it is electric, should make enough noise to alert the cyclist to your presence. The only exception to this rule perhaps is given to the obviously inexperienced cyclist, where a very slight tap on the horn, well in advance, serves to warn a very "shaky" or unstable cyclist whose concentration is mostly on his own vehicle, of your approach.

Treat a cyclist according to his skill. The inexperienced cyclist is a problem; they tend to ride in or near the gutter, against traffic, ignore traffic signals and signs, swerve unexpectedly, and often have no lights at night. When encountering the inexperienced cyclist, expect the unexpected. The experienced cyclist is easier to deal with. Simply allow the cyclist his space in the lane and expect him to act like any other vehicle.

FACTS ABOUT YOUR STATE

State Nicknames—Sagebrush State, Silver State, Battle Born State.

"Nevada"—Spanish meaning "snow-covered."

State Animal—Desert Bighorn Sheep.

State Area—110,690 square miles.

State Flag—Cobalt blue with sagebrush wreath and scroll in upper left corner.

State Flower—Sagebrush. (Official state emblem.)

State Motto—"All for Our Country."

State Tree—Single-leaf piñon evergreen, cone bearing, needle-leaved.

State Bird—Mountain Bluebird. (An azure blue songbird with white underneath.)

State Song—
"Home Means Nevada."

State Grass—
Indian Ricegrass.

State Metal—
Silver.

State Fossil—
Ichthyosaur.



Drive Safely!