



PARENT – TEEN DRIVING CONTRACT

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 AND a physical skill that needs to be nurtured and practiced – in a loving and supportive manner.

Parent(s) Signature(s)

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(s) Signature(s)

ITEMS TO NOTE:

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

New Driver's Initials _____

- I will obey all laws regulating driving. I will obey all rules established by my parents. I recognize this is for my safety and the safety of others.

New Driver's Initials _____

- I understand that the vehicle I drive is my parents' property. Even a vehicle that is a "gift" to me is still, legally, the property of my parents. As such, I will drive the vehicle only with my parents' permission.

New Driver'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 _____

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

New Driver'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 _____

- 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, if called to the scene or parents, if officers are not called.

New Driver's Initials _____

THE FUNDAMENTAL RULES

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 to the agreed upon locations will be discussed prior to leaving with the locations and routes 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 will result in ____ days/months of suspended driving privileges.

Seatbelts

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

Breaking of this rule will result in ____ days/months of suspended driving privileges.

Attention to Driving

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

Limit of Passengers

I will not be allowed to have any passengers without specific permission. Exceptions include: _____

Breaking of this rule will result in ____ days/months of suspended driving privileges.

Areas that are Off-Limits

I will not drive in any areas that are designated as off-limits and I understand these areas will expand 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.

Breaking of this rule will result in ____ days/months of suspended driving privileges.

Texting/Cell Phones/GPS System/Car Radio/CD Player/ MP3 Players

Under no circumstances will I text while I drive. I will not use a cell phone or any other electronic device while driving. I can use the radio at a low volume but will not make any adjustments to the radio while driving. Under no circumstances will I change a CD or adjust my digital music player while driving and agree that I will only interact with these items when I'm stopped or have pulled over.

Breaking of this rule will result in ____ days/months of suspended driving privileges.

Emotional Upset

I will not drive when I am upset or angry as I know this can affect 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 choose 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 vehicle I drive. I will keep it clean and well-maintained. If a problem arises with the mechanics of the vehicle, I will notify my parent(s) immediately.

Breaking of this rule will result in ____ days/months of suspended driving privileges.

No Aggressive or Crazy Driving

Under no circumstance will I drive aggressively and I will do my best to avoid aggressive drivers. 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 any kind, or any kind of "stunt" that involves a car. Driving is for transportation ONLY.

Breaking of this rule will result in ____ days/months of suspended driving privileges.

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.

Family Obligations

I agree to provide driving services as requested by my parent(s). 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.

In Car Supervision

My parents have the right to insist on 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:

Tickets and Moving Violations

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

No Alcohol or Drug Use/Abuse

While I hold the keys to the car, whether I'm driving or not, I will NEVER drink alcohol or participate in recreational substance use. I will not allow any alcohol or illegal drugs in the car. 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. I understand that I will lose all my driving privileges if any one of these rules is violated, even once.

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.

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 on any type of substance 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.

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 parent(s).

Reviewing This Agreement

Both parents and the New Driver agree that this contract will be reviewed and perhaps changed on _____.

Signatures

NEW DRIVER

DATE

PARENT(s)/Guardian(s)

DATE

CHANGES TO THIS AGREEMENT - I understand that this contract can be made stricter at any time my parent(s) believe that is the best thing to do. I understand that if I consistently follow and obey these rules that my parent(s) 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 this contract