

# Safe Driver Checklist

## Starting the Vehicle:

- Adjusts mirrors and seat
- Fastens safety belt
- Knows where the operating controls are located

## Moving Forward:

- Signals
- Looks in mirrors and over shoulder before pulling into traffic.
- Uses two hands on opposite sides of the steering wheel.

## Stopping:

- Checks traffic (sees and reacts to hazards).
- Stops behind crosswalk or limit line.
- Stops without using accelerator at the same time.

## Turns:

- Slows for turns.
- Begins and ends turns in the correct lane.
- Yields right of way when necessary.
- Accepts legal right of way when safe.
- Sees and reacts to hazards.

## Backing:

- Checks mirrors.
- Looks over right and left shoulder as appropriate.

## Changing Lanes:

- Signals
- Checks mirrors.
- Checks over shoulder to view blind spot.
- Changes lanes safely.
- Maintains speed.

## Driving on the Freeway:

- Checks traffic flow.
- Times entry into freeway.
- Checks mirrors and over shoulder before merging into traffic.
- Signals early and slows on exit ramp.
- Adjusts speed to road conditions.

## Defensive Driving Techniques:

- Checks mirrors before braking.
- Checks cross streets before passing.
- Checks signal lights and signs.
- Keeps eyes "moving".
- Keeps a "space cushion" around the car.
- Follows at a safe distance.