

Parent/Teen Driving Contract

by The Driving Skills Institute

This contract is between _____, Teen Driver, and _____, Parents. The parties understand that today's driving environment has a very high level of risk for all drivers, and especially the new and inexperienced driver. More than 5,000 teen drivers are killed and more than 300,000 teens seriously injured in car crashes in the U.S. each year. More teens are killed in car crashes than the total of the other five top causes. It is therefore very important to have a clear and complete understanding between Parents and Teens. The purpose of this contract is to establish the expectations, agreements and consequences between Parents and the Teen Driver.

1. There will be absolutely no drinking and then driving of any vehicle owned by the family, and there will be no drinking in the car by any other persons.

Consequence: All driving privileges are forfeited until the teen reaches the age of 18.

2. At no time will alcohol or drugs be located in any car belonging to the teen or parents.

Consequence: Loss of driving privileges for one year.

3. The teen agrees to call parents for advice and/or transportation at any hour, from any place, if there is ever a situation in which the teen has been drinking or a friend they are riding with has been drinking. There will be no questions asked nor arguments at that time. Discussion of the consequences related to the situation will be delayed until the following day.

4. As a teen demonstrates the acceptance of greater personal responsibilities and a genuine sense of maturity and decision making, parents shall grant more individual privileges, which will include short trips, entertainment, recreational activities, etc. This will be periodically reviewed by parents and teen to assure that the teen is able to earn more privileges - IF the teen is demonstrating maturity. But it is understood that these are privileges, not rights, and must be earned!

5. It is understood that the teen will NOT allow any other person to drive a family vehicle at any time, unless there is specific permission given by the parents to do so.

6. It is understood that there are specific state laws regarding the number of passengers while the teen is driving. It is therefore understood that any violation places the family at substantial risk in regard to financial responsibility. Consequence: Loss of driving privileges for _____ months.

7. It is understood that there are specific state laws in regard to the use of a cell phone by a teen while driving. The teen understands that they will NOT use a cell phone while driving. The teen also understands that any use of “texting” while driving is absolutely not permitted. *Consequence: Loss of driving privileges for _____ months.*

8. If the teen receives a traffic violation of 10 mph over a speed limit, the teen will be responsible for all costs associated with the violation including additional insurance costs. If the violation is more than 10 mph over the posted speed limit, and/or reckless or careless driving, the teen’s driving privilege’s are suspended for _____ months, and the teen will pay for all costs of insurance. The teen understands that these traffic violations will be on his/her record for three to five years, and will represent several thousands of dollars in additional costs.

9. The teen will wear a seat belt in any vehicle in which they are riding or driving, and when driving they will be responsible for any other passengers wearing a seat belt. *Consequence: Loss of driving privileges for _____ days.*

10. The teen understands that driving a car is not an appropriate place or time to “horse” around, and that friends can be killed and injured while “horsing” around. *Consequence: Loss of driving privileges to be determined by the seriousness of the specific situation.*

11. The teen agrees to maintain a grade point average of at least _____ . *Consequence: A portion or all of driving privileges will be lost until grade point is reestablished.*

12. Other specific agreements to become a part of this contract:
I promise to abide by the conditions and consequences of this contract, and I understand that my driving is a privilege and not a right. I promise to always drive in a responsible manner; to never play dangerous games in a vehicle; to never drive after drinking nor to ride with another driver who has been drinking. I will not place my life nor the life of friends or family at risk, nor will I place my family at financial risk.

I promise to abide by the conditions and consequences of this contract, and I understand that my driving is a privilege and not a right. I promise to:

- always drive in a responsible manner;
- to never play dangerous games in a vehicle;
- to never drive after drinking nor to ride with another driver who has been drinking.
- I will not place my life nor the life of friends or family at risk, nor will I place my family at financial risk.

Teen Signature _____

Date _____

- I (we) understand that we are signing for financial responsibility for our child to obtain a driving permit and license, and that this places great financial risk upon our family.
- I (we) promise to focus upon the preparation of our child, and to do what is necessary to reduce the risks to our teen driver.
- I (we) agree to become a mentor to our teen driver, and understand that yelling and screaming at our teen while driving is not an appropriate response, and that our teen will learn much more by a calm, instructional strategy.

Parent Signature(s) _____

Date _____