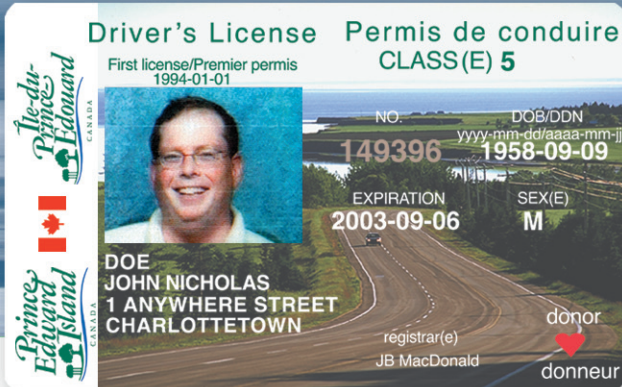
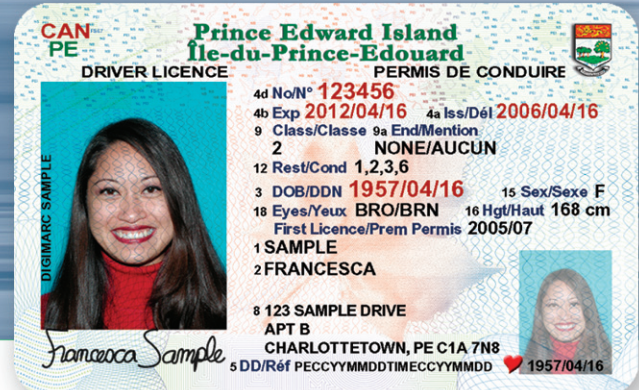


# Chapter 1: Your Driver's Licence



Licence format discontinued October 2006



Licence format introduced October 2006

# Chapter 1: Class 5 Driver's Licence Checklist

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MEDICAL <input type="checkbox"/>		REGISTRATION <input type="checkbox"/>	INSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/>	WILD MIA <input type="checkbox"/>	SIGNAL LIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/>	BRAKE LIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/>	WIPERS <input type="checkbox"/>	BODY <input type="checkbox"/>	TIRES <input type="checkbox"/>	HORN <input type="checkbox"/>	MIRRORS <input type="checkbox"/>	SEATBELTS <input type="checkbox"/>	APPROVED HELMET <input type="checkbox"/>	MOC <input type="checkbox"/>	DED <input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER <input type="checkbox"/>	
VEHICLE PLATE NO.		TEST CLASS: 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/>			ID NO.		OTHER										
STARTING										MISS PRACTICE		GENERAL DRIVING				MISS PRACTICE	
1. UNABLE TO LOCATE OR USE SAFETY DEVICES / EQUIPMENT 2. FAILS TO RELEASE EMERGENCY BRAKE 3. FAILS TO OBSERVE / CHECK TRAFFIC 4. FAILS TO SIGNAL 5. INCORRECT USE OF BRAKE, CLUTCH, ACCELERATOR, GEAR SHIFT 6. FAST / SLOW / UNLEN 7. LACKS PRE-TRIP INSPECTION KNOWLEDGE 8. WIPERS 9. SIGNALS TOO EARLY / TOO LATE / NONE / WRONG 10. FAILS TO CANCEL SIGNAL 11. FAILS TO TAKE PROPER LANE POSITION / TOO LATE 12. GOES CORNER / BUMPS CURB 13. DRIVES WISE 14. TOO FAST / TOO SLOW / INCORRECT USE OF BRAKE 15. POOR STEERING METHOD / CONTROL / RECOVERY 16. UNCERTAIN GEAR SHIFTING / WRONG GEAR / CLUTCH 17. IMPROPER ACTION / USING ONE HAND / FULCRUM / BOTTOM OF WHEEL / REMOVES HANDS 18. ONE-WAYS 19. SHOULDER CHECKS / NONE / WRONG SIDE / TOO LATE 20. TURNING FROM WRONG LANE 21. TURNING INTO WRONG LANE 22. DANGEROUS LANE CHANGE / TOO LATE / NONE 23. FAILS TO SIGNAL 24. REAR-VIEW MIRROR CHECK COMMENTS:										25. HOLDS STOP SIGNAL 26. FAILS TO STOP AT STOP SIGN / RED LIGHT 27. POSITION AT STOP SIGN / TRAFFIC LIGHT 28. FAILS TO YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS / VEHICLE 29. FAILS TO PROCEED ON GREEN / REDMANT / UNLAME TO ENTER 30. RUN AMBER LIGHT 31. IMPROPER ACTION ON FLASHING LIGHT 32. FAILS TO MAKE LEGAL TURN ON RED LIGHT / UNLAME 33. BLOCKS INTERSECTION / CROSSWALK 34. ACTION AT YIELD SIGN 35. FAILS TO OBSERVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS / PEDESTRIANS / TOO FAST / RIGHT OF WAY JUDGEMENT 36. SHIFTING / STALLED / WRONG GEAR / STARTS TOO QUICKLY 37. STRADDLES LANES / MIRROR LANE 38. STEPS TOO FAR BACK / LATE SLOWING / DOES NOT SLOW 39. RIGHT OF WAY JUDGEMENT: PEDESTRIAN / OWN VEHICLE / OTHER VEHICLE 40. FAILS TO CHECK BLIND INTERSECTION ADEQUATELY BACKING / PARKING 41. BACKING / PARKING 42. TRAFFIC CHECKS / ALL DIRECTIONS / SIGNALS / HORN 43. USES MIRRORS ONLY 44. TOO FAST 45. IMPROPER POSITION 46. BUMPS OTHER VEHICLE / OBJECT 47. LACKS SKILLS / STEERING / CONTROL / JUDGEMENT		48. FOLLOWS / PASSES / STOPS TOO CLOSELY 49. SPEED TOO FAST / TOO SLOW FOR CONDITIONS / SPEEDING 50. ROUGH BRAKING / ACCELERATION 51. STRADDLES LANE / MIRROR LANE / WRONG SIDE 52. USE OF MIRRORS 53. OVER-CONFIDENT / TOO AGGRESSIVE 54. LACKS CONFIDENCE / HESITANT / EXPERIENCE 55. FAILS TO JUDGE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS / PEDESTRIANS 56. INTENTIONAL DRIVING 57. POOR VEHICLE CONTROL / WANDERS 58. VISUAL CHECKS AT INTERSECTIONS / APPROACHING 59. LANE CHANGE SIGNAL / SHOULDER CHECK / MIRROR / MIRROR 60. USE OF HORN / SIGNALS 61. TRAFFIC VIOLATION (SPEEDY) / UNLAME ACTION / DANGEROUS ACTION 62. UNNECESSARY STOPS / UNLAME / DELAYS 63. UNCERTAIN GEAR SHIFTING 64. ATTITUDE: GOOD / POOR / POOR 65. TEST DISCONTINUED MOTORCYCLE DRIVERS 66. STARTING PROCEDURE: CLUTCH / TRANSMISSION (NEUTRAL) 67. PUT IN NEUTRAL: BALANCE / SPEED / 1st GEAR / CONTROL / BODY POSITION 68. POSITION OF FEET / FOOT / PRESS / RESTS / TURNING 69. IMPROPER LANE POSITION / ROAD POSITION 70. POOR VEHICLE CONTROL / SIDE / UNFAMILIAR 71. USE OF FOOT BRAKE: STARTING / INTERSECTIONS					
EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE		DATE		APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE													

**Class 5 Driver's Licence Checklist Form**

# Chapter 1: Your Driver's Licence

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## INTRODUCTION

There are a number of things you should know about your Driver's Licence and you should read this section very carefully so that you will understand them.

You need a valid Driver's Licence to drive a motor vehicle in Prince Edward Island. It must not be expired, suspended, cancelled or invalidated. Your Driver's Licence gives you the privilege of driving only as long as you are careful, considerate and obey the traffic laws; otherwise, it will be suspended.

Drivers' licences are valid only for the operation of the class(es) of the vehicle(s) shown on the licence and are always subject to any restrictions shown on the licence.

## WHO MAY APPLY FOR AN INSTRUCTION PERMIT

If you are 16 years of age or older, you may apply for an Instruction Permit if your driving privilege is not

under suspension. An Instruction Permit will allow you to operate a motor vehicle under supervision to receive instruction. The Instruction Permit is called a Stage 1 or Class 7 licence and is valid for two years from date of issue.

## DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

Every person applying for a first Instruction Permit, or Driver's Licence, must produce a birth certificate, passport, or Immigration papers before a Driver's Licence or Instruction Permit will be issued.

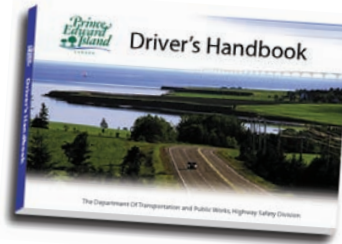
If your previous address was outside of Canada, you must show your Canadian Immigration Identification Record of Entry form when you apply. The PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada can assist you with the translation of your home country's Driver's Licence. There may be a fee for this service.

**INSTRUCTION PERMIT (CLASS 7)**

If you are a beginning driver and have reached 16 years of age, you may apply for an Instruction Permit.

To get this permit you must:

- study this Driver's Handbook carefully;
- make an appointment for your written test and pay the applicable fee;
- appear at the Highway Safety office in your area for written and sign-recognition tests based on the Driver's Handbook;
- if you are less than 18 years of age, have your application approved by your parents or legal guardians by their signing the parents' consent form found in the "Co-Pilot" brochure, and present this consent form along with a birth certificate. The parents or legal guardian may withdraw such



consent and if notice of withdrawal is given in writing to the registrar, the permit or licence will be cancelled at once;

- complete a vision test conducted by Highway Safety Staff; and
- pay Permit Fee.

Driver education schools conduct the Instruction Permit (Class 7) tests as well as the Driver's Licence (Class 5) road tests.

**GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSING RESTRICTIONS:**

Congratulations! You now have your Instruction Permit (Class 7, Stage 1) and have become part of the Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Program. The following restrictions apply:

- You may drive a motor vehicle only when a licensed driver, who has held a Driver's Licence for at least four years, and who does not have a blood alcohol count of 0.05 or more, occupies the seat beside you.

# Chapter 1: Your Driver's Licence

- The only passengers permitted in the vehicle are the person providing the instruction and that person's immediate family.
  - If you are enrolled in a driver education program, you may take your first road test after waiting 275 days. If you are not enrolled in a driver education program, you must wait 365 days before taking a road test.
  - Drivers in the GDL Program must have zero blood alcohol content (BAC).
  - Law enforcement has the explicit authority to ask to see the driver's licence of the individual providing the instruction.
  - The vehicle operated by the beginner must display a decal on the vehicle that identifies the operator of the vehicle as a beginner. (The decal is bright yellow in colour with a black letter **L** which is placed just above the Motor Vehicle Inspection sticker.) It is made of a material that allows it to be removed so it can be placed on other vehicles.
- Drivers in the GDL Program may not drive between the hours of 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. This does not apply to individuals who have an Instruction Permit (Class 7) and are 21 years old or older.
  - Any violation that results in demerit points will result in the suspension of the Instruction Permit (Class 7).
  - Any conviction you receive for failure to wear a seat belt while you are in the GDL Program will result in the suspension of your driver's licence. The first offence will result in a suspension of 30 days and second offence will result in a suspension of 90 days. In addition, while you are in the GDL Program, and any passengers fail to wear a seat belt, you may be issued a fine.
  - The use of handheld communication devices such as cell phones and MP3 players is prohibited for an individual who is in the Graduated Driver Licensing Program.

- You must fulfill the requirements of the Novice Driver Course.

## FARM TRACTOR PERMIT

If you are 14 years old, you may be licensed to drive a farm tractor on the highway under supervision.

## DRIVER EDUCATION LICENSING CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

If you are a student enrolled in a Driver Education Course, you will write your Instruction Permit (Class 7) examination at the driving school. After completion of the Driver Education Program, the driving school will also conduct the road test to certify you for a Class 5 Driver's Licence.

The Province monitors the Driver Education Licensing Certification Program. You may be required to have a second road test during your newly licensed driver probationary period. There is no fee for this evaluation

and it will be conducted by a Highway Safety examiner.

## STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A DRIVER EDUCATION COURSE

If you are a beginning driver enrolled in a licensed Driver Education Program, to receive your Instruction Permit (Class 7) you need to:

- successfully complete the written examinations at an authorized driving school;
- go to the Highway Safety/Access PEI office in your area for a vision test; and
- if you are less than 18 years of age, have your application approved by your parents or legal guardians by their signing the parents' consent form found in the "Co-Pilot" brochure, and present this consent form along with a birth certificate.

Once you have passed the written and vision exams, you will get an Instruction Permit (Class 7) that has

# Chapter 1: Your Driver's Licence

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been certified by your driver education instructor. You will be issued an Instruction Permit valid for two years.

## DRIVER EDUCATION PASSENGER RESTRICTIONS

- During this time you are permitted to drive a motor vehicle while accompanied by a driver education instructor with no more than four other students in the vehicle.
- You may also operate a motor vehicle if a licensed operator, who has held a valid Driver's Licence for at least four years, occupies the seat beside you, and no other people, except members of the immediate family of the licensed driver, are allowed in the vehicle.
- You must wait a minimum 275 days before a road test can be conducted by the driving school for certification of a Class 5 Driver's Licence.
- When you successfully complete the road test by the driver education school instructor, you must

return to the Highway Safety/Access PEI office to get your photo Driver's Licence.

## **NOTE:**

The Instruction Permit (Class 7) is not a Class 5 Driver's Licence. It remains an Instruction Permit until a photo driver licence has been issued. You must get your Class 5 photo licence within 30 days after you successfully complete the road test. If you do not, you may have to be retested by a Highway Safety examiner and pay the appropriate fees.



Licence format introduced October 2006



Licence format discontinued October 2006

These tests are to protect the general public from incapable drivers. They are not designed to keep you off the road but to point out areas where you can improve. The tests represent the minimum requirements for safe and courteous driving practices.

Passing the tests does not guarantee that you will never become involved in a collision. As the number of cars on the road increases, the risk of collision increases. There are many traffic signs and controls that you must recognize and obey. Driving makes great demands on drivers. You must be skillful, alert and always practise care, caution and courtesy.

## THE KNOWLEDGE TEST

You will take a written or oral test which examines your knowledge of traffic laws and safe driving practices. This test includes recognition of standard road signs. All of this information can be found in this handbook.

If you can't read and understand the written test, you may ask for an oral test. You will be asked about the rules of the road and safe driving practices, recognition of road signs by their shape, and your ability to read and understand the meaning of the signs.

If you do not successfully complete the written or oral test, you may make an appointment and take another test at a later date.

## THE VISION TEST

You must meet certain vision standards. If you cannot meet these standards, you may be referred to an eye specialist (ophthalmologist or optometrist) to have the findings checked. If you cannot meet the vision standards without the aid of corrective lenses (glasses or contact lenses),





# Chapter 1: What the Tests Are All About

you must obtain and wear corrective lenses while driving. Your Instruction Permit and Driver's Licence will contain a condition allowing you to drive a motor vehicle only while wearing corrective lenses. You will also be given:

- a colour vision test;
- a distance judgment test; and
- a field of vision test.

Any deficiencies uncovered by these tests will be carefully explained to you so that you can compensate for them in your driving. For example, if you are colour blind, you will have to learn the relative positions of the traffic signal lights. You will also have to exercise greater care when visibility is poor and certain coloured cars may blend into the background, making them invisible to you.

If your field of vision is very narrow, you may be refused a licence until the defect is corrected. In some

cases you may get a licence if your vehicle is equipped with mirrors which give the driver a clear view to the rear and both sides. In this case your licence will restrict you to driving with this kind of equipment at all times. If you cannot meet the minimum vision standard, even with glasses, you will be refused a licence.

## THE NOVICE DRIVER COURSE

If you have an Instruction Permit (Class 7), you must complete the Novice Driver Course before you are eligible for a road test. This material is covered in the classroom component of the Driver Education Program. It is the beginning of the most important stage of your driving experience - learning how to operate a motor vehicle properly and safely.

The Novice Driver Course explains:



# Chapter 1: What the Tests Are All About

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- the Graduated Driver Licensing Program;
- the demerit point system;
- impaired driving aspects of the Criminal Code;
- alcohol and drug education; and
- how to handle certain driving conditions.

The course lasts about five hours and is usually taught in two separate sessions. You must register in advance. Bring your Instruction Permit to the first class. To inquire about a course location and to register, call a Highway Safety/Access PEI office near you.

## THE ROAD TEST

You must provide the vehicle for your road test, and you must be accompanied by a licensed driver. Motor vehicles used for the driving test will be checked before your test for:

- valid licence plates;
- lights;

- horn;
- a rear-view mirror;
- seat belts;
- windshield wipers;
- muffler;
- brakes;
- tires;
- windshield;
- window glass; and
- valid inspection sticker.



**vehicle registration**

A driving test will not be given in any vehicle which is unsafe or does not meet equipment requirements. All vehicles for road tests must be covered by public liability insurance. Proof of insurance, in the form of a pink insurance card, must be produced before the road test. A valid copy of the vehicle registration is also required.

# Chapter 1: What the Tests Are All About

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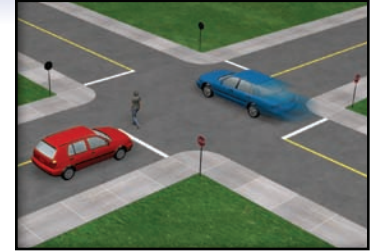
## THE PURPOSES OF THE ROAD TEST ARE:

- to measure your ability to operate the vehicle properly and safely under typical driving conditions;
- to determine whether or not retraining is necessary;
- to serve as a basis for additional training; and
- to assist you in correcting errors uncovered during the test.

Your examiner will tell you about the procedure of the road test. Simply follow the instructions of the examiner who will ride with you. During the driving test, do not talk unnecessarily with the examiner, as this may distract your attention from your driving. The examiner will not coach you during the driving test. If there are questions you would like to ask, do so before the start of the test. No other person will be permitted to ride in the vehicle during the test.

The road test is a sample of your ability to perform certain manoeuvres properly and safely, you will be checked on:

- starting;
- stopping;
- turning;
- parking;
- traffic signs and signals;
- travelling through controlled, partly controlled and uncontrolled intersections;
- anticipation of potentially hazardous conditions,
- attitude toward others; and
- other safe driving practices given throughout this handbook.



The examiner will analyse your driving and make suggestions about ways to improve your driving skills. Please cooperate with the examiner as he or she is trying to assist you in obtaining a Driver's Licence.

**NOTE:** Drivers must comply with all conditions on their Driver's Licence. Failure to do so is an offence under the *Highway Traffic Act*.

The growth in the number and variety of motor vehicles requires frequent updating of the qualifications of drivers. Under the Classified Licence System, drivers are licensed for the class or classes of vehicles for which they are qualified to operate. Drivers must meet vision, physical fitness, knowledge and skill standards for the particular class or classes of vehicles they wish to operate.

Drivers who are learning to operate vehicles in Classes 5, 6 and 9 must obtain an Instruction Permit (Class 7).

Drivers applying to learn to operate vehicles in Classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 must have a valid Class 5 Driver's Licence for a minimum of four years as an Instruction Permit for the class of vehicle for which they wish to take instruction. They must be accompanied by a licensed driver who holds a valid class of licence for the vehicle in which instruction is being given.

**NOTE:** All Driver's Licences expire at midnight on the birthday of the licensed driver.

**NOTE:** Instruction Permits (Class 7) are valid for two years from the date of issue.

### ALLOWING SOMEONE TO DRIVE YOUR VEHICLE

Make sure anyone who drives your vehicle holds a valid Driver's Licence or Instruction Permit (in which case, he or she is accompanied by a licensed driver who has held a valid Driver's Licence for at least four years).

### MOTORCYCLE OPERATORS' LICENCES

To qualify for a Motorcycle Operator's Licence a motorcycle operator must successfully complete a knowledge test, a vision test and a road test on a motorcycle. The procedures for



obtaining a Motorcycle Operator's Licence are very similar to those for obtaining a Class 5 Driver's Licence. The holder of an Instruction Permit who takes a road test on a motorcycle but not in a car, will be issued a licence specifying motorcycle operation only. During the 356 days after receiving an Instruction Permit to practise driving a motorcycle, a small, yellow learner's decal will be required to be placed on the back of the motorcycle operator's helmet.

Drivers who hold a valid Class 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 licence may apply for a Motorcycle Instruction Permit. This permit has the following conditions:

- daytime use only within 30 km of residence;
- NO passengers; and
- valid for 30 days from the date of endorsement.

### CHANGE OF NAME OR ADDRESS

If you change your name by marriage or other legal process, you must have your licence endorsed with a

change of name or address within 10 days from the effective date of the change. There is no charge for this service.

Change of an address must be reported to the registrar of motor vehicles within 30 days from the effective day of the change. Failure to notify the registrar of a change of name or address is an offence under the *Highway Traffic Act*.

Change of name or address may be reported to any of the Highway Safety/Access PEI offices.

### LOST, DESTROYED OR ILLEGIBLE LICENCES

If you lose or misplace your Driver's Licence or if it becomes illegible, you must apply for a duplicate licence. There is a fee for this service. Bring the number of the licence to be replaced and the date that licence was issued. If you don't have this information, bring your birth certificate with you.

Duplicate licences may be applied for at any Highway Safety/Access PEI office.

### OUT-OF-PROVINCE DRIVERS' LICENCES

If you are 16 years or older and you hold a valid Driver's Licence from another province, state, territory or country, you may drive in PEI for up to 120 days if you have not been prohibited from driving under the laws of any province, state, territory or country. You are subject to any limitations or restrictions on the licence. You may only drive a vehicle of the class for which you are authorized to drive under the licence held.

This does not apply if you are attending university or college full-time.

### LICENCE EXCHANGE

Nova Scotia and New Brunswick:

- A former resident of Nova Scotia or New Brunswick who holds a valid Class 5 Driver's Licence and is now

a resident of Prince Edward Island may exchange their Class 5 Driver's Licence at no charge.

- The PEI licence will be issued up to the amount of time allowed on a PEI driver's licence.
- The out-of-province licence must be surrendered when you get your PEI licence or Class 7.

All other residents:

- A valid Driver's Licence from other Canadian provinces and territories and the United States expired less than one year may be exchanged without written, vision or driving tests (immigration visa and passport required if applicant was born outside of Canada).
- Most foreign licences are not acceptable for exchange. Written, vision and driving tests must be successfully completed.
- Any person applying for a PEI Driver's Licence with a previous address outside of Canada must produce a Canadian Immigration Identification Record of

- Entry form and a passport at the time of application.
- Where no proof can be shown of previous licensing, all applicants must undergo a normal Instruction Permit (Class 7) procedure including successful completion of written and vision tests, issuance of an Instruction Permit (Class 7), and successfully complete the driving test.
- The out-of-province licence must be surrendered at the time of issue of the PEI licence.
- International licences are not proof of previous licence and are not exchangeable.

## INSTRUCTION PERMIT (CLASS 7) EXCHANGE

- The Instruction Permit (Class 7) must be valid.
- You must have residency on PEI.
- A Driver Education Program must have been completed with proof, i.e., Driver Education Certificate, or a letter from a recognized driving school. If no Driver Education Program was

- completed, you must take the Novice Driver Course.
- Valid Canadian Instruction permits (Class 7) are exchangeable. Waiting periods and required courses may apply prior to taking a road test.
- Only Instruction permits from Canada are exchangeable.

## EXPIRED INSTRUCTION PERMITS

Applicants with Instruction Permits expired less than one year, will be required to complete the written and vision tests.

The 365-day waiting period will not apply if the previous Instruction Permit is expired less than one year.

## RENEWING OR OBTAINING A DRIVER'S LICENCE

You may apply for a Driver's Licence:

- if you have never been licensed as a driver;

- if you allow your Driver's Licence to expire over an allotted time; and
- if the only licence you hold is a licence from another country which is not honoured in this province.

Anyone who holds a valid licence may be required to be retested. You may be retested if you have had a number of collisions and/or convictions, your licence has been suspended for any cause or you suffer from a medical condition that may affect your driving.

**NOTE:**

Drivers in the Graduated Driver Licensing Program must exit Stage 3 before they are eligible to obtain a Class 1, 2, 3, or 4 Drivers Licence.

CLASS 1



CLASS 2



CLASS 3



CLASS 4



CLASS 5



CLASS 6



CLASS 7



CLASS 8



CLASS 9





# Chapter 1: Classified Licences

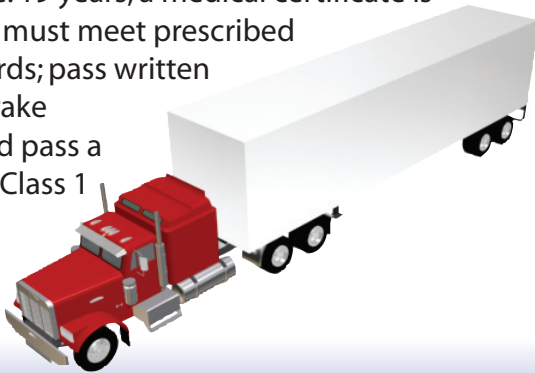
## CLASS 1

CLASS 1 VEHICLES are any combinations of a truck-tractor and trailer, fifth wheel with air brakes, but not a bus carrying passengers.

A CLASS 1 Licence permits the holder to operate all motor vehicles in Classes 1, 3, 5, 8 and 9.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS 1 Licence:

Have successfully completed the GDL Program; minimum age: 19 years; a medical certificate is required; you must meet prescribed vision standards; pass written tests on air brake operation; and pass a road test in a Class 1 vehicle.



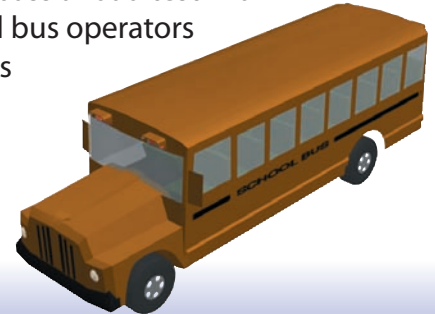
## CLASS 2

CLASS 2 VEHICLES are buses carrying more than 24 passengers, including school buses.

A CLASS 2 Licence permits the holder to operate all motor vehicles in Classes 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR A CLASS 2 Licence:

Have successfully completed the GDL Program; minimum age: 19 years (21 years for a school bus) a medical certificate is required; you must meet prescribed vision standards; pass written tests on air brake operation; and pass a road test in a Class 2 vehicle. School bus operators must have held a Class 1, 3, 4 or 5 licence for at least five years preceding application.



### CLASS 3

CLASS 3 VEHICLES are trucks exceeding 14,000 kgs gross mass or any combination of such vehicles; any special mobile equipment; and gooseneck trailers.

A CLASS 3 Licence permits the holder to operate all motor vehicles in Classes 3, 5, 8 and 9.

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS 3 Licence

Have successfully completed the GDL Program; minimum age: 19 years; a medical certificate is required; you must meet prescribed vision standards; pass written tests on air brake operation where required; and pass a road test in a Class 3 vehicle, or Class 5 with a gooseneck trailer.



### CLASS 4

CLASS 4 VEHICLES are any motor vehicles used as ambulance, taxis or buses carrying 24 passengers or less.

A CLASS 4 Licence permits the holder to operate all motor vehicles in Classes 4, 5, 8 and 9.

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS 4 Licence

Have successfully completed the GDL Program; minimum age: 19 years; a medical certificate is required; you must meet prescribed vision standards; and pass a road test in a Class 4 vehicle.



# Chapter 1: Classified Licences

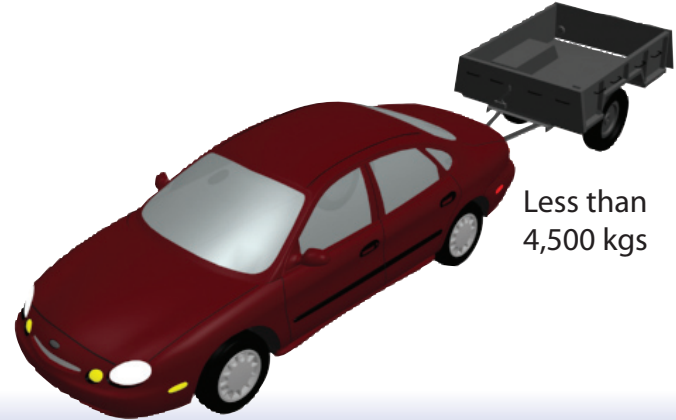
## CLASS 5

CLASS 5 VEHICLES are any motor vehicles not exceeding 14,000 kgs gross mass, and any combination of such vehicles and a towed vehicle not exceeding a gross mass of 4,500 kg, but excluding **(a)** a motorcycle; or **(b)** a bus carrying passengers.

A CLASS 5 Licence permits the holder to operate all motor vehicles in Classes 5, 8 and 9.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS 5 Licence

Have successfully completed the GDL Program; minimum age: 17; a medical certificate is required when requested; you must meet prescribed vision standards; pass written or oral tests on basic rules and signs (not required if a holder of a Class 6 or 7 licence); and pass a road test in a Class 5 vehicle.



Less than  
4,500 kgs

**CLASS 6** are motorcycles.

A CLASS 6 Licence permits the holder to operate all motor vehicles in Classes 6 and 8 only.

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS 6 Licence

Minimum age: 17 years; a medical certificate is required when requested; you must meet prescribed vision standards; pass written or oral tests on this class of vehicle; pass a road test in a Class 6 vehicle; parental approval if under age 18; and a birth certificate is required (not required if a holder of any other class of licence).



**CLASS 7** is an instruction permit.

A CLASS 7 Licence permits the holder to operate a motor vehicle in Classes 5, 6, 8 and 9 when accompanied by a licenced driver for that class of vehicle.

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR A CLASS 7 Licence (Instruction Permit):

Minimum age: 16 years; a medical certificate is required when requested; you must meet prescribed vision standards; pass written or oral and sign recognition tests; and parental approval is required if less than 18 years; a birth certificate or passport is required.



# Chapter 1: Classified Licences

## CLASS 8

CLASS 8 VEHICLES are mopeds.

A CLASS 8 Licence permits the holder to operate Class 8 vehicles only.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS 8 Licence

Minimum age: 17 years; a medical certificate is required when requested; you must meet prescribed vision standards; pass written or oral and sign recognition tests; pass a road test on a Class 8 vehicle; parental approval is required if less than 18 years; and a birth certificate is required (not required if a holder of any other class of licence).



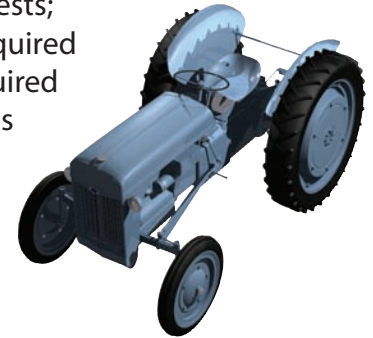
## CLASS 9

CLASS 9 VEHICLES are farm tractors.

A CLASS 9 Licence permits the holder to operate Class 9 vehicles only.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR A CLASS 9 Licence

Minimum age: 14 years; a medical certificate is required when requested; you must meet prescribed vision standards; pass written or oral and sign recognition tests; and a birth certificate is required and parental approval required if less than 18 years. There is no road test required for this class.



You may not operate, or being the owner, allow another person to operate a motor vehicle on a highway in Prince Edward Island unless:

- the motor vehicle is registered;
- any trailer drawn by the motor vehicle is registered;
- the vehicle and trailer have a licence according to its class; and
- the motor vehicle and trailer have the proper number plates, valid inspection stickers or markers which have been issued under the *Highway Traffic Act*.

### **IN-TRANSIT PERMITS**

Permits for single journeys of unregistered unladen vehicles may be issued by the registrar of motor vehicles, for a fee, for such purposes as movement to a registration office for registration of the vehicle or movement of the vehicle from one place to another for repairs or for inspection prior to registration, etc.

Proof of public liability must be shown when making application for in-transit permits.

### **APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION**

To apply for registration, you need:

- the proper application form from your Highway Safety/Access PEI office;
- the public liability insurance card; and
- a successful motor vehicle inspection report form.

An application for registration of a vehicle owned by a corporate body should be signed by a signing officer, on behalf of that body.

A Highway Safety official may require that the vehicle be re-examined at your expense to confirm its condition. An inspector may ask you to dismantle and expose any part of the vehicle.

# Chapter 1: Vehicle Registration

## NUMBER PLATES

Highway Safety issues one number plate only for all vehicles including trailers, motorcycles and mopeds. Validation stickers may be issued to put on the number plate. Make sure the plate is always securely fastened to the vehicle. It must be at least 200 millimetres (12 inches) from the ground measured from the bottom of the plate.

Motorcycle and trailer plates must be clearly visible from the rear.

Keep your number plate clean and in good condition so it is always clearly visible and legible. The vehicle or its equipment or load must not obscure the view of the plate. At night a rear light must shine on the plate.

Do not put a plate or number on your vehicle which could be confused with your proper number plate.

A traffic officer may seize the plate if he or she suspects that:

- it was issued for a different vehicle;
- it was obtained by false pretenses; or
- it is being used contrary to the act or the regulations.

The traffic officer may keep the number plate until the facts about the plate have been determined.

## PERSONALIZED PLATES

Personalized plates are available and may be used on vehicles normally requiring passenger vehicle or commercial plates. There is an additional fee for these plates.



Applications for personalized plates may be obtained from any Highway Safety/Access PEI office.

### PARKING PERMIT FOR THE PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED

Hanging passes for the physically challenged are also available for use on vehicles. To obtain a Parking Permit application contact the Council of the Disabled or one of the Access PEI sites. Application forms must be completed by a doctor and returned to the Council of the Disabled. There is an annual fee for the permit.



**Access for the physically challenged.**

### REGISTRATION PERMIT

The registration permit will be kept in the vehicle for which it is issued and the driver of the vehicle will produce the permit whenever a traffic officer or an inspector asks for it.

### MOTORCYCLE REGISTRATION

All motorcycles and mopeds operated on public streets and highways must be registered and must display valid licence plates. Motorcycles and mopeds must be covered by public liability insurance in order to be registered.

**NOTE:** Minibikes are not registered for highway use on Prince Edward Island. They cannot be used on public roads or sidewalks. They **MUST** be registered for off-highway use according to the *Off-Highway Vehicle Act* and display an off-highway vehicle plate.



## OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES

Off-highway vehicles are important equipment to farmers, wood lot operators, trappers and others whose jobs require travel over rough terrain; however, the vast majority of them are used for recreation –sometimes by people who lack experience with either the vehicle or the environment, or both.

Off-highway vehicles may be fun, but they are not toys. With a capacity for speeds up to 100 kilometres per hour, these machines can be dangerous in the hands of inexperienced operators.

In addition to the risk of injury, off-highway vehicles can do serious environmental damage, destroy crops or harm private property. The restrictions placed on the use of off-highway vehicles are intended to lessen the potential for injury or property damage, without

depriving responsible operators and their families of the benefits and pleasures of using off-highway vehicles.

The following is a list of all vehicles included in the PEI *Off-Highway Vehicle Act*:

- four-wheel drive or low pressure tire vehicles,
- power motorcycles and related two-wheel vehicles,
- amphibious machines,
- all terrain vehicles, and
- snow vehicles.

### **NOTE:**

Effective February 10, 2007, the following regulations came into effect:

- No person shall operate an off-highway vehicle without protective clothing and equipment.

- No person shall operate an off-highway vehicle that has an engine size in excess of that recommended by the manufacturer for the age and weight of the operator.
  - No person shall operate an off-highway vehicle in the ditch next to a highway.
  - The owner of the off-highway vehicle is prohibited from permitting a person to operate it, unless the person holds a valid driver's licence and the person has held a driver's licence for 24 months; or has successfully completed an off-highway vehicle safety training course approved by the registrar.
  - No person shall operate an off-highway vehicle by crossing a highway unless that person holds a valid driver's licence and that person has held a driver's licence for 24 months; or has successfully completed an off-highway vehicle safety training course approved by the registrar.
- Any person who is less than 14 years of age is prohibited from operating an off-highway vehicle, other than a snowmobile.
  - No person who is 14 or 15 years of age shall operate an off-highway vehicle, other than a snowmobile, unless that person has successfully completed an off-highway vehicle safety training course approved by the registrar and that person is supervised by an adult who meets certain requirements.
  - If you are 16 years of age or older, you must have held a driver's licence for 24 months; or have successfully completed an ATV safety training course approved by the registrar.
  - The owner of an off-highway vehicle is prohibited from permitting the operation of the off-highway vehicle by a person who is prohibited from operating it.

## REGISTRATION OF SNOWMOBILES

Registration is required for snowmobiles annually on or before November 30. If a transfer of ownership occurs, the snowmobile must be registered in the new owner's name within seven days from the date of purchase. All other off-highway vehicles have to be registered only once by the owner and have to be re-registered only if there is a transfer of ownership.

When a snowmobile is registered, a number plate is provided which must be firmly attached to the rear of the machine. If the number plate should become lost or illegible, the owner must purchase a new plate from any office of Highway Safety/Access PEI.

## OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE REGISTRATION

All off-highway vehicles must be registered. You must produce the certificate of registration if any peace officer asks for it.

A peace officer is any police officer, a Highway Safety officer or a park warden. The peace officer will give the vehicle operator reasonable time to produce the certificate of registration. If you do not follow this rule, you may be found guilty of an offence and be fined.

## CHANGE OF NAME OR ADDRESS

If a motor vehicle's certificate of registration is issued to you and you later change your name or address, you must notify the Highway Safety office of the change within 30 days.

## EXPIRATION OF REGISTRATION

All vehicle registrations, including the licence or identification plate, marker and permit expire on the registered owner's birthday or company's registration date.

## NON-RESIDENT PRIVILEGES

If you are a non-resident of Prince Edward Island, you may operate your passenger vehicle which is registered in your province, state, territory or country for your own private use in Prince Edward Island for up to four months in any year without registering the vehicle here.

If you are a non-resident who enters Prince Edward Island with the vehicle to solicit business, you may operate the vehicle in this province for up to 10 days in any year without registering the vehicle.

No commercial motor vehicle owned or operated by or on behalf of a non-resident may be operated in Prince Edward Island unless it is registered here.

Every vehicle owned or operated by a non-resident in this province is subject to all the restrictions and

control which apply to a vehicle registered in the province.

For all other non-Canadian residents, they are permitted to drive in PEI with an immigration visa, a valid passport and a valid foreign driver's licence. Foreign driver's licences must be turned in before a PEI driver's licence is issued. Foreign driver's licences are valid to drive with for 120 days upon entry into PEI.

## TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

Whenever the owner of a registered vehicle transfers or sells the vehicle the owner must, within seven days of the transfer, notify Highway Safety of the transfer on a Notification of Transfer form (contained on the vehicle registration permit or available from any Highway Safety/Access PEI office). The new owner must within seven days of the transfer have the registration permit transferred into his/her name.

## Chapter 1: Vehicle Registration

The vehicle registration permit, the motor vehicle inspection report form and proof of liability insurance must be presented to the Highway Safety/Access PEI Office, and the required fee paid.

Most registered motor vehicles and trailers must have a yearly safety inspection at an official inspection station. These stations are situated all across the province. An authorized inspection mechanic will conduct a prescribed safety inspection in accordance with Motor Vehicle Inspection Regulations. A motor vehicle inspection approval sticker will be placed in a prescribed area. It must be kept in good condition. You will also receive a motor vehicle inspection report that must be kept in good condition in the vehicle and must be shown to a peace officer on request. Approval stickers issued for the month in which a vehicle was inspected will normally be valid until the end of that month in the following year.

You cannot register a vehicle that you have bought unless it has a valid approval sticker. The registrar or any peace officer may order a vehicle to be re-inspected at any time.

When a registered owner takes up residence in Prince Edward Island, a private passenger vehicle inspected in either Nova Scotia or New Brunswick may be registered without local inspection. Its provincial inspection will be considered valid until the expiry date. Prior to that expiry date, it must have an inspection in Prince Edward Island. Vehicles from all other places must be inspected in Prince Edward Island before being registered here.

## REJECTED VEHICLES

The owner or operator of a rejected vehicle has 10 days from the date of rejection to have the defects corrected and the vehicle re-inspected. This does not permit the operation of an unsafe vehicle during this time.

**Note:**  
While a rejected sticker is valid for 10 days after it has been punched, it will not be accepted on a vehicle to be used for a driving test.



# Chapter 1: Required Vehicle Equipment

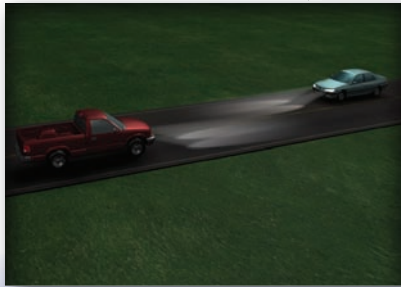
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The *Highway Traffic Act* requires all equipment on your vehicle which must be maintained in good working order.

## HEAD LAMPS AND REAR LAMPS

Every vehicle on the highway must be equipped with front and rear lamps as required for each class of vehicle. These lamps must be lighted during the period from sunset to sunrise, and at any other time when visibility is limited by fog, rain, snow or other atmospheric conditions, or when there is not sufficient light to see a person or a vehicle on the highway 150 metres (500 feet) ahead. At times when lights are required, it is illegal to use parking lights alone.

All vehicles 1990 and newer must be



equipped with daytime driving lights. These lights will come on automatically when the vehicle engine is started.

**TIP:** Check all your vehicle lights regularly and keep them clean.

## HEAD LAMPS

Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle must be equipped with at least two head lamps at the front and on opposite sides of the vehicle. These lights should produce a colourless driving light that is not glaring or dazzling. The head lamps on a motor vehicle will provide at least two beams, high and low, either of which may be selected by the driver according to the requirements of traffic.

**TIP:** Have your head lamps checked periodically by a qualified mechanic to ensure they are properly aimed.

**NOTE:** Aftermarket headlight covers are not permitted.

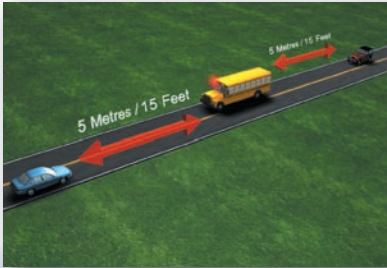
## TAIL LAMPS

Every motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer that is being towed must have at the rear two lamps which exhibit a red light plainly visible under normal atmospheric conditions at a distance of 150 metres (500 feet) to the rear. A white light illuminating the number plate which enables the plate to be read from a distance of 15 metres (50 feet) is also required.

## FLASHING LIGHTS

The use of flashing or revolving lights on motor vehicles is restricted. A flashing red light visible from the front may only be used on:

- an ambulance (red);
- a police vehicle (red and blue);
- fire department vehicle (red);



- a school bus while taking on or unloading passengers (red);
- the cars of voluntary fire department members, when acting in an emergency (red); or
- hearses (purple).

A flashing/revolving/strobe AMBER light visible from any direction may only be used on:

- service trucks or towing trucks which are equipped for lifting and towing vehicles, when towing or rendering service to a disabled motor vehicle;
- vehicles of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, or of a city or town, being used for removal of snow or maintenance of the highway; and
- school buses, which must be equipped with flashing red and amber lights.

In addition, flashing amber lights may be used on:

- a vehicle transporting explosives; or
- a motor vehicle towing an oversized load.



## CLEARANCE LAMPS AND REFLECTORS

Every vehicle other than a standard passenger motor vehicle having a width in excess of two metres (80 inches) must have:

- on the front, two amber clearance lamps, one at each side;
- on the rear and as high as practical, two red clearance lamps, one at each side, visible for 150 metres (500 feet);
- in the centre, three indicator lamps;
- on each side, two amber reflectors, one at or near the front and one at or near the midpoint; and
- at the rear, a red marker light.

## STOP LIGHTS

All motor vehicles required to be registered must be equipped with two “stop” lights. These must give a red signal to the rear of the vehicle that is plainly visible in normal sunlight from a distance of 150 metres (500 feet).

They must light up when the brakes are applied. They may or may not be the same as the signal lamp unit.

## SIGNAL LIGHTS

When a vehicle is equipped with signal lights to signal the driver’s intention to turn, the signal lights must give an amber or yellow signal to the front and a red or an amber signal to the rear, on or toward the side of the vehicle in the direction in which the turn is to be made. A signal must not project a glaring or dazzling light. Electric turn indicators must show a flashing light to indicate a turn and must have a device within the driver’s vision to indicate to the driver that the turn indicators are working.

## PARKING LIGHTS

Whenever a vehicle is stopped or parked along the right side of the highway during the times when lights are required, the vehicle must display its parking lights, which are two amber lights visible from the front of

the vehicle and two red lights visible to the rear of the vehicle from a distance of 150 metres (500 feet). If the stopped vehicle presents a temporary hazard to other traffic, its flashing hazard lights should be displayed.

## **BRAKES**

Every motor vehicle including a motorcycle must be equipped with adequate brakes, having two separate means of application. Parking and emergency brakes must be kept in effective working order.

## **HORN**

Every motor vehicle must be equipped with a horn in good working order capable of being heard at a distance of 60 metres (200 feet). Sound your horn whenever it is reasonably necessary to do so and when passing another vehicle. It is an offence to use a bell, siren, compression or exhaust whistle on a private vehicle or to use the approved horn when unnecessary.

## **MIRROR**

Every motor vehicle must be equipped with a mirror that reflects to the driver a view of the highway for at least 60 metres (200 feet) behind the vehicle. An outside rear-view mirror on both sides of a motor vehicle is required when the view to the rear is obstructed by a trailer being towed or by the load of the vehicle.

## **WINDSHIELDS AND WINDOWS**

Every motor vehicle operated on a highway, except a motorcycle, construction equipment or farm equipment, must be equipped with a windshield. Windshields and windows must be kept clear of all non-transparent material other than stickers or devices required or permitted to be displayed by the *Highway Traffic Act* and its Regulations. The glass in the windshield or any window must not be broken, shattered or otherwise damaged or discoloured,

# Chapter 1: Required Vehicle Equipment

and must be kept completely clear of snow, ice, dirt or other matter that obstructs the driver's vision.

## TINTED GLASS OR WINDOW GLAZING

It is illegal to apply or operate a motor vehicle with aftermarket vehicle glass darkening material to the windshield and the front side windows. It is permitted on the rear side windows and the rear window, if you have two side mirrors.

## WINDSHIELD WIPERS

Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or farm tractor must be equipped with a device for cleaning rain, snow or moisture from the driver's and passenger's side of the windshield. The driver must be able to control and operate the windshield wipers. The wipers must be kept in good working order.

## ORNAMENTS

Ornaments and decorations, either inside or outside of the vehicle, must be located so that they do not obstruct the vision or distract the attention of the driver.

## FLAG OR LIGHT AT END OF LOAD

Whenever the load of any motor vehicle extends more than 1.2 metres (four feet) beyond the rear of the body, a red flag not less than 0.3 metres (12 inches) in length and width must be displayed during daylight hours. A red light which is plainly visible for 150 metres (500 feet) must be displayed during hours of darkness.

## SLOW-MOVING VEHICLE SIGN

Any motor vehicle not capable of maintaining a rate of speed in excess of 40 km/hr (25 mph) under normal conditions and every farm tractor must display a slow-moving vehicle sign at the rear.

## MUFFLER

No person may drive a motor vehicle on a highway unless the vehicle is equipped with a muffler in good working order so as to prevent excessive or unusual noise. The use of a muffler cut-out bypass, straight exhaust, gutted muffler, Hollywood muffler or similar device is prohibited. In addition, the engine of any vehicle may not emit excessive smoke or fumes.

## SPEEDOMETER, BUMPERS, SAFETY GLASS, TIRES

Motor vehicles must be equipped with:

- a speedometer in good working order;
- front and rear bumpers (if the motor vehicle has been so designed by the manufacturer); and
- tires must be replaced if their tread depth is less than 1.6 mm (2/32 of an inch) when measured in any three locations 120 degrees apart.

## FLARES OR LANTERNS

A passenger vehicle with a seating capacity of eight passengers or more and a vehicle having a capacity of more than one-half ton of freight must be equipped with at least two flares, reflectors or red lanterns, and two red flags for warning other drivers of an emergency breakdown.

A commercial vehicle of 2.05 metres (80 inches) or more in width, a passenger bus with a seating capacity of eight or more, and a motor vehicle towing a travel trailer must be equipped with at least three flares or three red electric lanterns, each of which is capable of being seen at a distance of 150 metres (500 feet) under normal nighttime conditions.

A truck tractor or vehicle carrying flammable liquids in bulk or compressed flammable gases must be equipped with at least three red electric lanterns.

# Chapter 1: Required Vehicle Equipment

When any vehicle becomes disabled on the travelled portion of any highway or shoulder at any time when lighted lamps are required on vehicles, its driver must display three lighted lanterns or flares, one at a distance of 30 metres (100 feet) to the rear of the vehicle, one at a distance of 30 metres (100 feet) to the front of the vehicle and one on the traffic side of the vehicle approximately three metres (10 feet) rearward or forward. During daytime hours these vehicles are required to display two red flags on the roadway in the lane of traffic it occupies at distances of 30 metres (100 feet) to the front and the rear of the vehicle. Flares should be displayed in poor weather conditions or when the vehicle has to be stopped where oncoming drivers cannot easily see it.

## **FIRE EXTINGUISHERS**

Every commercial vehicle transporting any explosives as cargo must be equipped with not less than two fire

extinguishers, filled and ready for use. Every school bus must be equipped with at least one fire extinguisher, filled and ready for use.

## **WIDTH, HEIGHT AND LENGTH OF VEHICLE**

No vehicle may exceed a total outside width, including loads, of 2.6 metres (102 inches), or a height of 4.15 metres (14 feet, six inches) without a special permit. A single motor vehicle may not exceed a length of 12.5 metres (40 feet), and a combination of vehicles coupled together may not exceed a total length of 25 metres (81 feet) without a special permit.

## **TRANSPORTATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS**

Only qualified people may transport dangerous goods. It is illegal to transport these materials in your vehicle. Always make sure that you know the law and follow all safety precautions when hauling these types of materials.

# Chapter 1: Transportation of Dangerous Goods

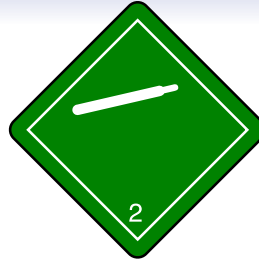
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**Class 1  
Explosives**



**Class 2.1  
Compressed Gas**



**Class 2.2  
Non-flammable  
Non-toxic**



**Class 3  
Flammable Liquids**



**Class 4  
Flammable Solids  
and Spontaneous  
Combustion**



**Class 5  
Oxidizers and Organic  
Peroxides**



**Class 6  
6.1 Poisonous  
Substances**



**Class 7  
Radioactive**



**Class 8  
Corrosives**



**Class 9  
Misc. Products and  
Substances**

# Chapter 1: Help Protect the Environment

## SAVE ENERGY, SAVE MONEY

You can control the costs of operating a vehicle and minimize the emissions it produces by making a commitment to drive less and to drive more efficiently. The following tips can improve your fuel efficiency by helping you drive the Auto\$mart way.

**Maintain your vehicle.** Give your car a full tune-up, including an oil and oil filter change. Oil breaks down under use and won't lubricate, cool or protect as well. A poorly tuned engine increases fuel consumption. And a well-tuned engine minimizes engine wear.

**Measure the inflation pressure** of your tires at least once a month when the tires are cold (i.e., when your vehicle has not been driven for at least three hours or when it has been driven for less than two kilometres). Warm tires give an inaccurate reading because heat buildup increases tire pressure during use.

Under-inflated tires wear faster, waste fuel and are unsafe.

**Idling consumes fuel.** Ten seconds of idling can use up more fuel than restarting the engine. Turn off the ignition if you are waiting for someone.

**Using an air conditioner** in stop-and-go traffic can increase fuel consumption by as much as 20 per cent. To stay cool at highway speeds, use your car's flow-through ventilation. Open windows can be a fuel-saving alternative to air conditioning at low city speeds; however, at highway speeds open windows increase drag and heighten fuel consumption.

**A full roof rack** can increase fuel consumption. Even the most streamlined roof rack will increase fuel consumption. If the carrier is not permanently affixed to your automobile, remove it when it's not needed.

**Cruise control** allows you to set the car's cruising speed and take your foot off the gas pedal. By maintaining a constant speed on long trips, your cruise control feature will reduce fuel consumption, provided the terrain is relatively flat.

**Drive the posted speed limit.** Increasing your speed from 100 km/h to 120 km/h will increase fuel consumption by about 20%.

**Avoid "flooring" your gas pedal** from a dead stop. You'll consume about 37% more fuel during a "jackrabbit" start than if you pull away gradually.

Visit [vehicles.gc.ca](http://vehicles.gc.ca) to get more information on how to buy, drive and maintain your vehicle to save energy and money, as well as protect the environment.





## WINTER TIPS FOR DRIVERS – DRIVING HABITS

Winter weather can increase your vehicle's fuel consumption by as much as 50%. Canadian drivers that adopt these simple-to-do winter driving tips highlighted below can save money, fuel, help protect the environment, and improve road safety by winterizing their vehicles.

To learn more visit: [www.vehicles.gc.ca](http://www.vehicles.gc.ca)

**Remote car starters** result in unnecessary idling and wasted fuel. Remote car starters may seem like a convenient accessory however there are many hidden costs associated with their regular use. People with remote car starters tend to start their cars long before they are ready to drive, which needlessly burns fuel. Since car starters are significantly less effective than block heaters in warming up your engine, cars equipped with car starters will be more likely to

develop buildups of harmful sludge and deposits in their engines and engine components from improperly combusted fuel. Regular use of remote car starters is also not an environmentally friendly practice as they needlessly contribute to harmful greenhouse gas emissions, which feed climate change.

Save fuel and save money by **using a timed block heater**. Use an automatic timer to switch on the block heater two hours before you plan to drive your vehicle. A block heater enables the vehicle's engine to start more easily and reach its peak operating temperature faster. In below-zero temperatures, block heaters can improve overall fuel economy by as much as 10% or more.

**Prevent fogging.** The sooner you can clear your windows the sooner you can get on the road. Waiting for your windows to defog is frustrating when you are

in a hurry to go. There are two simple tricks to prevent your car windows from fogging up. One is to open a window as soon as you enter the vehicle. The second is to clear all the snow from the air intake on top of the hood. Otherwise, the defroster will draw moisture into the system and fog the windshield, which will delay you from getting on the road.

**Clear away snow and ice.** Fuel consumption increases as snow and ice build up on and around the vehicle you're driving. Everyone knows that driving with extra weight in your vehicle makes your engine work harder and increases fuel consumption. As snow and ice build in wheel wells and under bumpers, it adds weight and rubs against tires, further increasing rolling resistance. Snow piled on top of the vehicle increases aerodynamic drag as well as vehicle weight. For safety as well as fuel economy, clear all the snow and ice off your vehicle before you drive away.

**Combine your stops.** The fewer stops you make the better. Did you know that a vehicle operating with a cold engine consumes 50% more fuel, until it warms up many minutes later, compared to a vehicle operating with a warm engine? By combining your errands you not only save fuel by reducing your travel but also ensure that your engine reaches its optimal operating temperature – and stays that way. Combining your trips minimizes your fuel consumption and emissions.

**Plan your trip.** Trip planning is particularly important in the winter. The less time you spend driving the less fuel your vehicle will consume. Carefully planning your trip before you head out on the road will help ensure that you spend less time on the road and more time doing things you enjoy. Plan your route to avoid obstacles such as unplowed roads, hills and multiple traffic lights. In many cases it is more fuel-efficient

to take a slightly longer route if it is relatively free of many traffic obstacles, which can slow you down. When parking, try to park your vehicle downhill; and if possible, try to park your vehicle in sheltered areas, i.e., on the side of a building sheltered by the wind. These simple tricks will help to ensure that it will be easier to pull away from the parking spot.

**Drive efficiently.** Excessive acceleration and braking dramatically increases fuel consumption. Drivers can save fuel by driving at a smooth, even speed and by anticipating lane changes and traffic obstructions. Winter conditions make slowing down and stopping more difficult. Drivers should be aware that winter road conditions, such as wet, icy or snow covered roads, increase braking distance. By increasing your following distance between you and the vehicle in front you will allow yourself more response time

which will help to save fuel and to make winter driving easier on yourself and other drivers on the roadways.

**Take it easy.** Give yourself more time to get from A to B in the winter. More thought and care are required for driving in the winter season. The faster and more aggressively you drive in the winter the more your vehicle slips and slides and spins its wheels. Not only will these actions use more fuel, but also you will be at a higher risk of being involved in a serious collision.

**Ski racks.** Ski racks are a drag when not in use. Avid skiers know well enough that drag affects aerodynamics. Therefore, you should remove your ski racks when not heading to the slopes. The drag caused by mounted ski racks increases fuel consumption, so consider using removable ski racks that you can easily remove from your vehicle when not needed.

