



Online Driving

PROFESSOR TX

TRAFFIC SIGNS, SIGNALS, ROADWAY MARKINGS STUDY GUIDE

Prepare for the
Official Texas
Driving
Knowledge Test









Traffic Signs and Signals are essential to roadway safety. The State of Texas’s traffic signs, signals, and pavement markings conform to the nationally recommended standards. This study guide is a useful resource in helping you prepare for The State of Texas Driving Knowledge Test. This test is required test before you can apply for your Texas Learner License.

This guide contains the most common signs you will see on roadways including regulatory, warning, and guide signs. The guide also includes roadway markings and their meaning. A driver must know the meaning of all the signs and roadway markings to be able to drive safely.

There are seven (7) basic shapes of signs, each shape having a different meaning. Each color also has a particular meaning.

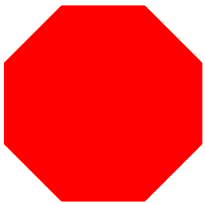
Roadway Signs – Meaning of Color

By learning the meaning of the colors used in road signs, you can remember road signs more easily. Take time to learn the meaning of each color.

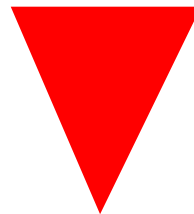
 RED	Stop or Prohibited	 WHITE	Regulation
 BLUE	Motorist Service Guidance	 ORANGE	Construction and Maintenance
 BROWN	Public, Recreation, and Scenic Guidance	 BLACK	Regulation
 GREEN	Movement Permitted, Direction Guidance	 YELLOW	General Warning

Roadway Signs – Meaning of Shape

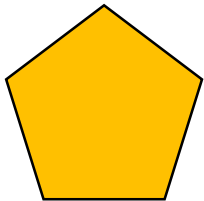
By learning the meaning of the shape of a road sign, you can remember road signs more easily. Take time to learn the meaning of each shape.



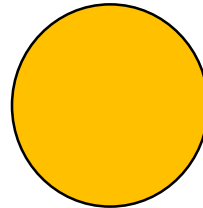
Octagon shape is used only for stop signs



Equilateral triangle is used for yield signs



A pentagon is used for school advance and school crossing signs



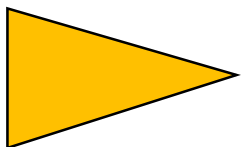
A round circle is used for railroad advance warning signs



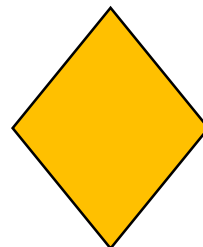
Horizontal rectangle is used for guide signs



A vertical rectangle is used for regulatory signs



Pennant shape is used for advance warning of a no pass zone



A diamond shape is used to warn of existing or possible hazards on roads or adjacent areas

Railroad Signs



Railroad Crossing

This sign warns drivers that they are within a few hundred feet of a railroad crossing. This sign warns drivers to slow down and be prepared to stop. If you see a train coming, STOP. Never try to beat a train.



Railroad Cross Buck

A railroad cross buck sign is posted at every railroad crossing. If more than one track is to be crossed, the sign will show the number of tracks. Drivers should always slow down, look, listen, and be prepared to yield the right-of-way to an approaching train.

Guide Signs

Guide Signs tell you what road you are traveling on and how to get to your destination. Guide Signs are very helpful when you are traveling away from your home area. These signs give information that make a road trip more pleasant such as signs for rest stops, attractions, and nearby restaurants.



A **Texas Route Marker** sign tells drivers what road they are traveling on.



Mileposts are posted at one (1) mile intervals along the Interstate routes. They provide a way to identify the location of crashes, vehicle break-downs, or other emergencies.



Interstate Route Markers tell drivers what road they are on. Drivers should plan their trips in advance to know which roads they want to take.

Guide Signs



These guide signs are usually mounted above the interstate roadway well in advance of an exit. The arrows indicate the lane or lanes to be used to follow a particular highway route.



This sign alerts drivers that a rest area is one mile ahead. Rest areas are found along interstate highways and offer restrooms, picnic tables, and areas for motorists to rest and stretch their legs.



This sign tells drivers what road they are on – a short state highway in a city or urban area.



This sign indicates an officially designated highway that branches off the regularly numbered highway and goes through the business portion of a city.

Regulatory Signs

Regulatory Signs tell us what we must do. Drivers are required to obey all regulatory signs in the same manner as traffic laws. Regulatory signs are installed at or near where the regulations apply. Most regulatory signs are rectangular, with the longer dimension vertical.



This sign alerts drivers of the only direction allowed for travel as indicated by the arrow.



This sign warns drivers of the highest speed that can safely travel around the turn ahead.



This sign alerts drivers that passing other vehicles is not allowed.



This sign alerts drivers that a no passing zone is ahead and to not cross the yellow lines. Passing another vehicle is hazardous in the highway zone ahead so passing is not allowed.

Regulatory Signs



This sign alerts drivers to stay in the right-hand lane if driving slower than other vehicles on the road.



This sign alerts drivers that two lanes of traffic are permitted to turn left. The traffic in the left lane must turn left, traffic in the other lane has a choice to turn left or proceed ahead.



This sign warns drivers of the required speed limit at which the exit ramp from a highway may be traveled safely.



This sign alerts drivers to not park, stop, or allow their vehicle to stand idling in a parking space reserved for disabled individuals unless the vehicle has a disabled license plate or wind shield identification card.

Regulatory Signs



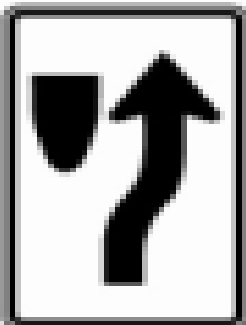
This sign alerts drivers that turning left at an intersection where this sign is posted is prohibited.



This sign alerts drivers that trucks are prohibited from using or entering the street or road where this sign is displayed.



This sign alerts drivers that making a U-turn at an intersection where this sign is posted is prohibited.



This sign alerts drivers to drive to the right of this sign. This sign is used in advance of islands and medians.

Regulatory Signs



Turning left at an intersection where this sign is posted is prohibited.



This sign alerts drivers that buses and vehicles used for carpools may use the High Occupancy Vehicle Lane (HOV) during the posted times.



School Zone Sign: This sign alerts drivers that the speed shown is in effect when the yellow light is flashing. Be extremely careful and watch for school children.



This sign alerts drivers that using a wireless communication device is prohibited in the school zone

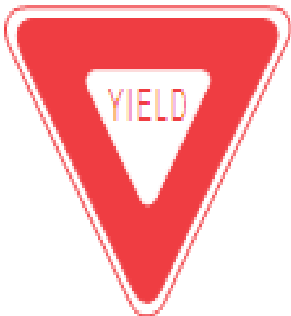
Regulatory Signs



This sign alerts drivers that the road ahead is for one-way traffic traveling in the opposite direction. Drivers must not enter the roadway in the direction they are going.



A red stop sign with white letters, or a yellow sign with black letters means stop. A stop sign means a driver must come to a complete stop, and slowing down is not adequate.

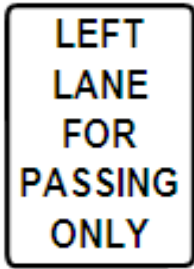


This sign warns drivers that the road they are on joins with another road ahead. Drivers should slow down or stop so they can yield the right-of-way to vehicles on the other road.



If a driver sees this sign facing them, they are driving the wrong way on a one-way street, and directly opposing the flow of traffic.

Regulatory Signs



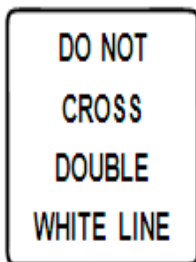
This sign alerts drivers that the left lane should never be used as a through traffic lane. The center lane is at a point where a driver will have time to slow down, or stop to make a safe left turn.



This sign alerts drivers that stopping at the red light is documented and enforced by law with photo technology.

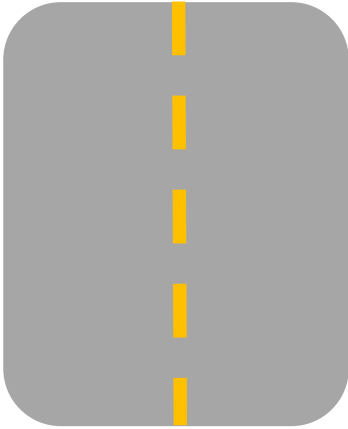


These signs are added to a stop sign. The sign alerts all approaching traffic to the intersection that they must stop.

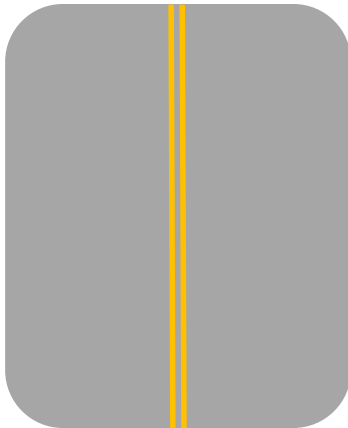


This sign alerts drivers to not change lanes or turn across the double white lines ahead.

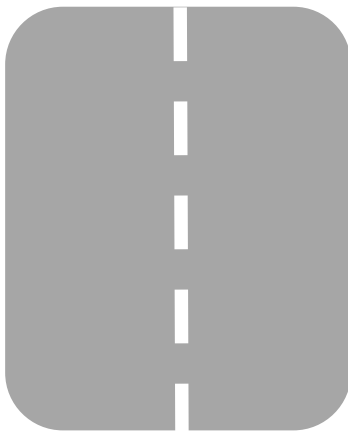
Pavement Markings



Broken Yellow Lines are used for two-lane roads with two-way traffic. When driving, always keep to the right of the yellow center line. Drivers can only cross a broken yellow line when passing another vehicle, or when the right half of the road is closed. Before passing, make sure there is no oncoming traffic when crossing a broken yellow line. Drivers must not cross the line if it is not safe to pass.



Solid Yellow Line on a driver's side of the road means no passing.



Broken White Lines separate lanes on one-way roads. Drivers can cross broken white lines to change lanes.

Warning Signs

Warning Signs alert drivers of road hazards, upcoming changes in direction, or other situations that may affect safety. When you see a warning road sign it's important to pay attention, follow the instructions, and reduce your speed to the posted speed limit. Warning signs can save lives and prevent accidents. A new driver should know the meaning of warning road signs.



This sign warns drivers of a traffic control signal ahead.



This sign warns drivers to slow down when the road is wet. Drivers must not suddenly turn, speed up, or stop.



This sign warns drivers that they are approaching a section of the highway ahead where the opposing flows of traffic is separated by a median island.



This sign warns drivers the height of the underpass ahead from the road surface. Drivers must not try to enter if their load is higher than the measurement shown on the sign.

Warning Signs



This sign warns drivers to drive in the right-hand lane and expect oncoming traffic in the left-hand lane.



This sign warns drivers there is a point ahead where two roads come together. The driver is not required to merge as an additional lane begins ahead. Drivers must watch for traffic in the new lane.



This sign warns that the road ahead makes a gradual curve in the direction of the arrow (right). Drivers must slow down, keep right, and do not pass.



This sign warns that the road curves one way (right) and then the other way (left) ahead. Drivers must slow down, keep right, and do not pass.

Warning Signs



This sign warns drivers that a cross road is ahead. Drivers must slow down, watch for cross traffic ahead, and look carefully in all directions for traffic.



This sign warns drivers that another road is entering the road they are traveling on from the direction shown ahead. Drivers must watch for traffic from that direction.



This sign warns drivers that a reduction in the number of lanes is ahead.



This sign warns drivers the road ahead curves sharply. Drivers must slow down, keep right, and do not pass.

Warning Signs



This sign warns drivers of a T-Intersection ahead.



This sign warns drivers to slow down because the road surface ahead is in poor condition.



This sign warns drivers of cross traffic ahead.



This sign warns drivers there is a Y-Intersection or side road traffic to the right ahead.

Warning Signs



This sign warns drivers that they are approaching a point where other traffic lanes come together with the lane they are traveling. Drivers must watch for traffic from that direction.



This sign warns there is a winding road ahead. Drivers must drive slowly and carefully, and do not pass.



This sign warns drivers that the road ahead makes a sharp turn in the direction of the arrow (left). Drivers must slow down, keep right, and do not pass.



This sign warns drivers of being near an area where a large number of pedestrians cross the street. Drivers must slow down and watch for people crossing the street on foot.

Warning Signs



This sign warns drivers that a school is ahead. Drivers must slow down, and watch for children. Drivers must prepare to stop suddenly if necessary.



This sign warns drivers that the road ahead makes a sharp turn to the right and then a sharp turn to the left. Drivers must slow down, keep right, and do not pass.



This sign warns drivers the surface of the road is covered with loose gravel. Drivers must go slow enough to keep complete control of their vehicle. Drivers must not apply brakes suddenly or make sharp turns.



This sign warns drivers that during icy weather conditions the driving surface of the bridge ahead may be hazardous. Drivers should slow down and avoid applying their brakes if icy conditions exist.

Warning Signs



This sign warns drivers that there is a low place in the road ahead. Drivers must slow down to avoid losing control of their vehicle or encountering an uncomfortable jolt.



This sign warns drivers to slow their speed and watch for trucks entering or crossing the highway.



This sign warns drivers to use extreme caution to avoid running off the paved portion of the highway, because the dirt on the side of the pavement is soft and may cause a driver to lose control of the car.



This sign warns drivers that the pavement narrows ahead, and to reduce speed. There is room for two cars to pass, but with caution.

Warning Signs



This sign warns drivers that the bridge ahead is not as wide as the road. Drivers must slow down and use caution.



This sign warns drivers that the hard surfaced pavement ahead changes to an earth road or low-type surface. Drivers must slow down.



This sign warns drivers that two roads cross ahead. Drivers must slow down, look to the right and left for traffic, and be prepared to stop.



This sign warns drivers there is a significant drop from the pavement edge to the shoulder ahead. Drivers must slow down and steer firmly if they have to leave the pavement.

Warning Signs



This sign warns drivers that the pavement ahead has been grooved to lessen the possibility of slippery pavement in wet weather. Motorcyclists should use caution.



This sign warns drivers that there is a sudden high place in the road ahead. Drivers should slow down to avoid losing control of their vehicle or experiencing an uncomfortable jolt.



This sign warns drivers to slow their speed and watch for individuals who may be disabled or who may be crossing the road in a wheelchair.



This sign warns drivers they are approaching a downgrade ahead, and to approach with caution. It may be necessary for drivers to use a lower gear to slow the vehicle.

Warning Signs



This sign warns drivers that the sign will have yellow lights flashing (top and bottom) when the freeway ramp ahead is metered. The ramp meter (red or green) directs motorists when to enter the freeway.



This sign warns drivers that the lane ends ahead. If driving in the right lane, drivers should merge into the left.