

SAMPLE DRIVING CONTRACT

This is a sample driving contract to contemplate when your teen starts driving. It's intent is to remind new drivers of the serious responsibility they accept when they get behind the wheel of a car. Use this contract as is, or merely as a starting point for developing a contract that might better reflect your family's driving guidelines.

A consequence for not following these safety guidelines should be established. It would logically be the loss of driving privileges for a pre-determined amount of time (a week, a month, a year). Make sure you establish a period of time that will make an impact on your teen driver, and then stick to it---no exceptions! A crash (especially one without a seat belt on) could curtail your teen's freedom and privileges for a *very* long period of time, and most certainly with no exceptions. Logical consequences should reflect reality.

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DRIVING CONTRACT

Driving a car is a very complex task. It takes a lot of practice to learn the good judgment required to drive safely. Driving also carries a lot of responsibility. Drivers are responsible for the safety of their passengers and the other motorists on the road. With this driving contract I/we hope to increase the chances that you will always arrive at your destination safely.

WHEN RIDING WITH OTHERS:

1. I will always wear a seat belt.
2. I will only ride with drivers you approve.
3. I will never ride in the back of a pick up truck.
4. I will not ride with a driver who has been using alcohol or drugs.
5. If the person I have ridden with becomes impaired because of drug or alcohol use, I will not ride with him or her, but will call you and ask for a ride. I understand that you will come get me, with no questions asked. However, we will discuss the matter later.

WHEN DRIVING:

1. I will not allow my friends to drive our family vehicles. If for some reason I cannot drive myself home, I will call and ask you to come get me, no questions asked. However, we will discuss the matter later.
2. I will only take passengers whom you have given permission to ride with me.
 - For the first 6 months after getting my license, I will not drive with more than 1 passenger.
 - After 6 months, I will not drive with more than 1 passenger per seat belt.
3. Everyone in the car will wear a seat belt at all times.

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4. No alcohol or drugs will be in the car.
5. No tobacco will be smoked in the car.
6. I will tell you where I plan to be and when I will be home:
 - I will take the most direct route to and from my destination.
 - I will not “cruise” around.
 - I will check with you before changing my plans.
8. I will obey all traffic laws.
 - I will pay my traffic fines, if any.
 - If I receive a traffic ticket that causes our insurance rates to go up, I will pay that increase.
8. If I have a crash that is my fault, I will pay all the damages.
9. If I take the car to school, I will not leave the grounds without permission.
10. I agree to:
 - Keep the car clean, inside and out.
 - Check the oil routinely.
 - Return it with at least 1/4 tank of gas.

I realize that a car is not a toy. It is not to be used for playing racing games, teasing friends or impressing others.

Driving is a privilege that is earned by following certain safety rules. By signing this contract you are making a commitment to your safety and the safety of your passengers.

Failure to comply with any of these safety guidelines will result in loss of driving privileges for _____ (length of time).

Date _____ Youth's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____