Lesson 8

**Do quiz on road signs**.

Objective: To understand proper following and lane use.

**Questions to ponder**:

Who would most likely be at fault if there is a rear end collision?

When should you pass another vehicle?

Why is distance an issue when passing or following vehicles?

Lesson:

When following a vehicle, you should use the 3-second rule: This rule helps you determine if you are too close to the vehicle in front of you. Pick a fixed object and once the car in front of you goes by the object, start to count one-thousand-one, one-thousand-two,etc. If you reach object before you say one-thousand-three you are following too close and need to slow down.

Some things that may cause you to increase your following distance are:

Traffic speed

Light

Weather

Road conditions

It is against the law to follow more closely than is reasonable.

When you stop behind another vehicle, stay back far enough to see the ground space under the vehicle’s rear wheels.

If you are being tailgated you should:

Tap brakes lightly to signal that the car is too close. However, if the car is too close do not do this. Instead turn on blinker and pull to side of road and allow them to pass.

Reduce speed and encourage the vehicle to pass.

Never follow a fire truck that is going to a fire closer than 500 feet.

Passing rules:

WHEN IN DOUBT, DO NOT PASS.

Check passing lane before you decide to pass

Check blind spot, signal then move to the passing lane.

If passing at night vehicles seem to be going slower than they really are.

Do not speed when passing

Turn on your turn signal when you return back to the proper lane. Make sure you get back into the lane within 200 feet of any oncoming vehicle.

A good rule of thumb is to look for the lights or car in your rearview mirror before you go back into lane.

If you are being passed, you should slow down and help the vehicle passing you… never speed up.

Passing on the right is allowed when:  
 vehicle ahead is making a left turn

On a one-way street with 2 or more lanes

On limited access highway ( I93) with 2 or more lanes going in same direction.

NEVER drive off the pavement to pass another vehicle.

Passing is never allowed when:

Left lane is free on oncoming traffic

Coming to the crest of a hill

100 feet of a viaduct , bridge or tunnel

100 feet of an intersection or railroad crossing

In no passing zone

Lane usage:

If 3 or more lanes going in same direction, the middle lane is the smoothest. The left lane is for drivers that want to go faster, turn left, or pass.

If 2 lanes in same direction, the right lane has smoothest travel. Some roads may have special left turn lanes at intersections.

Changing lanes:

Signal the direction you intend to turn

Look into your rearview mirror for traffic approaching from the rear

Look into outside mirror for traffic approaching from that side.

Turn your head before you change direction.

Never change lanes at intersections

A GOOD RULE OF THUMB IS; TURN YOUR HEAD BEFOREYOU TURN THE WHEEL

Make sure you check your mirrors continually before you slow down, stop, turn or change lanes.

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