

BASIC THINGS THE BEGINNER STUDENT SHOULD KNOW.

BASIC THINGS THE STUDENT DRIVER SHOULD KNOW

There are certain fundamentals a student should know about their own family vehicle or vehicles if more than one being driven when learning to drive.

- a) Is the vehicle front wheel or rear wheel drive? If you are a multi vehicle family, you may have both types.
- b) Is the vehicle All-Wheel Drive and does it have traction control?
- c) Does it have 4-wheel drive capabilities and if so, do they know where and when and how to use this function and what it does for the vehicle?
- d) Where is the Parking Brake (emergency brake) located and does it function (Has it ever been used?) *Every vehicle is fitted with a parking brake.
- e) Where is neutral gear and how easy is it to push the shifter into neutral, (try without looking at the gear shift)? This is a skill shown to students while being trained.
- f) Know the controls inside the vehicle's cockpit and their function. The student should be able to operate the controls without looking down or at the specific switch or control (signals, wipers etc.). This is 'Static' learning of controls, sit inside the cockpit of vehicle and be able to touch and identify all controls until they become a habit, therefore not being a distraction during 'dynamic learning'. Dynamic learning is when the student is actually operating the vehicle and concentrating on the awareness of maneuvering the vehicle using the three main components of driving, **The Eyes** (intake of information) **Feet** (inputs to pedals) and **Hands** (input to the steering) based on cognitive skills taught by instructor.
- g) Is there an emergency kit in the vehicle? You may also want to show where the dip stick is located on the engine and how to check the oil. It's also important to know what type of gas the family vehicle(s) use and how to fill gas. Do you have emergency Road-Side Assistance or plans in place when the student drives alone and a problem occurs?
- e) Does the student know where the Ownership and Insurance (pink slip) for the vehicle is? These should be in the vehicle at all times (along with the student carrying their licence) when they drive.

*Vehicle collisions are the single biggest killer from birth to middle age.

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