

Pennsylvania Permit Test Questions and Answers

Original practice questions based on the official Pennsylvania driver manual. Not real test questions.

30 practice questions with an answer key, plus the numbers people most often forget. Every answer comes from the Pennsylvania Driver's Manual published by PennDOT (pa.gov/dmv). Rules and fees change, so check the current manual before test day.

Numbers to know

Topic	Rule
The test	18 questions. Answer 15 correctly to pass.
Following distance	4 seconds on dry roads. 5 to 6 seconds on wet roads.
Turn signals	100 feet before a turn under 35 mph. 300 feet at 35 mph or more.
Low beams	Within 500 feet of an oncoming vehicle. Within 300 feet when following.
School zone	15 mph when the school zone lights flash.
School bus	Stop at least 10 feet away when red lights flash and the stop arm is out.
Maximum speed	70 mph.
Emergency vehicles	Pull over and stop. Stay 500 feet behind one after it passes.
No parking	15 feet from a hydrant, 20 feet from a crosswalk at an intersection, 30 feet from a stop or yield sign, 50 feet from a railroad rail.
Curb	Park no more than 12 inches away.
Alcohol	0.08 for drivers 21 and older. 0.02 for drivers under 21.
Passing	Not within 100 feet of an intersection, railroad crossing, bridge or tunnel.
Practice log (under 18)	65 hours: 10 at night and 5 in bad weather. Hold the permit 6 months.

How to use this sheet

1. Read the numbers table first.
2. Answer all 30 questions without looking anything up.
3. Check the answer key and reread the manual section for every miss.
4. Wait a day, then try the whole sheet again. Aim for 28 or better.

Practice questions (30)

Circle one answer for each question. The answer key is at the end.

- 1. How many questions are on the Pennsylvania knowledge test?**
 - A. 10
 - B. 18
 - C. 25
 - D. 40
- 2. How many questions must you answer correctly to pass?**
 - A. 12
 - B. 14
 - C. 15
 - D. 18
- 3. On a dry highway, the manual recommends a following distance of at least:**
 - A. 1 second
 - B. 2 seconds
 - C. 4 seconds
 - D. 8 seconds
- 4. If you drive less than 35 mph, you must signal at least how far before turning?**
 - A. 50 feet
 - B. 100 feet
 - C. 300 feet
 - D. 500 feet
- 5. If you drive 35 mph or faster, you must signal at least how far before turning?**
 - A. 100 feet
 - B. 200 feet
 - C. 300 feet
 - D. 1,000 feet
- 6. You must switch to low beams when an oncoming vehicle is within:**
 - A. 200 feet
 - B. 300 feet
 - C. 500 feet
 - D. 1,000 feet
- 7. You must use low beams when you follow another vehicle within:**
 - A. 100 feet
 - B. 300 feet
 - C. 500 feet
 - D. 800 feet
- 8. When the lights on a school zone speed sign are flashing, the speed limit is:**
 - A. 15 mph
 - B. 20 mph
 - C. 25 mph
 - D. 35 mph

9. A school bus has red lights flashing and its stop arm out. You must stop at least:

- A. 5 feet away
- B. 10 feet away
- C. 20 feet away
- D. 50 feet away

10. What is the highest speed limit in Pennsylvania?

- A. 55 mph
- B. 65 mph
- C. 70 mph
- D. 75 mph

11. A sign with eight sides always means:

- A. Yield
- B. Stop
- C. School zone
- D. Railroad crossing

12. A five-sided (pentagon) sign means:

- A. No passing zone
- B. Work zone
- C. School zone or school crossing
- D. Hospital ahead

13. An orange diamond-shaped sign warns you about:

- A. A work zone
- B. A hospital
- C. A rest area
- D. A state route

14. At a railroad crossbuck with no lights or gates, treat the crossbuck like a:

- A. Speed limit sign
- B. Yield sign
- C. Guide sign
- D. No parking sign

15. A steady yellow traffic light means:

- A. Speed up to beat the red
- B. A red light will soon appear, so prepare to stop if you safely can
- C. Stop and wait for green
- D. Pedestrians must stop

16. A flashing red traffic light means:

- A. Slow down and keep going
- B. Treat it like a STOP sign
- C. Turn right only
- D. The light is broken, so ignore it

17. A steady red arrow means:

- A. Turn after yielding
- B. Do not turn in the arrow's direction until a green arrow or flashing yellow arrow appears
- C. Turn only if no cars are coming
- D. Merge left

18. An emergency vehicle with lights and siren is coming toward you. You should:

- A. Speed up to clear the road
- B. Pull over to the curb or side of the road and stop
- C. Stop in your lane
- D. Follow it closely

19. After an emergency vehicle passes, stay at least how far behind it?

- A. 100 feet
- B. 200 feet
- C. 300 feet
- D. 500 feet

20. You may not park within how many feet of a fire hydrant?

- A. 5 feet
- B. 10 feet
- C. 15 feet
- D. 30 feet

21. You may not park within how many feet of a crosswalk at an intersection?

- A. 10 feet
- B. 20 feet
- C. 30 feet
- D. 50 feet

22. You may not park within how many feet of a stop sign or yield sign?

- A. 15 feet
- B. 20 feet
- C. 30 feet
- D. 50 feet

23. You may not park within how many feet of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing?

- A. 15 feet
- B. 25 feet
- C. 40 feet
- D. 50 feet

24. When you parallel park, your car may be no more than how far from the curb?

- A. 6 inches
- B. 12 inches
- C. 18 inches
- D. 24 inches

25. For drivers under 21, a blood alcohol content of what level counts as driving under the influence?

- A. 0.02 percent or more
- B. 0.05 percent or more
- C. 0.08 percent or more
- D. 0.10 percent or more

26. For drivers 21 and older, the legal limit referred to in the manual is:

- A. 0.02
- B. 0.05
- C. 0.08
- D. 0.10

27. Two vehicles reach a four-way stop at the same time. Who goes first?

- A. The driver on the left
- B. The driver on the right
- C. The larger vehicle
- D. The faster vehicle

28. You may not pass within how many feet of an intersection or railroad crossing?

- A. 50 feet
- B. 100 feet
- C. 200 feet
- D. 500 feet

29. Your tires can hydroplane at speeds as low as:

- A. 15 mph
- B. 25 mph
- C. 35 mph
- D. 55 mph

30. Before a driver under 18 can take the road test, the learner must log at least:

- A. 30 hours
- B. 50 hours
- C. 65 hours
- D. 100 hours

Answer key

1. B. The PA Driver's Manual says the test has 18 multiple-choice questions.
2. C. You need 15 of 18 correct, so you can miss 3.
3. C. PennDOT teaches a 4-second following distance on dry roads.
4. B. Under 35 mph, signal at least 100 feet before the turn.
5. C. At 35 mph or more, signal at least 300 feet before the turn.
6. C. Use low beams within 500 feet of an oncoming vehicle.
7. B. Use low beams when following within 300 feet.
8. A. The school zone limit is 15 mph while the lights flash.
9. B. Stop at least 10 feet from the bus.
10. C. The manual says the maximum speed limit in Pennsylvania is 70 mph.
11. B. The octagon is used only for STOP signs.
12. C. The pentagon is used only for school signs.
13. A. Orange with black is the color for work zone signs.
14. B. The manual says to treat a crossbuck as a YIELD sign.
15. B. Slow down and prepare to stop unless you are already in the intersection or cannot stop safely.
16. B. Come to a complete stop and go only when the way is clear.
17. B. Wait for a green arrow or flashing yellow arrow before turning that way.
18. B. Pull over and stop until it passes.
19. D. Keep at least 500 feet behind it.
20. C. Pennsylvania prohibits parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.
21. B. Stay at least 20 feet from a crosswalk at an intersection.
22. C. Stay at least 30 feet away.
23. D. Stay at least 50 feet from the nearest rail.
24. B. Park no more than 12 inches from the curb.
25. A. For drivers under 21, 0.02 percent or more is treated as driving under the influence.
26. C. The adult legal limit is 0.08.
27. B. The driver on the left yields to the driver on the right.
28. B. Do not pass within 100 feet of an intersection or railroad grade crossing.
29. C. The manual says hydroplaning can start at 35 mph in water only one-tenth of an inch deep.
30. C. PennDOT requires 65 hours, including 10 at night and 5 in bad weather.