

# Alberta Written Class 4 Drivers License Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## Questions

- 1. When is it permissible to use a handheld device while driving?**
  - A. Only while stopped at a red light**
  - B. When you are over the age of 18**
  - C. Only while driving in parking lots**
  - D. Under no circumstances**
- 2. What is essential for maintaining a safe following distance?**
  - A. Keeping your hands at 10 and 2**
  - B. Adjusting speed to match traffic flow**
  - C. Managing visual lead time**
  - D. Using the three-second rule**
- 3. What actions can lead to a fine for aggressive driving?**
  - A. Using turn signals properly**
  - B. Tailgating, excessive lane changes, and road rage behavior**
  - C. Driving within the speed limit**
  - D. Coming to a complete stop at red lights**
- 4. What are the consequences of not wearing a seatbelt while driving?**
  - A. No consequences**
  - B. A warning from law enforcement**
  - C. A fine and points on your driving record**
  - D. Mandatory driving course**
- 5. What does 'tailgating' refer to in driving?**
  - A. Driving far from other vehicles**
  - B. Following another vehicle too closely**
  - C. Stopping abruptly without warning**
  - D. Changing lanes frequently**
- 6. When are you required to turn on your signals?**
  - A. Only in residential areas**
  - B. 100 meters before turning or changing lanes**
  - C. Only during night driving**
  - D. When other drivers are nearby**

- 7. When must you report an accident to the police?**
- A. When there are injuries or significant property damage**
  - B. When the accident involves two or more vehicles**
  - C. When there are only minor damages**
  - D. When a traffic violation occurs**
- 8. If a vehicle has an air compressor assisting the hydraulic brakes, what endorsement is needed?**
- A. No endorsement needed**
  - B. Q Endorsement**
  - C. S Endorsement**
  - D. C Endorsement**
- 9. When should you use your turn signals?**
- A. Only when changing lanes**
  - B. At all times while driving**
  - C. Whenever you change lanes, merge, or make a turn**
  - D. Only in busy traffic**
- 10. How should you react to an emergency vehicle approaching from behind?**
- A. Speed up to stay ahead of it**
  - B. Pull over to the right and stop**
  - C. Ignore it if it is not on your lane**
  - D. Make a U-turn to get out of the way**

## **Answers**

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1. D
2. D
3. B
4. C
5. B
6. B
7. A
8. A
9. C
10. B

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## **Explanations**

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**1. When is it permissible to use a handheld device while driving?**

- A. Only while stopped at a red light**
- B. When you are over the age of 18**
- C. Only while driving in parking lots**
- D. Under no circumstances**

Using a handheld device while driving is prohibited under all circumstances to ensure the safety of all road users. This rule is in place because operating a handheld device can divert attention from driving, significantly increasing the risk of accidents. The focus needs to remain on the road, so any activity that could distract a driver, like texting or making calls without hands-free equipment, is strictly forbidden. The options that suggest limited circumstances for using a handheld device do not align with safety regulations and are incorrect. It is essential for drivers to understand that regardless of their age or the driving context, such as being stopped at a red light or driving in a parking lot, the priority should always be on maintaining full attention to driving tasks. Thus, the only acceptable answer is that using a handheld device is prohibited under all circumstances.

**2. What is essential for maintaining a safe following distance?**

- A. Keeping your hands at 10 and 2**
- B. Adjusting speed to match traffic flow**
- C. Managing visual lead time**
- D. Using the three-second rule**

Maintaining a safe following distance is crucial for road safety, as it allows for adequate reaction time to unexpected situations. The three-second rule is a fundamental practice for this purpose. It involves measuring the time it takes from when the vehicle in front of you passes a fixed point (such as a sign) to when you reach the same point. By ensuring that there is a minimum of three seconds between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead of you, you create a buffer space that gives you sufficient time to react if the vehicle in front suddenly stops, slows down, or encounters an obstacle. This rule is particularly effective because it accounts for variations in speed and road conditions, allowing drivers to adjust their following distance as necessary. Factors such as weather conditions, the speed at which vehicles are traveling, and the overall traffic situation can affect how much time is appropriate. Thus, using the three-second rule helps maintain a safe driving environment by promoting adequate space and awareness on the road.

### 3. What actions can lead to a fine for aggressive driving?

- A. Using turn signals properly
- B. Tailgating, excessive lane changes, and road rage behavior**
- C. Driving within the speed limit
- D. Coming to a complete stop at red lights

Aggressive driving encompasses a variety of unsafe and reckless behaviors on the road that can compromise safety for all road users. The actions described in the answer, such as tailgating, making excessive lane changes without signaling, and displaying road rage, are all indicative of aggressive driving. Tailgating creates a dangerous situation as it drastically reduces the time a driver has to react to sudden changes in traffic. Excessive lane changes contribute to unpredictability on the road, which can lead to accidents. Road rage behavior can lead to confrontations that escalate into dangerous situations, both for the aggressive driver and others around them. Law enforcement agencies have identified such behaviors as fundamental components of aggressive driving, which is why they are enforceable with fines. In contrast, behaviors such as using turn signals properly, driving within the speed limit, and stopping at red lights reflect adherence to traffic laws and safe driving practices, which do not lead to fines.

### 4. What are the consequences of not wearing a seatbelt while driving?

- A. No consequences
- B. A warning from law enforcement
- C. A fine and points on your driving record**
- D. Mandatory driving course

Not wearing a seatbelt while driving can result in significant legal repercussions, which is why a fine and points on your driving record is the correct answer. In many jurisdictions, including Alberta, it is a legal requirement for both drivers and passengers to wear seatbelts. Failing to comply with this law can lead to penalties, including financial fines that serve as a deterrent against unsafe driving behavior. Additionally, accumulating points on your driving record due to seatbelt violations can lead to more severe consequences in the future, such as increased insurance premiums or further legal scrutiny. The enforcement of seatbelt laws aims to promote safety and reduce the risk of injury or fatality in accidents, reinforcing the importance of adhering to safety regulations on the road.

**5. What does 'tailgating' refer to in driving?**

- A. Driving far from other vehicles
- B. Following another vehicle too closely**
- C. Stopping abruptly without warning
- D. Changing lanes frequently

Tailgating refers to the practice of following another vehicle too closely, which can create a hazardous situation on the road. When a driver tailgates, they reduce their ability to react to sudden stops or changes in speed of the vehicle in front of them. This behavior significantly increases the risk of a rear-end collision, as the tailgater may not have enough time to brake safely if the vehicle ahead slows down or stops unexpectedly. Maintaining a safe following distance is crucial for ensuring adequate reaction time, promoting safe driving practices, and reducing the potential for accidents. Thus, understanding tailgating and its dangers is essential for all drivers to enhance road safety.

**6. When are you required to turn on your signals?**

- A. Only in residential areas
- B. 100 meters before turning or changing lanes**
- C. Only during night driving
- D. When other drivers are nearby

You are required to turn on your signals 100 meters before making a turn or changing lanes to notify other road users of your intentions. This distance allows sufficient time for nearby drivers and pedestrians to understand your planned action, facilitating a safer driving environment. Using your signals well in advance is essential in preventing accidents, as it gives others ample time to react. For example, if you are about to change lanes on a highway, signaling 100 meters ahead allows other vehicles to maintain a safe distance or adjust their speed accordingly. This practice helps ensure that all road users are aware of your movements, promoting a cooperative traffic flow. The other options do not provide the correct guidelines for effective signaling. Only signaling in residential areas or during night driving would not account for situations in various environments and conditions where signaling is crucial. Similarly, relying solely on the presence of nearby drivers does not establish a clear protocol for signaling your intentions, which should be done consistently regardless of the immediate situation.

**7. When must you report an accident to the police?**

- A. When there are injuries or significant property damage**
- B. When the accident involves two or more vehicles**
- C. When there are only minor damages**
- D. When a traffic violation occurs**

Reporting an accident to the police is mandated when there are injuries or significant property damage. This requirement is in place to ensure that proper documentation and investigation can occur, particularly when there are injuries that may necessitate medical attention or legal proceedings. Significant property damage indicates that the incident may have wider implications, possibly affecting other road users, property owners, or insurance claims. The necessity of involving law enforcement in such scenarios helps establish an official record of the incident, which can be vital for all parties involved. This record serves as an essential tool for navigating insurance claims, determining liability, and ensuring that all involved parties comply with legal obligations. In contrast, reporting may not be necessary for minor damages or situations that do not involve injuries, as these can often be resolved through private exchanges between the involved parties. Additionally, while traffic violations may warrant police attention, not all accidents that involve violations lead to the same requirement for reporting unless they also include injuries or significant damage.

**8. If a vehicle has an air compressor assisting the hydraulic brakes, what endorsement is needed?**

- A. No endorsement needed**
- B. Q Endorsement**
- C. S Endorsement**
- D. C Endorsement**

For a vehicle equipped with an air compressor that assists the hydraulic brakes, no specific endorsement is needed because the air compressor is not the primary braking system and doesn't qualify the vehicle as an air brake-equipped vehicle. This means that standard hydraulic brake training is sufficient for operation, thus not requiring an additional endorsement. Endorsements such as the Q or S are typically related to more specialized vehicles, such as those utilizing air brake systems or requiring special skills for operating a bus or school bus. The C Endorsement is also related to specific vehicle classifications that would necessitate extra training requirements. Since the vehicle in question primarily relies on hydraulic braking, none of these additional endorsements are applicable, reaffirming that the answer of no endorsement needed is indeed accurate.

## 9. When should you use your turn signals?

- A. Only when changing lanes
- B. At all times while driving
- C. Whenever you change lanes, merge, or make a turn**
- D. Only in busy traffic

Using turn signals is an essential part of safe driving, as they communicate your intentions to other road users. The correct answer highlights that you should signal anytime you change lanes, merge, or make a turn. This practice not only helps to prevent accidents but also facilitates smoother traffic flow by informing other drivers of your planned maneuvers well in advance. When changing lanes, signaling alerts drivers behind you as well as those in adjacent lanes to be aware of your movement. This is crucial in maintaining safety, especially in dynamic driving environments. Similarly, when merging into traffic or turning at intersections, signaling allows other road users to anticipate your actions and adjust accordingly. While some options suggest limited use of turn signals, they do not encompass the full range of scenarios where signaling is necessary for clear communication on the road. For instance, signaling only in busy traffic can lead to confusion and misunderstanding among drivers in less congested areas. Consequently, adopting a consistent practice of using turn signals whenever changing lanes, merging, or making turns is vital for responsible driving.

## 10. How should you react to an emergency vehicle approaching from behind?

- A. Speed up to stay ahead of it
- B. Pull over to the right and stop**
- C. Ignore it if it is not on your lane
- D. Make a U-turn to get out of the way

When an emergency vehicle, such as an ambulance, police car, or fire truck, approaches from behind with lights flashing or sirens blaring, the correct response is to pull over to the right side of the road and come to a complete stop. This action allows the emergency vehicle to pass safely and quickly, which is crucial during emergencies where every second counts. Pulling over and stopping on the right side of the road is designed to ensure that you are out of the way of the emergency vehicle while still maintaining safety for both yourself and the other road users. It also allows other vehicles, which may be following the emergency vehicle or also need to react to the situation, to maneuver safely. Options that suggest speeding up, ignoring the emergency vehicle, or making a U-turn can create dangerous situations. Speeding up may prevent the emergency vehicle from passing when it needs to, while ignoring it can lead to a lack of awareness that could cause an accident. Making a U-turn could confuse other drivers and put you in harm's way, especially if there are vehicles behind you or oncoming traffic. Following the correct procedure not only helps in emergency situations but also aligns with traffic laws designed to guide driver behavior during such circumstances.