

MARYLAND MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION (MVA) DRIVER'S ED PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. When driving at night, what should you do if you are approached by an oncoming vehicle with bright headlights?**
 - A. Stare directly at the headlights
 - B. Dim your headlights
 - C. Look to the right edge of the road until the vehicle passes
 - D. Speed up to pass quickly
- 2. What should a driver do if they recognize they are too tired to drive safely?**
 - A. Take a short nap
 - B. Continue driving while keeping alert
 - C. Pull over and find a safe place to rest
 - D. Ignore it and drive home quickly
- 3. What action should you take if you experience a tire blowout?**
 - A. Brake hard to stop safely
 - B. Grip the steering wheel firmly
 - C. Turn the vehicle in the opposite direction
 - D. Check the rearview mirror immediately
- 4. How much following distance should you maintain from the vehicle in front of you?**
 - A. 1-2 seconds
 - B. 2-3 seconds
 - C. At least 3-4 seconds
 - D. 5 seconds or more
- 5. How should a driver behave in heavy traffic conditions?**
 - A. Remain patient, avoid aggressive driving, and be alert
 - B. Drive faster than the speed limit
 - C. Constantly change lanes to get ahead
 - D. Ignore traffic signals to save time

- 6. Which of these is used for both entering and exiting a highway?**
- A. Acceleration lane.
 - B. Deceleration lane.
 - C. Weave lane.
 - D. Merge lane.
- 7. What is the recommended foot placement when starting a vehicle?**
- A. One foot on the brake and the other on the accelerator
 - B. One foot on the brake and the other on the dead pedal
 - C. Both feet on the brake pedal
 - D. One foot on the gas pedal and one on the clutch
- 8. What is good advice when driving on the same road as a motorcycle?**
- A. Always maintain a distance of at least ten feet.
 - B. Do not attempt to share a lane with a motorcycle.
 - C. Always pass motorcycles at a very slow speed.
 - D. Keep your headlights on at all times.
- 9. How long is a Maryland learner's permit valid?**
- A. 1 year
 - B. 2 years
 - C. 3 years
 - D. 5 years
- 10. What must you do when you see a school bus with flashing red lights?**
- A. Slow down and pass with caution
 - B. Stop your vehicle and wait until the lights stop flashing
 - C. Honk your horn
 - D. Continue driving as usual

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. When driving at night, what should you do if you are approached by an oncoming vehicle with bright headlights?

- A. Stare directly at the headlights
- B. Dim your headlights
- C. Look to the right edge of the road until the vehicle passes**
- D. Speed up to pass quickly

When driving at night and encountering an oncoming vehicle with bright headlights, it is advisable to look to the right edge of the road until the vehicle passes. This approach helps you maintain your focus without being blinded by the glare of the bright headlights. Staring directly at the headlights can impair your vision and make it difficult to see the road ahead or other potential hazards. Dimming your headlights is helpful when you are the one approaching other vehicles, but it does not resolve the issue of being temporarily blinded by oncoming bright lights. Speeding up to pass quickly is not a safe solution, as it can lead to loss of control or increase the likelihood of an accident. By focusing on the right edge of the road, you can safely navigate while waiting for the oncoming vehicle to pass.

2. What should a driver do if they recognize they are too tired to drive safely?

- A. Take a short nap
- B. Continue driving while keeping alert
- C. Pull over and find a safe place to rest**
- D. Ignore it and drive home quickly

When a driver recognizes they are too tired to drive safely, the best course of action is to pull over and find a safe place to rest. Driving while fatigued can severely impair judgment, reaction times, and overall driving ability, similar to the effects of alcohol. By finding a safe place to stop, the driver prioritizes both their safety and the safety of others on the road. Taking a short nap may not provide sufficient rest to regain alertness and may not be feasible if the driver does not find a safe location first. Continuing to drive while trying to stay alert is dangerous, as fatigue can diminish a driver's ability to react or make quick decisions. Ignoring fatigue and trying to drive home quickly increases the risk of a crash, putting everyone on the road in jeopardy. Therefore, pulling over to a safe area is the most responsible and effective way to address the situation.

3. What action should you take if you experience a tire blowout?

- A. Brake hard to stop safely
- B. Grip the steering wheel firmly**
- C. Turn the vehicle in the opposite direction
- D. Check the rearview mirror immediately

When experiencing a tire blowout, gripping the steering wheel firmly is crucial for maintaining control of the vehicle. This action helps you steer the car safely as it may pull to one side due to the sudden loss of tire pressure. A firm grip allows you to keep the vehicle stable and reduce the risk of losing control, which can lead to a more dangerous situation. In contrast, braking hard could exacerbate the situation by causing the vehicle to skid or roll. Similarly, turning the vehicle in the opposite direction can lead to an overcorrection and loss of control. Checking the rearview mirror can be useful in some instances, but it is vital to focus on keeping control of the vehicle first and foremost during a blowout. Thus, the emphasis on firmly gripping the steering wheel ensures that you have the best chance of handling the blowout safely and effectively.

4. How much following distance should you maintain from the vehicle in front of you?

- A. 1-2 seconds
- B. 2-3 seconds
- C. At least 3-4 seconds**
- D. 5 seconds or more

Maintaining a following distance of at least 3-4 seconds from the vehicle in front of you is crucial for safe driving. This timeframe allows for a buffer that helps ensure you have enough reaction time to respond to sudden stops or emergencies. It accounts for factors such as your speed, road conditions, weather, and the behavior of the driver ahead. In good driving conditions, a following distance of 3-4 seconds gives you the space needed to stop safely without risking a rear-end collision. This distance can be increased in adverse conditions, such as rain or snow, where stopping distances are longer. Keeping this rule in mind not only enhances your safety but also contributes to smoother traffic flow, as it reduces the likelihood of abrupt stops and starts. The other distances provided are either too short or not practical for most driving conditions, as they do not allow sufficient time to react in case of unexpected situations. This emphasizes the importance of maintaining a safe following distance while driving.

5. How should a driver behave in heavy traffic conditions?

- A. Remain patient, avoid aggressive driving, and be alert**
- B. Drive faster than the speed limit
- C. Constantly change lanes to get ahead
- D. Ignore traffic signals to save time

In heavy traffic conditions, remaining patient is crucial for both your safety and the safety of others on the road. Aggressive driving can lead to accidents and increase stress levels, not only for the driver but for everyone sharing the roadway. By avoiding aggressive maneuvers, such as tailgating or weaving in and out of lanes, drivers contribute to a more stable and predictable traffic environment. Being alert is also vital. Heavy traffic can lead to sudden stops or changes in the flow of vehicles, and being attentive allows drivers to react promptly to any potential hazards. It is essential for drivers to maintain situational awareness, observe traffic signals, and respect the space of surrounding vehicles. Thus, adopting a calm and vigilant approach aids in ensuring that drivers navigate through congested areas safely and efficiently.

6. Which of these is used for both entering and exiting a highway?

- A. Acceleration lane.
- B. Deceleration lane.
- C. Weave lane.**
- D. Merge lane.

The weave lane is specifically designed for both entering and exiting a highway. This unique lane allows vehicles to merge onto the highway while simultaneously accommodating vehicles exiting, thus creating a shared space where drivers can transition between the two actions. The design of a weave lane helps to streamline traffic flow by minimizing the need for separate entry and exit ramps, allowing drivers to change their paths more efficiently. This can be particularly useful in high-traffic areas where space is limited. Contrasting with the other options, acceleration and deceleration lanes are designed solely for getting onto or off the highway, respectively. An acceleration lane provides drivers with the space needed to increase their speed to match highway traffic when entering, while a deceleration lane is intended for vehicles to safely reduce speed when preparing to exit. A merge lane, while related to entering traffic, does not serve the dual purpose of facilitating both entry and exit like a weave lane does.

7. What is the recommended foot placement when starting a vehicle?

- A. One foot on the brake and the other on the accelerator
- B. One foot on the brake and the other on the dead pedal**
- C. Both feet on the brake pedal
- D. One foot on the gas pedal and one on the clutch

The recommended foot placement when starting a vehicle is to position one foot on the brake and the other on the dead pedal. This method emphasizes safety and control. By keeping one foot on the brake, the driver ensures that the vehicle remains stationary, particularly in automatic transmission vehicles. The dead pedal, which is typically located next to the footwell, provides a place for the driver's left foot to rest without interfering with the controls, promoting better posture and more ergonomic use of the pedals. This practice also helps prevent accidental acceleration when starting the car, especially if the vehicle is in gear. It reinforces the habit of maintaining a controlled environment when starting the engine, setting a good foundation for safe driving behaviors. In contrast, having one foot on the brake and the other on the accelerator could lead to unintentional acceleration, which is unsafe. Placing both feet on the brake pedal does not provide proper use of the accelerator when needed. Lastly, using one foot on the accelerator and one on the clutch applies primarily to manual transmission vehicles, which may not apply in a context where automatic transmission is prevalent, thus not aligning with the recommendation for general vehicle operation.

8. What is good advice when driving on the same road as a motorcycle?

- A. Always maintain a distance of at least ten feet.
- B. Do not attempt to share a lane with a motorcycle.**
- C. Always pass motorcycles at a very slow speed.
- D. Keep your headlights on at all times.

When driving on the same road as a motorcycle, a key piece of advice is to avoid attempting to share a lane with a motorcycle. Motorcycles require the full width of the lane for safe operation, and trying to share a lane can compromise the safety of both the motorcyclist and the driver of the larger vehicle. Motorcycles are more maneuverable than larger vehicles, often changing speed or position suddenly, which can create hazards if the space is not respected. Keeping a safe distance ensures that both vehicles can respond to any sudden movements or emergencies without encroaching on each other's space. This understanding helps promote safety on the road for all users.

9. How long is a Maryland learner's permit valid?

- A. 1 year
- B. 2 years**
- C. 3 years
- D. 5 years

A Maryland learner's permit is valid for 2 years from the date of issuance. This duration allows new drivers ample time to gain the necessary driving experience under supervision before they apply for a provisional license. During this period, learner's permit holders must practice safe driving habits and accumulate the required hours of behind-the-wheel training, which prepares them for the responsibilities of independent driving. The other durations provided do not align with Maryland's regulations. For instance, a 1-year validity could be too short to accumulate sufficient practice, while the longer options of 3 or 5 years are unnecessary for the nature of a learner's permit, which is intended as a transitional license for new drivers.

10. What must you do when you see a school bus with flashing red lights?

- A. Slow down and pass with caution
- B. Stop your vehicle and wait until the lights stop flashing**
- C. Honk your horn
- D. Continue driving as usual

When you encounter a school bus with flashing red lights, it is essential to stop your vehicle and wait until the lights stop flashing. This regulation is in place to ensure the safety of children who may be getting on or off the bus. The flashing red lights serve as a crucial indicator that the bus is either actively loading or unloading students, and stopping is necessary to prevent any potential accidents. By following this requirement, you not only comply with traffic laws but also protect the most vulnerable road users—children. It is important to remain stopped until the bus's lights return to a non-flashing state and, in some instances, the bus driver may extend a stop sign, further indicating that vehicles must remain halted. In contrast, other actions such as slowing down and passing with caution, honking your horn, or continuing to drive as usual are unsafe and illegal under these circumstances. These actions could put children at risk, and failing to stop for a school bus can lead to severe penalties, including hefty fines and points on your driving record. Understanding and adhering to this law is vital for ensuring everyone's safety on the road, especially in school zones.

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Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://mdmvadiversed.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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