

# Montana Driver's Ed Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. When should you increase your following distance?**
  - A. During daylight hours**
  - B. In poor weather conditions or heavy traffic**
  - C. When driving on highways only**
  - D. When there are no cars in front of you**
- 2. What is the clear distance required when passing on a two-lane highway?**
  - A. 1/4 mile**
  - B. 1/2 mile**
  - C. 3/4 mile**
  - D. 1/3 mile**
- 3. What does a "stop" sign instruct drivers to do?**
  - A. Slow down but continue driving**
  - B. Come to a complete stop**
  - C. Yield to oncoming traffic**
  - D. Speed up to clear the intersection**
- 4. What does a rectangular sign that says DO NOT PASS indicate?**
  - A. You may pass vehicles going the same direction**
  - B. You may only pass larger vehicles**
  - C. You may not pass any vehicle going the same direction as you**
  - D. You may pass only if you speed up**
- 5. Your license number in Montana is primarily comprised of what?**
  - A. A personal identification number**
  - B. A system generated number**
  - C. Your social security number**
  - D. A combination of letters and numbers**

- 6. What is the penalty for taking someone else's driver's test?**
- A. Possible fines and community service**
  - B. Suspension of driving privileges**
  - C. Possible fines and legal action**
  - D. Mandatory driving school**
- 7. If a driver approaches a turn in the wrong lane, what should they do?**
- A. Make the turn anyway**
  - B. Stop and wait until it is safe**
  - C. Proceed straight, go to the next intersection, signal, then turn**
  - D. Reverse back to the previous lane**
- 8. What should you do when driving at dusk or on overcast days?**
- A. Keep your vehicle lights off**
  - B. Turn on your vehicle lights**
  - C. Drive at a slower speed without lights**
  - D. Only use high beam lights**
- 9. In Montana, what is the legal action a driver must take at a railroad crossing?**
- A. Keep driving without stopping**
  - B. Completely stop and look for trains**
  - C. Only slow down and check**
  - D. Signal before crossing**
- 10. What should you do if you encounter a flooded road?**
- A. Drive through if the water looks shallow.**
  - B. Stop and wait until the water recedes.**
  - C. Take a detour around the area cautiously.**
  - D. Call for help and wait in your vehicle.**

## **Answers**

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

## **Explanations**

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**1. When should you increase your following distance?**

- A. During daylight hours
- B. In poor weather conditions or heavy traffic**
- C. When driving on highways only
- D. When there are no cars in front of you

Increasing your following distance is crucial in poor weather conditions or heavy traffic because these situations increase the likelihood of needing more time to react to unexpected events. In adverse weather, such as rain, snow, or fog, road conditions can impair visibility and traction, making it more challenging to stop quickly. Similarly, heavy traffic can lead to sudden stops from other vehicles. By maintaining a greater following distance, you provide yourself with additional time to respond safely to any changes in the driving environment, ultimately reducing the risk of collisions. In contrast, during daylight hours when conditions are clear, or when driving on highways where traffic flow can be more predictable, maintaining a standard following distance may be adequate. Moreover, if there are no cars in front of you, having an increased following distance is less critical because the need to react to other vehicles is diminished.

**2. What is the clear distance required when passing on a two-lane highway?**

- A. 1/4 mile
- B. 1/2 mile
- C. 3/4 mile
- D. 1/3 mile**

The clear distance required when passing on a two-lane highway is typically set at 1/3 mile. This distance ensures that a driver has adequate visibility and time to safely maneuver past another vehicle without risking a collision. When passing, it's crucial to be able to see oncoming traffic and assess whether it is safe to complete the maneuver. A clear distance of 1/3 mile provides enough room to accelerate, pass the vehicle, and return to the right lane safely before encountering any approaching vehicles. This requirement helps maintain safety on the roads, particularly in situations where visibility may be limited. In contrast, distances like 1/4 mile, 1/2 mile, and 3/4 mile would not align with the established safety guidelines for safe passing under typical road conditions.

### 3. What does a "stop" sign instruct drivers to do?

- A. Slow down but continue driving
- B. Come to a complete stop**
- C. Yield to oncoming traffic
- D. Speed up to clear the intersection

A "stop" sign instructs drivers to come to a complete stop. This is a crucial traffic control device that indicates that a driver must bring their vehicle to a full halt before proceeding. This requirement is designed to ensure safety at intersections where visibility may be poor, and potential conflicts with other vehicles or pedestrians could occur. When a driver stops at the sign, they have the opportunity to check for oncoming traffic, pedestrians, or other hazards before making a decision to proceed. This practice significantly reduces the risk of accidents, as it allows drivers to assess the situation fully before entering the intersection or continuing onto another roadway. In contrast, the other options do not align with the legal requirement established by a stop sign. Merely slowing down or yielding does not adequately ensure safety and could result in dangerous situations at intersections. Similarly, speeding up is completely contrary to the instruction provided by a stop sign, as it neglects the necessary caution that is paramount when approaching potentially dangerous crossroads.

### 4. What does a rectangular sign that says DO NOT PASS indicate?

- A. You may pass vehicles going the same direction
- B. You may only pass larger vehicles
- C. You may not pass any vehicle going the same direction as you**
- D. You may pass only if you speed up

The sign that states "DO NOT PASS" is a critical traffic control measure indicating that drivers are not permitted to overtake or pass any vehicle traveling in the same direction. This restriction is usually placed in areas where it is deemed unsafe to pass, such as on curves, hills, or areas with reduced visibility, ensuring the safety of all road users. By adhering to this sign, drivers prevent potentially hazardous situations that could arise from attempting to pass when sightlines are limited or due to the presence of oncoming traffic. Understanding the implications of this sign is vital for maintaining safe driving practices and for complying with traffic laws designed to protect all vehicle operators on the road.

**5. Your license number in Montana is primarily comprised of what?**

- A. A personal identification number**
- B. A system generated number**
- C. Your social security number**
- D. A combination of letters and numbers**

In Montana, your license number is primarily a system-generated number. This means that the number is created by the state's computerized system when you obtain your driver's license. It is unique to you and does not contain personally identifiable information such as your social security number or straightforward personal identifiers. The use of a system-generated number helps ensure that each driver's license is distinct, improving the efficiency of record-keeping and reducing the potential for duplication or fraud in licensing. In contrast, while a personal identification number could imply a form of unique identifier, it doesn't specifically relate to how Montana structures license numbers. Your social security number is not used as your license number for privacy and security reasons, and while the number may contain a combination of letters and numbers, the defining feature is that it is primarily system-generated for administrative purposes.

**6. What is the penalty for taking someone else's driver's test?**

- A. Possible fines and community service**
- B. Suspension of driving privileges**
- C. Possible fines and legal action**
- D. Mandatory driving school**

Taking someone else's driver's test is considered a serious offense, as it involves dishonesty and undermines the integrity of the licensing process. The correct response highlights the potential for fines and legal consequences, which serves as a deterrent against fraudulent behavior. Engaging in this kind of deceit not only violates the law but also puts the safety of others at risk by allowing unqualified individuals to obtain driver's licenses. The other choices, while they may contain elements that could be associated with various driving offenses, do not specifically address the legal ramifications tied to the act of impersonation or cheating in the licensing process. Some options might suggest community service or mandatory driving school, which typically apply to different types of violations rather than acts of fraud related to testing for a driver's license. Similarly, suspension of driving privileges usually results from traffic violations or infractions rather than directly from the act of taking another person's test. Overall, the emphasis on fines and potential legal action underscores the seriousness with which such offenses are treated.

7. If a driver approaches a turn in the wrong lane, what should they do?
- A. Make the turn anyway
  - B. Stop and wait until it is safe
  - C. Proceed straight, go to the next intersection, signal, then turn**
  - D. Reverse back to the previous lane

When a driver approaches a turn and realizes they are in the wrong lane, the appropriate response is to proceed straight through the intersection, go to the next one, signal their intention, and then make the turn from the correct lane. This action is safest for the driver and other road users because it prevents sudden or erratic maneuvers that could lead to collisions. Turning from the wrong lane can create hazardous situations, not only for the driver but also for others nearby. By continuing straight, the driver maintains predictable traffic flow, reduces the chances of accidents, and adheres to traffic laws. This approach ensures that the driver can complete their turn safely at the next opportunity without forcing other vehicles to adjust unexpectedly.

8. What should you do when driving at dusk or on overcast days?
- A. Keep your vehicle lights off
  - B. Turn on your vehicle lights**
  - C. Drive at a slower speed without lights
  - D. Only use high beam lights

When driving at dusk or on overcast days, turning on your vehicle lights is crucial for several reasons. As visibility decreases during these times, activating your lights helps ensure that you can see the road and any potential hazards clearly. It also makes your vehicle more visible to other drivers, which is essential for safety. Keeping your lights off would hinder your ability to see and be seen, especially as natural light fades. Driving at a slower speed without lights still poses a risk because other motorists may not notice your vehicle until it's too late. Lastly, using only high beam lights can be inappropriate in certain conditions, as it might blind oncoming drivers and actually decrease overall visibility. Therefore, turning on low beam lights during dusk or overcast conditions is the safest and most effective choice.

**9. In Montana, what is the legal action a driver must take at a railroad crossing?**

- A. Keep driving without stopping**
- B. Completely stop and look for trains**
- C. Only slow down and check**
- D. Signal before crossing**

At a railroad crossing in Montana, the law requires drivers to completely stop and look for trains before proceeding. This action is crucial because trains can approach at high speeds, and their size and weight make them much harder to see or gauge from a distance compared to vehicles. Stopping allows the driver to ensure that the track is clear and to avoid potential collisions, which can be catastrophic. Merely slowing down or keeping an eye on the tracks, as suggested in the other options, does not provide enough safety. It is essential to stop completely to confirm that no train is coming, given the potential dangers involved in crossing train tracks. Additionally, signaling before crossing is unnecessary unless changing lanes or merging into a different roadway, which does not directly apply at a railroad crossing. Thus, a complete stop and a careful look enhances safety for all road users.

**10. What should you do if you encounter a flooded road?**

- A. Drive through if the water looks shallow.**
- B. Stop and wait until the water recedes.**
- C. Take a detour around the area cautiously.**
- D. Call for help and wait in your vehicle.**

When encountering a flooded road, it is crucial to prioritize safety, and waiting until the water recedes is one of the safest options. Floodwaters can be deceptive; even if the water appears shallow, it may be deeper than it seems, potentially hiding dangerous debris or strong currents that can sweep vehicles away. Additionally, stopping and waiting for the waters to recede allows time for authorities to assess the situation and for conditions to improve, which enhances overall safety. Choosing to drive through the water can lead to loss of vehicle control, engine damage, or becoming stranded. Taking a detour, while a reasonable option, may not always guarantee safety if alternate routes are also flooded or obstructed. Calling for help and waiting in the vehicle could be appropriate in certain circumstances, but it may not always be the safest choice, especially if floodwaters are rising quickly. By choosing to stop and wait until the water recedes, you're opting for a method that minimizes risk and protects both yourself and your vehicle.