

A Parent Contract for Teen Drivers

TO MY TEEN DRIVER

This is an exciting time in your life! You can drive!

This is a terrifying time in my life. You can drive!

Vehicular accidents are the leading cause of death for American teens—a scary statistic for a parent handing the keys over to a teen. At the same time, I understand that your new independence as a driver is important to you and potentially helpful to me.

Therefore, I want us to agree to some fundamental rules for your driving experience. If you follow these rules, you will maintain your driving privileges. If you do not, you will face consequences. Likewise, I have included my own promises and responsibilities, and I have even included rewards if you exhibit outstanding driving behavior.

Together, if we abide by these rules, we can give you the freedom you desire!

BEFORE YOU DRIVE

Check in with me .

- Let me know where you are going and what time to expect you home.
- Tell me who your passengers will be.

Consequences for violations: No driving for _____ days/weeks/months.

SAFE HABITS IN THE CAR

- Always wear a seat belt and make your passengers wear seat belts.
- Obey all traffic laws and posted signs.
- Never speed or drive aggressively.
- Keep both hands on the wheel.
- Do not drive in adverse weather.

Consequences for violations: No driving for _____ days/weeks/months.

PASSENGERS

- Never drive with more than _____ teenage passenger(s) in the car.
- If you believe your passenger is being unsafe or distracting you, pull over and call me. We can have a secret code so that your passenger is unaware of your concerns and I will help you. (For example, "I suddenly feel too sick to drive.") (See "CALL ME" section below.)

Consequences for violations: No driving for _____ days/weeks/months.

PHONES, FOOD AND MUSIC

- Never use your phone while driving. This includes talking and texting.
- When using navigation, set your destination before getting on the road.
- I expect you to pull over to talk or text or change your GPS.
- Do not use head/earphones in the car.
- Do not eat while you are driving.

Consequences for violations: No phone/driving for _____ days/weeks/months.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

- Never drive if you have used drugs or alcohol.
- Never allow drugs or alcohol into your car.
- Never allow passengers who have used drugs or alcohol into your car.
- Never get into another car with a driver who has used drugs or alcohol.
- Never get into another car where drugs or alcohol are present.

Consequences for violations: No driving for _____ weeks/months.

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

- I expect you to pay for all traffic citations. Until those are paid, you can't use the car.
- I expect you to contribute to the costs of gas, maintenance and insurance as listed here _____.
- I understand that plans change. Call me if you'll be later than expected.

Consequences for violations: No driving for _____ weeks/months.

GRADES

I expect you to maintain good grades in order to keep your driving privileges. If your grades drop as listed here, you will lose driving privileges until they improve.

Grade expectations: _____

CALL ME

Call home if you are concerned for your safety as a driver or as a passenger.

As your parent, I promise that I will pick you up no matter where you are, no matter the time of day or night. I promise not to embarrass you in front of your friends.

BE A GOOD FRIEND

When you're in the car with another teen driver, speak up when you notice unsafe behavior! Let them know that you don't admire dangerous driving. They should understand it's smart to be safe despite trying to impress you.

REWARDS FOR EXCELLENT DRIVING BEHAVIOR

For every one month of safe driving, following all of the rules outlined here with zero infractions, I will: _____

(E.g. pay your phone bill for one month; fill your gas tank, etc.)

If you achieve six months following all of the rules outlined here with zero infractions, I will _____

(E.g. buy you that video game)

Teen Driver

I agree to abide by all of these rules in order to maintain my driving privileges.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent

I promise to take time to help my teenager develop good driving habits. I will also listen when he/she proposes reasonable changes to this contract.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

