

Tips for supervising your learner driver

Teaching a young person to drive can be a very rewarding experience.

You will need to help your learner driver to:

- Get as much driving experience as possible
- Understand and comply with the road rules
- Develop safe driving skills, a responsible attitude and courteous behaviour
- Pass the Practical Driving Assessment.

MAKING TIME

- Plan ahead, find times that are suitable for you and your learner driver.
- Stick to the plan, don't let other things override lesson times.

PLANNING THE LESSONS

- Work out what will be taught in the lesson and what needs to be revised and practised.
- Build on the learner driver's experience by getting them to drive in a range of conditions such as busy traffic areas, at different times of the day, and in fine and wet weather.
- Don't overload the learner driver. Short drives can be useful early on.
- 120 hours of driving experience can reduce their crash risk when they get onto their P plates. Plan as many hours as possible.

DURING THE LESSONS

- Give your learner driver your full attention.
- Make sure your learner driver is not distracted eg turn off all mobile phones and music.
- Explain and demonstrate the task then ask your learner driver to have a go.
- Try not to always focus on the things your learner driver can't do.
- Be positive and let your learner driver know when they have driven well.

There are currently no Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) limits in WA for supervising drivers. However, because of the supervisor's role as an exemplar, mentor and instructor, and because situations may arise when the supervisor may have to take over the driving, it is strongly recommended that supervisors do not consume alcohol before instructing a learner driver.

- Use short and clear instructions and allow your learner driver to concentrate on their driving.
- Watch the road and point out potential hazards. As your learner driver develops their driving skills, teach them to scan for hazards and react to these by making safe driving decisions.

REVIEWING THE LESSON

- When the practice drive is over, review the lesson. Let your learner driver know what they have mastered and what they need to continue practising.
- Offer advice and encouragement and always end the session on a positive note.
- Ask your learner driver to tell you how they feel about their driving lesson.

