

BEHIND THE WHEEL



Up until now you've probably spent quite a few hours as a passenger, but you may not have taken a great deal of notice on how you drive a car, the hazards inside and outside the car, and the different road rules.

Now you're interested in learning to drive so you have to take on more of an active role as a passenger. The 10 tasks in this journal will help you to do this.

ABOUT THE TASKS

Each task is different. They all require you to sit in the front seat of the car so you can see the road ahead and observe your driver and other drivers.

You'll be asked to:

- watch what is happening inside and outside of the car
- talk to your driver when it is safe to find out what they do to make each trip in the car a safe one
- stop and think about the things you've observed as a passenger and what this might mean to you when you become a driver.

Throughout all of the 10 tasks you will be encouraged to think about the type of driver you want to be and how you can help to keep yourself, your friends and your family safe on our roads.



PRACTISE AND MORE PRACTISE

We all know that you can only get better at something if you practise. It's the same with driving. The more you practise driving safely, the more competent you will be.



DID YOU KNOW...?

For all learner drivers, the single most important protective factor is the hours of supervised driving experience they gain in real-world traffic situations before driving alone.*



DID YOU KNOW...?

A learner driver **MUST** log 50 hours of supervised driving including five hours of night driving. Remember, getting 120 hours of practice as a learner driver can reduce your crash risk on P plates by about 30%.*

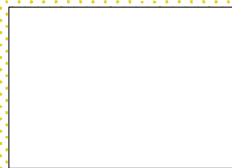
Although the recommended 120 hours might seem like a lot, it really isn't. Getting 120 hours of practice isn't a big deal. A little more than two hours a week over one year will achieve it. So start thinking about how you can get more than the 50 hours, especially if you want to become a more experienced and safer driver.



Keep a copy of the *Drive Safe* handbook in your glove box. It explains the road rules.



Go along to a Keys4Life workshop for parents, carers and young people and collect a copy of *Let's practise*.



Check your understanding of the road rules by completing the quizzes on pages 18-27 in this journal.



*Senserrick, T., & Whelan, M. (2003). *Graduated driver licensing: effectiveness of systems and individual components*, Report no. 209, Monash University Accident Research Centre, Clayton: Victoria.