



YOUNG DRIVERS

Did you know?

- 1 Very few crashes happen when a learner driver is driving with a supervisor. Your learner driver is safest while they are being supervised.
- 2 Getting 120 hours of practice as a learner driver can reduce the crash risk on P plates by about 30%.*
- 3 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 solo.^Δ
- 4 P plate drivers, in their first year of driving, are the most at risk group on the road. However, this crash risk decreases after the first 12 months of driving.[#]
- 5 The main factors causing P plate drivers to crash are overconfidence and inexperience.
- 6 P plate drivers are more likely to be involved in a fatal crash at night due to their lack of experience and reduced visibility. Limiting night time driving when drivers first start on their P plates is an effective way to reduce the crash risk.



WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP YOUR TEENAGER BECOME A SAFER DRIVER?

- ✔ Set a target for supervised driving hours – remember research says 120 hours reduces their risk.
- ✔ Plan lessons at different times of the day and night and in different conditions and when they feel ready, in busy traffic.
- ✔ Talk about the skills they need to practise.
- ✔ Give them lots of encouragement and talk about things that they need to work on.
- ✔ Talk about being a responsible driver.
- ✔ Make sure there are no distractions in the car. Turn off all mobile phones.
- ✔ Model good driving behaviours at all time.



FIND OUT MORE

KEYS2DRIVE

For information on a free driving instructor lesson paid for by the Australian Government.
<https://www.keys2drive.com.au/about-the-freelesson>



Stress to your learner driver the importance of being a safe, tolerant, compliant and courteous driver.

* Department of Transport. (2017). The Six Steps to Getting your Licence. Retrieved from https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/mediaFiles/licensing/DVS_P_DL_6StepsGetting.pdf
 Δ Senserrick, T., & Whelan, M. (2003). Graduated driver licensing: effectiveness of systems and individual components, Report no. 209, Monash University Accident Research Centre, Clayton: Victoria.
 # Monash University Accident Research Centre. (2007). Going solo—a resource for parents of P-plate drivers. Retrieved from https://adf.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/253_Going_Solo.pdf

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