Getting a driver license, huh? Scary stuff out on the road on your own. Safe drivers are not just born—to say nothing of the laws, costs, and dangers you may be facing. Seriously, let’s look at the statistics!

Drivers between the ages of 15 and 19 are much more likely to experience a collision. That’s why California adopted Graduated Driver Licensing regulations.

It may sound complicated, but don’t worry this guide will help you through it.

This handy guide has been created to help you make sense of the ins and outs of graduated driver licensing. For videos and resources about GDL for California and other states, check out the following website:

www.ImpactTeenDrivers.org

Meet Brian, your instructor.

Welcome to

Graduated Driver Licensing
MADE SIMPLE
GDL laws protect teen drivers while they gain experience behind the wheel.

**In California...**

Phase 1 of the GDL begins when you turn fifteen and a half and enroll in driver education or driver training. You can now apply for your learner’s permit.

Before going to the DMV, study this year’s California Driver’s Handbook and driver education materials. Also, you and your parents or guardians should establish safe driving behaviors, house rules, and consequences.

Once you've mastered the knowledge, it’s time to take the written driver's exam.

If you are 15½ - 17½ years of age, you’ll need to provide proof that you:
- Completed driver education or
- Are enrolled and participating in an approved integrated driver education / training program*

When you pass the exam, you become the proud holder of a learner’s permit.

NOW THE DRIVING PRACTICE BEGINS

During the permit phase, you’ll need to complete 50 hours of behind-the-wheel driving time.

Ten of these hours must be at night.

You must hold your learner’s permit for six months of supervised driving practice with a parent, guardian, or other licensed driver over the age of 25 before moving on to the next phase.

After you complete the supervised driving period, you’ll be ready to begin phase 3 of the GDL, driving solo! Head on over to the DMV to take your behind-the-wheel driving test.

Now that you have a provisional license allowing you to drive solo...

Just remember in California, driving is not a right. It’s a privilege with obligations, responsibilities and consequences. Repeated crashes or traffic violations by teen drivers carry fines and can result in your license being suspended or revoked.

For Teens the following GDL safety restrictions are in place:
- No driving between 11:00pm and 5:00am unless for school.
- No passengers under the age of 20, unless accompanied by a licensed driver age 25 or older.
- No cell phone or wireless communication devices, hands-free or not.

Avoid the top 5 dangers for teen drivers:
- Driving at night
- Speeding and street racing
- Distractions (such as cell phones, texting, and other teens in the car)
- Not wearing a seat belt
- Driving under the influence

After one year of safe driving with a provisional license, teens can legally drive anytime and with passengers in the car.

*For more information, refer to the Provisional Licensing (FFDL 19) Fast Fact brochure at www.dmv.ca.gov.

**Congrats!**

GDL Roadmap inside