

Colorado DMV

Permit Practice Test 2026

25-question test with answer key · permitpractice.us

Colorado permit test: quick facts

Questions on the real test	Not published by the DMV
Passing score	80% correct
Wrong answers allowed	Depends on test length (not published)
Minimum age	15
Testing agency	Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
Official permit name	Instruction Permit
Driver's education	Required for applicants under 18.
Supervised practice	50 hours incl. 10 at night (under 18)
Permit holding period	12 months (under 18)
Under-21 alcohol limit	0.02% BAC or higher

How to use this PDF

1. The DMV does not publish how many questions the real test has. This test uses 25 questions, the length of our online mock test.
2. Answer every question before you look at the answer key. To pass you need 80% correct.
3. Time: We found no published time limit for the Colorado knowledge test.
4. Take it online, with every answer explained, at <https://permitpractice.us/colorado/> - the mock test there marks your answers only at the end, like the real test.

Questions are original study questions written from the Colorado driver's handbook and general traffic law. They are not copies of actual DMV exam questions. State facts last reviewed 2026-09-28. Free for personal study; do not resell. © 2026 permitpractice.us

Colorado Permit Practice Test: 25 Questions

Circle your answer. Answer key with explanations starts on the last pages.

- 1. Under a 2022 Colorado law, bicyclists of what age may treat a stop sign as a yield sign when the intersection is clear?**
 - A) 12 and older
 - B) 18 and older
 - C) 16 and older
 - D) 15 and older
- 2. Double solid yellow center lines mean:**
 - A) No passing from either direction
 - B) Passing is allowed if the road ahead is clear
 - C) A center lane for left turns only
 - D) Passing is allowed from both directions
- 3. In Colorado, you may not park within how many feet of a stop sign or traffic signal?**
 - A) 50 feet
 - B) 15 feet
 - C) 20 feet
 - D) 30 feet
- 4. When you parallel park next to a curb, where should your car end up?**
 - A) Parallel to the curb and as close as practical
 - B) With front wheels turned in toward the curb
 - C) About three feet from the curb so passengers can get out
 - D) Angled with the back wheel touching the curb
- 5. Why should you use low beams instead of high beams when driving in fog?**
 - A) High beams drain the battery faster in damp air
 - B) High beams reflect off the fog and cause glare
 - C) Low beams make your car look larger to others
 - D) High beams are only allowed on freeways
- 6. A yellow sign with two arrows pointing in opposite directions (one up, one down) means:**
 - A) Passing lane ahead
 - B) Divided highway begins
 - C) One-way traffic ahead
 - D) Two-way traffic ahead
- 7. A long train has just passed a crossing that has two sets of tracks. Before you cross, you should:**
 - A) Look for a second train on the other track
 - B) Honk to warn any train and then cross quickly
 - C) Cross as soon as the gates begin to rise
 - D) Go at once, because the train has cleared the road
- 8. In Colorado, it is illegal to pass another vehicle within how many feet of an intersection or railroad crossing?**
 - A) 100 feet
 - B) 500 feet
 - C) 200 feet
 - D) 50 feet

9. A rectangular white sign reading 'KEEP RIGHT' with an arrow means:

- A) Stay in the right lane to pass
- B) Pass the divider on either side
- C) Go to the right of the divider
- D) Right turns only

10. Where should you stop your vehicle at a red light when there is a stop line?

- A) Just before the stop line
- B) On the stop line
- C) Just past the stop line
- D) Where you can see cross traffic

11. A yellow sign showing a person walking indicates:

- A) A sidewalk ends ahead
- B) Pedestrians may be crossing
- C) A walking trail starts here
- D) No pedestrians allowed ahead

12. Blue signs along a highway typically indicate:

- A) Parks and recreation areas
- B) Gas, food, and lodging services
- C) Rules such as speed limits
- D) Exits and distances to nearby cities

13. In many areas a curb is painted yellow. What should you understand from this?

- A) It is reserved for motorcycles
- B) You may park there for as long as you like
- C) Stopping or parking is restricted there
- D) It shows a spot reserved for disabled drivers

14. What happens to traffic fines in a Colorado work zone?

- A) They are tripled
- B) They are doubled
- C) They are unchanged
- D) They rise by 50%

15. Who must yield when a pedestrian is crossing at a marked crosswalk?

- A) The pedestrian, since cars cannot stop quickly
- B) The driver must yield to the pedestrian
- C) The driver, but only at a traffic signal
- D) Whoever reached the crosswalk first

16. A flagger in a work zone turns the paddle so the word SLOW faces you. What should you do?

- A) Keep your speed - you have the right of way
- B) Proceed slowly and watch for workers
- C) Speed up to clear the work zone quickly
- D) Stop until the flagger waves you on

17. What does a sign in the shape of an octagon always mean?

- A) Wrong way
- B) Yield
- C) Do not enter
- D) Stop

18. What does a yellow pennant-shaped sign (a sideways triangle pointing right) on the left side of the road mean?

- A) No-passing zone begins
- B) A sharp curve
- C) Passing lane begins ahead
- D) Merge ahead

19. A yellow diamond sign showing a deer means:

- A) A wildlife park entrance
- B) A nature trail crossing
- C) Deer may cross the road
- D) Hunting is allowed nearby

20. At a 4-way stop sign, two cars arrive at exactly the same time. Who goes first?

- A) The car going straight
- B) The car on the left
- C) The car that signals first
- D) The car on the right

21. When should you use your vehicle's emergency hazard lights?

- A) When you plan to change lanes or make a turn
- B) To thank a driver who let you merge
- C) When your car is disabled on or near the road
- D) When parking briefly in a no-parking zone

22. Brown signs are used to mark:

- A) Parks and historic sites
- B) Detours
- C) Toll roads and express lanes
- D) Hospitals and gas stations

23. A yellow diamond sign showing arrows that curve around in a circle indicates:

- A) A roundabout ahead
- B) A detour loop ahead
- C) A U-turn area ahead
- D) A dead-end turnaround

24. You are waiting for a train at a crossing that has no visible stop line. In Colorado, how close to the tracks may you stop?

- A) No closer than 10 feet
- B) No closer than 15 feet
- C) No closer than 5 feet
- D) No closer than 3 feet

25. Your regular brakes have failed and pumping did not help. How should you use the parking (emergency) brake?

- A) Only after the car has stopped
- B) Apply it and release it rapidly
- C) Apply it slowly and gradually
- D) Pull it on as hard as you can

Answer Key & Explanations

1. D - 15 and older

Since 2022, bicyclists 15 and older may treat stop signs as yield signs, and stop lights as stop signs, when the intersection is clear and they have the right-of-way.

Source: dmv.colorado.gov - p.23 (PDF p.26), Bicyclists

2. A - No passing from either direction

Double solid yellow lines separate traffic moving in opposite directions. Crossing them to pass is prohibited from both directions.

Source: assets.dps.mn.gov - MN handbook - Pavement markings

3. D - 30 feet

Colorado bans parking within 30 feet of a traffic signal, stop sign or railroad crossing. The fire hydrant distance is shorter, at 15 feet.

Source: dmv.colorado.gov - p.13 (PDF p.16), Parking

4. A - Parallel to the curb and as close as practical

Park parallel to and close to the curb. States set different maximum distances - for example 18 inches in California and Texas, 12 inches in Florida, Michigan and Washington, and 6 inches in New Jersey - so learn your state's limit.

Source: nj.gov - NJ handbook - Parking

5. B - High beams reflect off the fog and cause glare

Fog reflects the bright light of high beams back at you, making it harder to see. Low beams light the road with less glare. Also slow down.

Source: oregon.gov - p.77 (PDF p.85), Fog, Dust and Smoke

6. D - Two-way traffic ahead

This sign warns that you are leaving a divided roadway and entering a two-way road. Oncoming traffic will now be present - keep right and do not pass unless permitted.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2C.51

7. A - Look for a second train on the other track

One train can hide another coming from either direction on a second track. Wait until you can see clearly both ways and all signals have stopped.

Source: oregon.gov - p.64 (PDF p.72), Railroad Crossings

8. A - 100 feet

Colorado prohibits passing within 100 feet of any intersection or railroad crossing, where cross traffic or trains may appear.

Source: dmv.colorado.gov - p.16 (PDF p.19), Passing

9. C - Go to the right of the divider

A 'Keep Right' sign directs you to pass to the right of a traffic island, median, or obstruction. It keeps traffic flowing correctly around the divider.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2B.39

10. A - Just before the stop line

Stop before the stop line - not on it or beyond it. If there is no stop line, stop before the crosswalk. If no crosswalk, stop before the intersection.

Source: assets.dps.mn.gov - MN handbook - Stop signs / stop lines

11. B - Pedestrians may be crossing

A pedestrian symbol on a yellow or yellow-green sign warns that pedestrians may be crossing. Slow down and yield to anyone in or entering the crosswalk.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 1D.05 Color Code

12. B - Gas, food, and lodging services

Blue signs indicate motorist services - gas stations, food, lodging, hospitals, and rest areas - available at or near an exit.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 1D.05 Color Code

13. C - Stopping or parking is restricted there

Curb colors are not uniform across states. In California and Nevada yellow means a loading zone; in Florida, Tennessee and several other states a yellow curb means no parking. In every case it signals a restriction, so read nearby signs and follow state and local rules.

Source: dmv.nv.gov - NV handbook - Colored Curb Markings

14. B - They are doubled

As in school zones, fines are doubled in Colorado work zones. Reduced work zone speed limits are clearly marked, and police enforcement is often increased.

Source: dmv.colorado.gov - p.18 (PDF p.21), Construction Zones

15. B - The driver must yield to the pedestrian

Drivers must always yield to pedestrians who are crossing in a marked or unmarked crosswalk. Pedestrian safety is the highest priority.

Source: dmv.ca.gov - CA handbook - Pedestrians / Crosswalks

16. B - Proceed slowly and watch for workers

Flaggers use STOP/SLOW paddles to control traffic. SLOW means you may move ahead at a reduced speed with care; STOP means stop.

Source: in.gov - p.47 (PDF p.52), Flagger Signals

17. D - Stop

An octagon (8-sided shape) is used exclusively for STOP signs. The unique shape lets drivers identify it even when snow-covered or viewed from behind.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2A.05, Table 2A-1 Use of Sign Shapes; 2B.04

18. A - No-passing zone begins

A yellow pennant-shaped sign on the left side of the road marks the beginning of a no-passing zone. It supplements the solid yellow line on the pavement.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2C.53

19. C - Deer may cross the road

A deer symbol warns that animals frequently cross this stretch of road. Be especially alert at dawn and dusk, scan the roadsides, and slow down.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2C.55

20. D - The car on the right

When two vehicles arrive at a 4-way stop simultaneously, the driver on the LEFT must yield to the driver on the RIGHT. This is the standard right-of-way rule.

Source: dps.texas.gov - TX handbook - Right-of-Way at Intersections

21. C - When your car is disabled on or near the road

Hazard lights warn others that your vehicle is stopped, disabled or a hazard. Rules for using them while moving (for example in heavy rain) differ between states, so follow your state handbook.

Source: dmv.ca.gov - CA handbook - Using Your Emergency Flashers

22. A - Parks and historic sites

Brown signs point to recreational and cultural sites - parks, campgrounds, historical landmarks, and scenic areas.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 1D.05 Color Code

23. A - A roundabout ahead

The Circular Intersection sign (a yellow diamond showing arrows curving counterclockwise in a circle) warns of a roundabout ahead. Slow down, yield to traffic already in the circle, and enter when there is a safe gap. Round signs are used only for railroad crossing advance warnings.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) Section 2A.05, Table 2A-1 and Section 2C.02

24. A - No closer than 10 feet

If no stop line is painted, the Colorado handbook says to stay at least 10 feet from the tracks. Trains overhang the rails by about 3 feet, so stopping closer is dangerous.

Source: dmv.colorado.gov - p.21 (PDF p.24), Railroad Crossing - Pavement markings

25. C - Apply it slowly and gradually

Setting the parking brake too hard or too fast can lock the wheels and throw the car into a skid. Apply it slowly while you steer to a safe place.

Source: assets.dps.mn.gov - p.84 (PDF p.87), Brake failure

Ready for the real Colorado test?

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<https://permitpractice.us/colorado/>

Official DMV website: <https://dmv.colorado.gov/>

Official Colorado driver's handbook: https://dmv.colorado.gov/sites/dmv/files/documents/DR_2337_Jan2025.pdf

