

Indiana BMV

Permit Practice Test 2026

34-question test with answer key · permitpractice.us

Indiana permit test: quick facts

Questions on the real test	Not published by the BMV
Test format	The test has two sections - traffic signs and traffic rules - and you need 80% or higher on each section.
Passing score	80% correct
Wrong answers allowed	Depends on test length (not published)
Minimum age	15
Testing agency	Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV)
Official permit name	Learner's Permit
Permit fee	\$9
If you fail	Next business day.
Online testing	No - the knowledge test must be taken in person.
Driver's education	Required for applicants under 16 (driver education lets you get the permit at 15; it is optional at 16 and older).
Supervised practice	50 hours incl. 10 at night
Permit holding period	180 days
Under-21 alcohol limit	0.02% BAC or higher

How to use this PDF

1. The BMV does not publish how many questions the real test has. This test uses 34 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 Indiana knowledge test.
4. Take it online, with every answer explained, at <https://permitpractice.us/indiana/> - the mock test there marks your answers only at the end, like the real test.

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

Indiana Permit Practice Test: 34 Questions

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

- 1. An angry driver is tailgating you, honking and making rude gestures. What is the best response?**
 - A) Speed up to stay ahead of the angry driver
 - B) Avoid eye contact and let the driver get by
 - C) Tap your brakes to make the driver back off
 - D) Gesture back so the driver knows you are upset
- 2. When passing a bicyclist in Indiana, what is the minimum space the manual says to leave beside the rider?**
 - A) One foot
 - B) Two feet
 - C) Three feet
 - D) Six feet
- 3. How do prescription and over-the-counter medications affect driving?**
 - A) Legal medicines are always safe to drive on
 - B) Only if you take more than the dose listed
 - C) Many cause drowsiness - check the label first
 - D) Only prescription drugs can impair driving
- 4. 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
- 5. 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
- 6. A solid white line between lanes of traffic going the same direction means:**
 - A) The road is one-way
 - B) Lane changes are allowed when safe
 - C) Lane changes are discouraged
 - D) Traffic moves in opposite directions
- 7. What is the most effective way to stay alert on a long drive?**
 - A) Drink coffee or an energy drink each hour
 - B) Take breaks every 2 hours or 100 miles
 - C) Keep the window open and the air cold
 - D) Turn up the radio and sing along
- 8. On an interstate inside an Indiana urban area (population of 50,000 or more), what is the maximum speed when no other limit is posted?**
 - A) 50 mph
 - B) 70 mph
 - C) 65 mph
 - D) 55 mph

9. What score do you need to pass the Indiana BMV written knowledge test?

- A) 80%
- B) 83%
- C) 70%
- D) 75%

10. A motorcycle rider is stopped at a red light that will not change to green. Under Indiana law, the rider may go through the steady red after:

- A) Waiting through one full signal cycle
- B) Flashing the headlight at the signal
- C) Stopping fully for at least two minutes
- D) Stopping fully for at least 30 seconds

11. A 'STOP' sign at a railroad crossing with no gates means you must:

- A) Slow down and look, then roll across
- B) Stop fully, then cross when it is safe
- C) Stop only if the lights are flashing
- D) Stop only if a train is in sight

12. A yellow diamond sign showing an arrow that curves back and forth several times warns of:

- A) A steep hill ahead
- B) A slippery road
- C) A winding road ahead
- D) A single sharp curve

13. The fog becomes so thick that you can barely see beyond your hood. What is the safest choice?

- A) Pull off the road as far as you can and stop
- B) Follow the taillights ahead of you closely
- C) Stop in your lane and wait for it to clear
- D) Switch to high beams so you can see farther

14. What color are warning signs?

- A) Yellow or orange
- B) Blue or green
- C) White with black letters
- D) Red

15. Traffic is backed up just past a railroad crossing. When should you start across the tracks?

- A) Whenever the crossing lights are not flashing
- B) Only when there is room to get fully past the tracks
- C) When the car ahead of you has started to cross
- D) Right away, since no train is in sight now

16. When you are following a motorcycle, how much following time does Indiana's manual say to allow?

- A) Five or six seconds
- B) Three or four seconds
- C) Seven or eight seconds
- D) One or two seconds

17. A yellow sign with a black arrow bending at a 90-degree angle indicates:

- A) A lane shift ahead
- B) A side road ahead
- C) A gentle curve
- D) A sharp turn ahead

18. Green guide signs are used to show:

- A) Hazards on the road ahead
- B) Locations of gas and food
- C) Directions and distances
- D) Parks and historic sites

19. When parking uphill with a curb, which direction do you turn your front wheels?

- A) Straight ahead, parallel to the curb
- B) Either way, if the parking brake is set
- C) Toward the curb (right)
- D) Away from the curb (left)

20. What is the top speed allowed on a rural state divided highway in Indiana when no other limit is posted?

- A) 55 mph
- B) 60 mph
- C) 70 mph
- D) 65 mph

21. In most states, how far before a turn must you begin signaling on a city street?

- A) At least 500 feet
- B) At least 20 feet
- C) At least 10 feet
- D) At least 100 feet

22. A deer runs across the road ahead of you and disappears into the trees. What should you expect next?

- A) More deer may follow close behind
- B) Deer never cross the same road twice
- C) The road is now clear of animals
- D) The deer will turn back toward you

23. You are on a road divided by a barrier or unimproved median. A school bus on the other side has red lights flashing and its stop arm out. What must you do?

- A) Stop, then go once children are clear
- B) Slow to 20 mph while passing the bus
- C) Stop until the bus turns off its lights
- D) Continue with care; you need not stop

24. Under Indiana law, a driver commits aggressive driving by doing at least how many of the listed unsafe acts (such as tailgating or failing to yield) during one episode of driving?

- A) 4
- B) 3
- C) 5
- D) 2

25. A five-sided (pentagon) sign that points upward indicates:

- A) A railroad crossing ahead
- B) A school zone or crossing
- C) A hospital zone ahead
- D) A no-passing zone

26. At a roundabout, in which direction does traffic flow and who has priority?

- A) Counterclockwise; circulating traffic has priority
- B) Counterclockwise; the larger vehicle has priority
- C) Counterclockwise; entering traffic has priority
- D) Clockwise; traffic in the circle has priority

27. What is the safest action when you are being tailgated?

- A) Ignore them and maintain your exact speed
- B) Tap your brakes hard to warn them off
- C) Speed up well past the limit to pull away from them
- D) Move over or add space ahead and let them pass

28. What does a red traffic light mean?

- A) Stop, then go straight if the way is clear
- B) Prepare to stop - the light will change soon
- C) Stop completely before the intersection
- D) Slow down and yield to cross traffic

29. In states that use colored curbs, what does a red curb generally mean?

- A) Passenger loading only
- B) No stopping, standing, or parking
- C) Loading for commercial trucks only
- D) Parking allowed if you stay with the car

30. A red and white 'WRONG WAY' sign tells you:

- A) You are going against traffic
- B) A detour is ahead - follow it
- C) A one-way road begins ahead
- D) You must yield to oncoming cars

31. What should you do if your vehicle begins to hydroplane (ride on a film of water)?

- A) Speed up gently so the tires cut through
- B) Steer quickly toward the dry edge of the road
- C) Ease off the gas and keep the wheel straight
- D) Brake firmly until the tires grip again

32. Your brake lights are not working. Which hand signal tells drivers behind you that you are slowing or stopping?

- A) Left arm held straight out
- B) Right arm waved out the window
- C) Left arm out and bent downward
- D) Left arm out and bent upward

33. About how far does the average passenger car need to stop from 55 mph, according to Indiana's manual?

- A) 130 to 140 feet
- B) 80 to 90 feet
- C) 50 to 60 feet
- D) 400 to 450 feet

34. A yellow sign showing a truck tilted on two wheels warns of:

- A) A steep downhill grade for trucks
- B) A truck inspection station
- C) A curve where trucks may tip over
- D) A road with soft shoulders ahead

Answer Key & Explanations

1. B - Avoid eye contact and let the driver get by

Do not challenge an aggressive driver. Stay calm, avoid eye contact, and move out of the way so the situation does not get worse.

Source: assets.dps.mn.gov - p.79 (PDF p.82), Aggressive driving

2. C - Three feet

You may pass a bicyclist only when there is a safe amount of room, at least three feet, and no danger from oncoming traffic. On most roads, bicyclists have the same rights and duties as drivers.

Source: in.gov - p.52 (PDF p.57), Bicycles

3. C - Many cause drowsiness - check the label first

Many legal medications - including antihistamines, sleep aids, and pain relievers - can cause drowsiness, dizziness, or slowed reactions. Always read warning labels and avoid driving if a medication may impair you.

Source: dps.texas.gov - TX handbook - Drugs

4. 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

5. 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

6. C - Lane changes are discouraged

A solid white line discourages or prohibits lane changes. A broken (dashed) white line means lane changes are permitted when safe. White lines separate traffic moving in the same direction.

Source: flhsmv.gov - FL handbook - Pavement markings

7. B - Take breaks every 2 hours or 100 miles

The only real cure for drowsiness while driving is sleep. Take breaks at least every 2 hours or 100 miles. Coffee provides temporary relief but is not a substitute for rest.

Source: dps.texas.gov - TX handbook - Drowsy driving

8. D - 55 mph

In urban areas, the interstate maximum is 55 mph or the posted limit. Non-divided state highways and county roads in these areas also default to 55 mph.

Source: in.gov - p.41 (PDF p.46), Urban Speed Limits

9. A - 80%

To pass the BMV test you need 80% correct.

10. C - Stopping fully for at least two minutes

Motorcycle and motor driven cycle riders may proceed through a steady red light that fails to change after a complete stop of at least two minutes, using due caution. The rule does not apply to autocycles.

Source: in.gov - p.35 (PDF p.40), Approaching a Red Light or Stop Sign

11. B - Stop fully, then cross when it is safe

A stop sign at a railroad crossing requires a complete stop. Look and listen carefully in both directions, and cross only when you are sure no train is coming.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 8B.04 Paragraph 06

12. C - A winding road ahead

The Winding Road sign (a single arrow that bends back and forth) warns of three or more curves in a row ahead. An S-shaped arrow with only two bends is the Reverse Curve sign. Reduce speed and stay alert through the curves.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2C.07 Paragraph 05

13. A - Pull off the road as far as you can and stop

When visibility drops to near zero, get completely off the road and wait for the fog to lift. Stopping in a travel lane invites a rear-end crash.

Source: in.gov - p.44 (PDF p.49), Fog

14. A - Yellow or orange

Warning signs are yellow (standard warnings) or orange (construction/work zones). They alert drivers to potential hazards ahead such as curves, intersections, or pedestrians.

Source: dps.texas.gov - TX handbook - Chapter 5, sign colors

15. B - Only when there is room to get fully past the tracks

Never stop on railroad tracks. Wait behind the crossing until there is enough space on the other side for your whole vehicle.

Source: assets.dps.mn.gov - p.53 (PDF p.56), Railroad crossing safety

16. B - Three or four seconds

Motorcyclists may change speed or lane position suddenly because of potholes, gravel, or wet pavement. Allow at least three or four seconds so the rider has room to maneuver or stop.

Source: in.gov - p.52 (PDF p.57), Motorcycles and Motor Driven Cycles

17. D - A sharp turn ahead

A sharp-angle arrow warns of a sharp turn (not a gentle curve) ahead. Slow down significantly before the turn - the recommended speed is often posted below.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2C.07 Paragraph 02

18. C - Directions and distances

Green signs provide guidance: route numbers, directions, distances, and destination names. They help you navigate to where you are going.

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

19. D - Away from the curb (left)

When parking uphill with a curb, turn your wheels away from the curb (left). If the car rolls backward, it hits the curb and stops. Downhill: turn toward the curb.

Source: dmv.ca.gov - CA handbook - Parking on a hill

20. B - 60 mph

Indiana sets 60 mph, or the posted limit, as the maximum on rural state divided highways. The 70 mph maximum applies only to rural interstates.

Source: in.gov - p.40 (PDF p.45), Speed Limits

21. D - At least 100 feet

Most states require a signal at least 100 feet before turning (CA, TX, NY, FL, MN and many others). Some require more on faster roads (200-300 feet) and Tennessee sets 50 feet, so check your own handbook. Always signal, even if you see no one around.

Source: tn.gov - TN handbook - Turning / signaling

22. A - More deer may follow close behind

Deer usually travel in groups, so one deer crossing often means others are close behind. Slow down and be ready to stop.

Source: assets.dps.mn.gov - p.84 (PDF p.87), Watch out for deer

23. D - Continue with care; you need not stop

On a road divided by a barrier or unimproved median, only drivers traveling in the same direction as the bus must stop. On other roads, traffic in both directions stops.

Source: in.gov - p.52 (PDF p.57), School Buses

24. B - 3

Indiana defines aggressive driving as committing at least three listed acts in one continuous episode, such as following too closely, failing to yield, unnecessary horn use, or repeatedly flashing headlights.

Source: in.gov - p.46 (PDF p.51), Aggressive Driving

25. B - A school zone or crossing

An upward-pointing pentagon sign marks a school zone or school crossing. It is typically yellow-green and warns that children may be present.

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

26. A - Counterclockwise; circulating traffic has priority

In the United States, traffic in a roundabout flows counterclockwise, and vehicles already circulating in the roundabout have the right of way. Entering drivers must yield and merge into a safe gap.

Source: flhsmv.gov - FL handbook - Roundabouts

27. D - Move over or add space ahead and let them pass

When tailgated, do not brake-check. Move to another lane if possible or increase the gap to the vehicle ahead so you have more room to stop gradually - this gives both you and the tailgater more reaction time.

Source: dmv.ca.gov - CA handbook - Space: tailgaters

28. C - Stop completely before the intersection

A red light means you must stop completely before the stop line, crosswalk, or before entering the intersection. You must remain stopped until the light turns green.

Source: dmv.ca.gov - CA handbook - Traffic Signals, Solid Red Light

29. B - No stopping, standing, or parking

Where curb colors are used, red means no stopping, standing or parking; it is often used for fire lanes and near hydrants. White usually means passenger loading, green limited-time parking and blue disabled parking. Curb rules vary by state and city, so obey posted signs.

Source: mvdmt.gov - MT handbook - Colored curb markings

30. A - You are going against traffic

A 'Wrong Way' sign means you are heading the wrong direction on a one-way road or ramp. Stop, check for traffic, and safely turn around immediately.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2B.47

31. C - Ease off the gas and keep the wheel straight

During hydroplaning, ease off the gas gradually to slow down. Hold the steering wheel firmly and straight. Do not brake suddenly or steer sharply - this can cause a spin.

Source: assets.dps.mn.gov - MN handbook - Hydroplaning

32. C - Left arm out and bent downward

An arm extended out and bent down signals slowing or stopping. Arm bent up is a right turn and arm straight out is a left turn.

Source: public.powerdms.com - p.93 (PDF p.98), Hand signals

33. A - 130 to 140 feet

A car at 55 mph stops in roughly 130 to 140 feet, about half a football field. A fully loaded tractor-trailer with hot brakes may need more than 400 feet, so never cut in front of one.

Source: in.gov - p.50 (PDF p.55), Braking

34. C - A curve where trucks may tip over

This sign warns of a curve sharp enough that trucks and top-heavy vehicles risk rolling over. All drivers should reduce speed before entering.

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

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

Official BMV website: <https://www.in.gov/bmv/>

Official Indiana driver's handbook: <https://www.in.gov/bmv/licenses-permits-ids/files/drivers-manual.pdf>

