

Ohio BMV

Permit Practice Test 2026

40-question test with answer key · permitpractice.us

Ohio permit test: quick facts

Questions on the real test	40
Passing score	75% (30 of 40 correct)
Wrong answers allowed	10
Minimum age	15½
Testing agency	Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV)
Official permit name	Temporary Instruction Permit Identification Card (TIPIC)
If you fail	Online: at most 2 attempts in a 6-month period, and you must wait one day before retesting (the Digest says 'one day', not 24 hours); in person: unlimited attempts, one per day
Online testing	Yes - an online knowledge test option is available.
Driver's education	Required for applicants under 21: 24 hours of classroom or online instruction and 8 hours of driving (Digest of Motor Vehicle Laws, 'Driver Education Requirements (Under Age 21)')
Supervised practice	50 hours incl. 10 at night (with parent/guardian, before the probationary license)
Permit holding period	6 months
Under-21 alcohol limit	0.02% BAC or higher

How to use this PDF

1. This test has 40 questions, the same number as the real Ohio BMV knowledge test.
2. Answer every question before you look at the answer key. To pass you need 75% (30 of 40 correct).
3. Time: We found no published time limit for the Ohio knowledge test.
4. Take it online, with every answer explained, at <https://permitpractice.us/ohio/> - the mock test there marks your answers only at the end, like the real test.

Questions are original study questions written from the Ohio driver's handbook and general traffic law. They are not copies of actual BMV exam questions. State facts last reviewed 2026-10-19. Free for personal study; do not resell. © 2026 permitpractice.us

Ohio Permit Practice Test: 40 Questions

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

1. 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

2. When driving in heavy rain, you should:

- A) Use cruise control to keep a steady, safe speed
- B) Use low beams and leave more following distance
- C) Turn on hazard lights and drive at normal speed
- D) Use high-beam headlights to see better

3. If your vehicle's accelerator sticks while driving, you should:

- A) Shift to neutral, brake, and steer to safety
- B) Keep driving and call for help on your phone
- C) Switch off the engine and remove the key
- D) Shift into park and pull the parking brake

4. A front tire blows out while you are driving on the highway. When should you start using the brakes?

- A) After the car has slowed and is under control
- B) As soon as the car starts to pull to one side
- C) Right away, pressing the pedal as hard as you can
- D) Immediately, using quick hard pumps of the pedal

5. 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

6. What is the 'point of no return' when approaching a yellow light?

- A) The stop line - once past it you must proceed
- B) The moment the light changes from green to yellow
- C) The point where you can no longer stop safely
- D) Exactly 100 feet before the intersection

7. What score do you need to pass the Ohio BMV written knowledge test?

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

8. In Ohio, you may cross a solid yellow line to pass a slow-moving vehicle only if that vehicle is going slower than:

- A) Three-quarters of the speed limit
- B) Half the posted speed limit
- C) 25 mph on any type of road
- D) 10 mph under the speed limit

- 9. 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
- 10. A 'LANE ENDS' warning sign (showing one lane merging into another) means:**
- A) Two-way traffic ahead
 - B) A new lane opens on your right
 - C) The highway ends ahead
 - D) Your lane ends - merge over
- 11. When driving at night, you should:**
- A) Look straight at oncoming headlights to judge them
 - B) Keep your daytime speed and following distance
 - C) Slow down and leave more following distance
 - D) Use parking lights so you do not dazzle others
- 12. 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
- 13. You are stopped at a steady red light and no sign prohibits turning. What must you do before you turn right?**
- A) Stop fully, then yield to people and cross traffic
 - B) Honk to warn others, then turn ahead of them
 - C) Wait for the light to turn green before turning
 - D) Slow to a crawl, then turn if the way looks clear
- 14. 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
- 15. 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
- 16. 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
- 17. What does a yellow traffic light mean?**
- A) Proceed normally
 - B) Stop at once, no matter how close you are
 - C) The light is about to turn green
 - D) Stop if it is safe to do so

18. What is the minimum space you should keep between your vehicle and a bicycle when passing it in Ohio?

- A) 6 feet
- B) 3 feet
- C) 1 foot
- D) 2 feet

19. What are Ohio's minimum liability insurance amounts (one person / two or more people / property damage)?

- A) \$20,000 / \$40,000 / \$15,000
- B) \$15,000 / \$30,000 / \$10,000
- C) \$50,000 / \$100,000 / \$25,000
- D) \$25,000 / \$50,000 / \$25,000

20. If your vehicle's engine catches fire, you should:

- A) Open the hood to reach the fire quickly
- B) Stop, shut off the engine, and get everyone away
- C) Drive on to the nearest fire station
- D) Stay in the car with the windows up until help comes

21. In most states, you may not park within how many feet of a crosswalk at an intersection?

- A) 5 feet
- B) 50 feet
- C) 20 feet
- D) 10 feet

22. Your brakes suddenly fail while you are driving. According to the Ohio Digest, what should you try first?

- A) Switch on the hazard lights
- B) Apply the parking brake slowly
- C) Turn the engine off at once
- D) Shift straight into park

23. 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

24. When turning left at a green light (not a green arrow), you must:

- A) Turn first - oncoming traffic must yield to you
- B) Wait for oncoming traffic to stop
- C) Yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians
- D) Turn immediately - green means go

25. In Ohio, when may you turn left on a red light after coming to a full stop?

- A) From a one-way street onto another one-way street
- B) From a two-way street onto a one-way street
- C) Never - left turns on red are illegal in Ohio
- D) From any street when no oncoming traffic is near

26. On a road with four or more lanes, which lane should you use to pass other vehicles or make a left turn?

- A) The lane just to the right of center
- B) The paved shoulder on the right side
- C) The far right lane next to the curb
- D) Any lane, as long as you signal first

27. 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

28. What does a downward-pointing triangle sign mean?

- A) Merge
- B) Do not enter
- C) Yield
- D) Stop ahead

29. When may a driver enter or cross a bike lane?

- A) To turn or cross to parking, yielding to cyclists
- B) To wait in it while the car ahead of you turns
- C) Never, under any circumstances
- D) To pass slower cars when traffic is heavy

30. 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

31. 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

32. What does the 'basic speed law' require?

- A) Never drive more than 10 mph below the posted limit
- B) You may always drive at the posted limit, whatever the conditions
- C) Drive no faster than is safe for current conditions
- D) Keep up with the flow of traffic, even above the limit

33. A center lane has a solid yellow line and a broken yellow line on each side, plus two-way turn arrows. Who may use it?

- A) Drivers from either direction about to turn left
- B) Drivers waiting to merge into the right lane
- C) Drivers who need to pass a slow vehicle ahead
- D) Only buses and cars carrying two or more people

34. A yellow diamond sign showing a 'T' shape indicates:

- A) A truck route begins here
- B) A four-way crossroad ahead
- C) A side road enters from one side
- D) Your road ends at a T ahead

35. What does 'implied consent' mean for drivers?

- A) You may refuse testing with no penalty
- B) You let police search your car at any stop
- C) You agree to chemical tests if arrested for DUI
- D) You agree to obey all traffic laws when you drive

36. A sign reading 'YIELD' requires you to:

- A) Always come to a full stop first
- B) Merge at the same speed as traffic
- C) Slow down, give way, and stop if needed
- D) Go first - other drivers must yield to you

37. 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

38. A warning sign showing an arrow splitting into two directions around a vertical line indicates:

- A) A fork where you must choose a route
- B) A divided highway begins ahead
- C) A passing lane opens ahead
- D) Two-way traffic begins ahead

39. When you parallel park on an Ohio street, your vehicle may be no more than how far from the curb?

- A) 6 inches
- B) 18 inches
- C) 12 inches
- D) 24 inches

40. What does an orange-colored sign indicate?

- A) A work zone ahead
- B) A railroad crossing ahead
- C) A hospital zone ahead
- D) A school zone ahead

Answer Key & Explanations

1. 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

2. B - Use low beams and leave more following distance

In rain, use low-beam headlights (high beams reflect off rain), reduce speed, and increase following distance to at least 4-6 seconds. High beams can reduce visibility in rain.

Source: assets.dps.mn.gov - MN handbook - Weather: rain

3. A - Shift to neutral, brake, and steer to safety

Shift to neutral (to disconnect engine power), then apply brakes steadily to slow the vehicle. Steer to a safe location. Only turn off the ignition if other methods fail - as this can lock the steering column in older cars.

Source: ksrevenue.gov - KS handbook - Accelerator Failure

4. A - After the car has slowed and is under control

Braking hard during a blowout can make you lose control. Hold the wheel firmly, ease off the gas, let the car slow down, and brake gently only once it is under control.

Source: in.gov - p.60 (PDF p.65), Vehicle Equipment Failures - Tire Blowout

5. 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

6. C - The point where you can no longer stop safely

The 'point of no return' is the position from which stopping safely (without running the light or causing a rear-end collision) becomes impossible. Before this point, slow and stop. After it, proceed through safely.

Source: pa.gov - PA handbook - Traffic signals - steady yellow

7. D - 75%

To pass the BMV test you need 75% (30 of 40 correct).

8. B - Half the posted speed limit

Ohio allows this pass only when the slow vehicle is going less than half the posted limit, you stay at or under the limit, and the oncoming lane is clear enough.

Source: publicsafety.ohio.gov - Section 9: Sharing the Road

9. 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

10. D - Your lane ends - merge over

A lane-ends sign warns that the number of lanes is being reduced ahead. Merge safely into the continuing lane before your lane disappears.

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

11. C - Slow down and leave more following distance

At night your visibility is reduced, so reduce speed and increase following distance. Do not overdrive your headlights - be able to stop within the distance you can see. Avoid staring at oncoming lights; glance to the right edge of your lane.

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

12. 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

13. A - Stop fully, then yield to people and cross traffic

A right turn on red is allowed only after a complete stop and only after yielding to pedestrians and all crossing traffic. A NO TURN ON RED sign takes this option away.

Source: publicsafety.ohio.gov - Section 5 - Learning to Drive, A driver must stop

14. 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

15. 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

16. 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

17. D - Stop if it is safe to do so

A yellow (amber) light means the signal is about to turn red. You should stop if it is safe to do so. Only proceed if stopping would be unsafe (e.g., you are too close to the intersection).

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

18. B - 3 feet

Ohio drivers must keep a safety zone of at least three feet from a bicyclist. Slow down and pass only when it is safe.

Source: publicsafety.ohio.gov - Section 9: Sharing the Road

19. D - \$25,000 / \$50,000 / \$25,000

Ohio requires at least \$25,000 for injury or death of one person, \$50,000 for two or more people, and \$25,000 for property damage.

Source: publicsafety.ohio.gov - Section 6: State Laws and Penalties

20. B - Stop, shut off the engine, and get everyone away

If your engine catches fire, pull off the road, shut off the engine, and get all occupants out and well away from the vehicle. Do NOT open the hood - adding oxygen can intensify the fire. Call 911.

Source: nj.gov - NJ handbook - Car Fires

21. C - 20 feet

Most states prohibit parking within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection (and, separately, within 30 feet of a stop sign or traffic signal in many states). A few use other distances, such as 25 feet in New Jersey, so check your handbook.

Source: dps.texas.gov - TX handbook - Do Not Park

22. B - Apply the parking brake slowly

Use the parking brake gently so the rear wheels do not lock and skid. If that does not work, turn off the engine, pull off the road and turn on the flashers.

Source: publicsafety.ohio.gov - Section 10: Emergency Situations

23. 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

24. C - Yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians

A green ball (not arrow) allows a left turn only after yielding to oncoming traffic and pedestrians. A green arrow means you have a protected turn and oncoming traffic is stopped.

Source: dmv.ca.gov - CA handbook - Flashing Yellow Arrow / left turns

25. A - From a one-way street onto another one-way street

A left on red is allowed only from the far left lane of a one-way street onto another one-way street, and only if no sign forbids it. You must still stop and yield first.

Source: publicsafety.ohio.gov - Section 5: Learning to Drive

26. A - The lane just to the right of center

On roads with four or more lanes, normally drive in the right lane. Use the lane just right of the center line for passing and for left turns.

Source: publicsafety.ohio.gov - Section 5: Learning to Drive

27. 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

28. C - Yield

An inverted (downward-pointing) triangle is always a YIELD sign. Slow down, be ready to stop, and give the right of way to traffic and pedestrians.

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

29. A - To turn or cross to parking, yielding to cyclists

Bike lanes are for bicyclists. You may enter or cross one only when needed to turn, enter or leave a driveway or alley, or park where allowed, and you must yield to bicyclists first. States differ on details: California lets you merge into the bike lane before a turn, while Connecticut and Hawaii only let you cross it.

Source: portal.ct.gov - CT handbook - Bicyclists

30. 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

31. 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

32. C - Drive no faster than is safe for current conditions

Every state has a basic speed rule: never drive faster than is reasonable and safe for traffic, weather, visibility and road conditions. You can be cited for driving too fast for conditions even while under the posted limit.

Source: dps.texas.gov - TX handbook - Basic speed law

33. A - Drivers from either direction about to turn left

This is a two-way left-turn lane. Drivers from both directions share it, entering it only just before they turn left. It is not a travel or passing lane.

Source: publicsafety.ohio.gov - Section 4 - Rules of the Road, Two-way Left Turn Only Lane

34. D - Your road ends at a T ahead

A 'T' symbol warns that the road you are on ends ahead at a T-intersection. Be prepared to stop or yield and turn left or right.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2C.41

35. C - You agree to chemical tests if arrested for DUI

Implied consent laws mean that by driving on public roads, you have already consented to chemical tests (breath, blood, urine) if you are lawfully arrested for suspected DUI. Refusing has serious consequences including license suspension.

Source: pa.gov - PA handbook - Pennsylvania's Implied Consent Law

36. C - Slow down, give way, and stop if needed

A yield sign requires you to slow down and give the right of way to traffic and pedestrians. You must stop if necessary, but a full stop is not always required when the way is clear.

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

37. 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

38. B - A divided highway begins ahead

This sign warns that a divided highway begins ahead - a median or barrier will separate the opposing lanes. Keep right of the divider.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2C.20

39. C - 12 inches

Park parallel to the curb, facing the same way as traffic on that side, and no more than 12 inches away from it.

Source: publicsafety.ohio.gov - Section 5: Learning to Drive

40. A - A work zone ahead

Orange signs indicate construction and maintenance work zones. Reduce speed, watch for workers and equipment, and be prepared for changed traffic patterns. Fines are often doubled.

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

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

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

Official Ohio driver's handbook: <https://publicsafety.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odps/who-we-are/resources/digest-of-motor-vehicle-laws/digest-of-motor-vehicle-laws>

