

Vermont DMV

Permit Practice Test 2026

20-question test with answer key · permitpractice.us

Vermont permit test: quick facts

Questions on the real test	20
Passing score	80% (16 of 20 correct)
Wrong answers allowed	4
Minimum age	15
Testing agency	Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
Official permit name	Learner's Permit
Permit fee	\$39.00 (knowledge test fee for a Learner's Permit; paid each time the test is taken)
If you fail	At least one day; the test fee is paid each time.
Online testing	Yes - an online knowledge test option is available.
Driver's education	Required for applicants under 18.
Supervised practice	40 hours of practice driving, at least 10 at night, in addition to the 6 hours behind-the-wheel of driver education (23 V.S.A. § 607)
Permit holding period	1 year for applicants under 18 (junior operator's license, 23 V.S.A. § 607); permit is valid 2 years (23 V.S.A. § 617)
Under-21 alcohol limit	0.02% BAC or higher

How to use this PDF

1. This test has 20 questions, the same number as the real Vermont DMV knowledge test.
2. Answer every question before you look at the answer key. To pass you need 80% (16 of 20 correct).
3. Time: We found no published time limit for the Vermont knowledge test.
4. Take it online, with every answer explained, at <https://permitpractice.us/vermont/> - the mock test there marks your answers only at the end, like the real test.

Questions are original study questions written from the Vermont 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

Vermont Permit Practice Test: 20 Questions

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

1. Traffic ahead of you is moving slowly. May you use the shared center left-turn lane to drive around it?

- A) No - the lane is only for vehicles turning left
- B) Yes, if no oncoming vehicle is using it
- C) Yes, as long as you signal left first
- D) Yes, but only for a distance of one block

2. A diamond-shaped sign is used to indicate:

- A) A regulation you must obey
- B) A route number for a highway
- C) A warning of a hazard ahead
- D) A recreation or park area

3. A sign that reads 'DO NOT ENTER' on a red and white background means:

- A) Enter only after a full stop
- B) Only local traffic may enter
- C) Enter only if no cars are coming
- D) You may not enter the road ahead

4. Under Vermont's implied consent law, a driver who refuses an alcohol or drug test loses their license for at least:

- A) 30 days
- B) 6 months
- C) 2 years
- D) 90 days

5. A black-and-white rectangular sign reading 'NO TURN ON RED' means:

- A) Turn on red only if no cars are coming
- B) Turns are never allowed here
- C) Only left turns on red are banned here
- D) No turning on red, even after stopping

6. During the first 3 months with a Vermont Junior Driver's License, you may drive:

- A) Alone, unless a qualified adult is in front
- B) Only during daylight hours, with anyone
- C) With up to three friends of any age
- D) With anyone, as long as all wear belts

7. 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

8. When are you required to use headlights?

- A) Only at night on roads without streetlights
- B) At night and when visibility is reduced
- C) Only on highways at night, not on city streets
- D) Only when it is fully dark, not in bad weather

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

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

10. Vermont law requires headlights when you cannot clearly see people or vehicles how far ahead?

- A) 500 feet
- B) 100 feet
- C) 1,000 feet
- D) 250 feet

11. 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

12. You are driving at 60 mph on a highway. How many feet does your vehicle travel per second?

- A) 100 feet
- B) 88 feet
- C) 44 feet
- D) 66 feet

13. 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

14. 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

15. A sign reading 'SPEED LIMIT 55' is what type of sign?

- A) Informational
- B) Warning
- C) Regulatory
- D) Guide

16. When you pass a bicyclist in Vermont, how much space should you leave between your vehicle and the rider?

- A) At least 2 feet
- B) At least 3 feet
- C) At least 6 feet
- D) At least 4 feet

17. You are on a freeway on-ramp and the ramp meter signal shows red. What should you do?

- A) Merge carefully if the freeway looks clear
- B) Use the shoulder to go around the signal
- C) Slow down but keep rolling onto the freeway
- D) Stop at the line and wait for green

18. 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

19. How do most state handbooks tell you to measure a safe following distance?

- A) Count the seconds between it and you passing a fixed point
- B) Count car lengths - one car length is enough at any speed
- C) Stay close enough to read the license plate of the car ahead
- D) Follow at a distance in feet equal to your speed in mph

20. 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

Answer Key & Explanations

1. A - No - the lane is only for vehicles turning left

A shared center lane is reserved for left turns by traffic from both directions. Using it for through travel or to pass other vehicles is not allowed.

Source: dol.wa.gov - (PDF p.116), Signs - Shared center lane left turn only

2. C - A warning of a hazard ahead

Diamond-shaped signs are warning signs. They alert you to hazards or changes in road conditions ahead, such as curves, intersections, or pedestrian crossings.

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

3. D - You may not enter the road ahead

A 'Do Not Enter' sign means you must not enter the road or ramp ahead - usually because it is one-way or an exit ramp. Entering would put you in oncoming traffic.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2B.46

4. B - 6 months

By getting a license you agree to testing when an officer suspects impairment. Refusing brings a license loss of at least six months.

Source: dmv.vermont.gov - p.53 (PDF p.54), Other Drugs - Implied Consent

5. D - No turning on red, even after stopping

A 'No Turn on Red' sign prohibits turning while the signal is red, even after a complete stop. You must wait for a green light to turn.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2B.60

6. A - Alone, unless a qualified adult is in front

For the first three months, a Vermont junior license holder must drive alone unless a licensed parent/guardian, driver-ed instructor, or licensed person 25 or older is in the front seat.

Source: dmv.vermont.gov - PDF p.16, Junior Driver's License restrictions

7. 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

8. B - At night and when visibility is reduced

Every state requires headlights at night and when visibility is reduced. The exact period varies: some states say sunset to sunrise, many say 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise. Many states also require headlights whenever your wipers are on or you cannot see a set distance (often 500 or 1,000 feet) ahead.

Source: dps.texas.gov - TX handbook - Chapter 9, Headlights

9. 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

10. A - 500 feet

In fog, heavy rain or snow, if you cannot clearly see 500 feet ahead, Vermont law requires your headlights to be on. Use low beams in these conditions.

Source: dmv.vermont.gov - p.46 (PDF p.47), Floods and Storms

11. 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

12. B - 88 feet

At 60 mph, a vehicle travels about 88 feet per second ($60 \times 5,280 / 3,600 = 88$). Understanding stopping distances is critical - at 60 mph you need approximately 300 feet to stop.

Source: nj.gov - NJ handbook - Stopping distance

13. 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

14. 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

15. C - Regulatory

Speed limit signs are regulatory - they state the maximum legal speed under ideal conditions, which you are legally required to obey.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2B.21 Paragraph 13

16. D - At least 4 feet

Vermont asks for at least 4 feet of clearance when passing a bicyclist. If the road is too narrow for that, wait until you can pass safely.

Source: dmv.vermont.gov - p.40 (PDF p.41), Sharing the Road with Bicyclists

17. D - Stop at the line and wait for green

A ramp meter works like a traffic light. Stop at the stop line on red and go when it turns green, then speed up to merge.

Source: dol.wa.gov - (PDF p.113), Freeway ramp meters

18. 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

19. A - Count the seconds between it and you passing a fixed point

Handbooks teach a time-based gap: pick a fixed object and count the seconds after the vehicle ahead passes it. The minimum differs by state (2, 3 or 4 seconds), with most recommending 3 to 4 seconds in good conditions; add time in rain, at night or behind large vehicles. Check your state handbook for its exact number.

Source: dps.texas.gov - TX handbook - Following distance

20. 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

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

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

Official Vermont driver's handbook: https://dmv.vermont.gov/sites/dmv/files/documents/VN-007-Drivers_Manual.pdf

