

1. Vehicles and similar

Refers to vehicles and streetcars.

2. Vehicles

Refers to automobiles, mopeds, light vehicles, and trolley buses.

- ▶ Material regarding trolley buses is not included in this book, as they ceased operation in Japan after 2024.



3. Automobiles

An automobile is a self-propelled vehicle that does not need to follow tracks or overhead wires, or is a vehicle with specific automatic operation. The term "automobile" does not apply to mopeds, light vehicles, small-sized vehicles for movement, vehicles for those with disabilities, remote control small-sized vehicles and wheeled walkers, baby carriages or similar ("wheeled walkers, etc.").

4. Mopeds

A moped is a self-propelled vehicle that does not need to follow tracks or overhead wires, and is one of the following vehicles, excluding light vehicles, small-sized vehicles for movement, vehicles for those with disabilities, remote control small-sized vehicles and wheeled walkers, or similar.

• General moped

A general moped is a two-wheeled or three-wheeled vehicle using a motor with a total engine displacement of 50 cc or less or rated motor output of 0.60 kW or less. For vehicles with two wheels that have a structurally feasible maximum motor output of 4.0 kW or less, it refers to those with a total engine displacement of 125 cc or less. For vehicles with three wheels or more, if they have over 0.5 meters of distance between the left and right wheels and have an enclosed cab, it refers to those with a total engine displacement of 20 cc or less or rated motor output of 0.25 kW or less. The term excludes the following.

• Specified small moped

Specified small moped is a moped whose size and construction does not obstruct the passage of other vehicles on bicycle paths and which meets the criteria specified by law as those that do not require a high level of skill to ride (among these, those that meet the criteria specified by law as those that can proceed on sidewalks, etc. are called "special specified small mopeds").

5. Minicars

Refers to regular motor vehicles with an engine displacement of 50 cc or less or rated motor output of 0.60 kW or less.

6. Light vehicles

Refers to bicycles (including "hybrid" bicycles equipped with a low-output electric motor),

carts, trailers, sleds, and horses and cattle. (Including self-propelled vehicles like electric carriers legally defined.)

7. Bicycles

Refers to vehicles with two or more wheels that are powered by the rider (including "hybrid" bicycles equipped with a low-output motor). The term "bicycle" does not apply to wheelers for those with disabilities, kiddie cars and buggies, wheeled walkers, or similar.

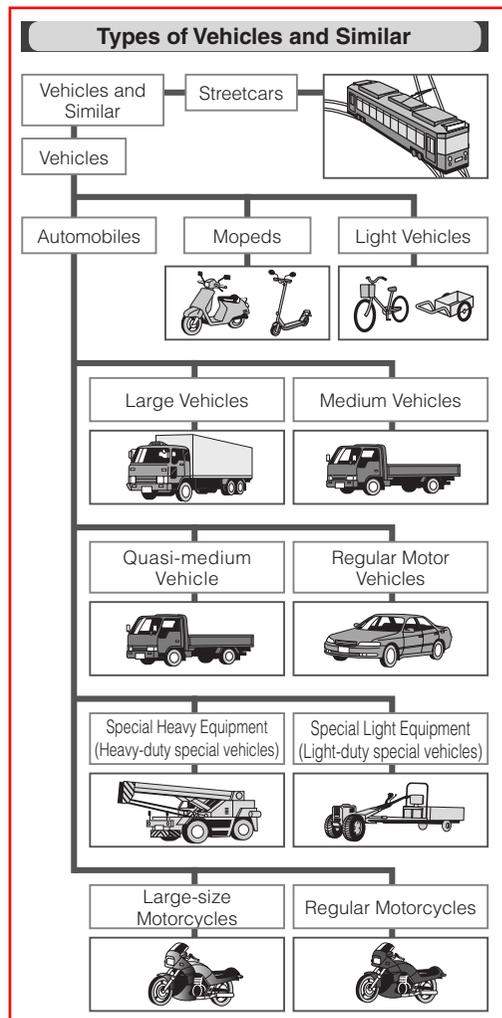
8. Remote control small-sized vehicles

Among small-sized vehicles using a motor that are made to proceed by remote control for the purpose of carrying people or goods, refers to vehicles meeting set standards of body size, construction, device, etc.

In this textbook, in the case where there is no particular explanation, it refers to vehicles proceeding along the road by remote control operation.

9. Streetcars (Trams)

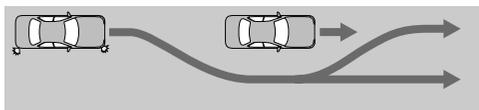
Refers to vehicles that run on rails in the road.



WORDS

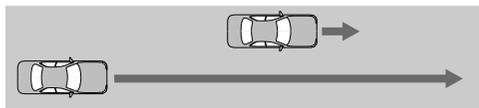
36. Overtake

When a vehicle changes lanes to pass a vehicle traveling ahead.



37. Pass

When a vehicle does not change lanes to pass a vehicle traveling ahead.



38. Traffic pollution

Air pollution, as well as excessive noise and vibration, caused by road traffic that has a deleterious effect on human health and the natural environment.

39. Pedestrian

A person who traverses the road on foot.

Pedestrians (including types of vehicles treated as pedestrians)

Persons walking on the road

Persons traversing in small-sized vehicles for movement

Persons traversing in wheelers for those with disabilities

Persons operating remote control small-sized vehicles without using remote control

Persons traversing in kiddie cars and buggies

Persons traversing using wheeled walkers, baby carriages, shopping carts, etc.

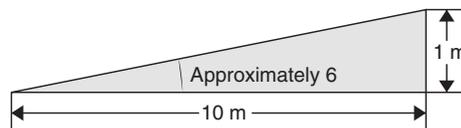
Persons traversing in vehicles for using while walking

Persons walking by pushing motorcycles, mopeds, two- or three-wheeled bicycles, or other vehicles that meet the standards set by law.

(not including persons pushing motorcycles or mopeds with the engine running, with sidecars, and towing by other vehicles.)

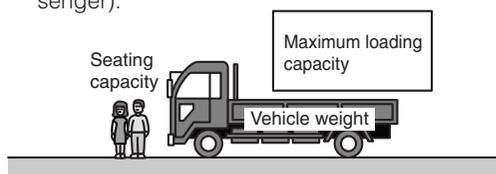
40. Steep slope

Generally, a steep slope is defined as a slope with an incline of 10% (about 6°) or more.



41. Gross Vehicle Weight

Gross vehicle weight (usually expressed in kilograms) = vehicle weight + maximum loading capacity + weight of seating capacity (assuming a weight of 55 kilograms per passenger).



42. Total displacement

The total displacement is a figure used to express the size of the engine. It is usually expressed in cubic centimeters (cc). The larger the total displacement the greater the engine horsepower and torque.

43. Rated motor output

The rated motor output is a figure used to express the output of a vehicle driven by a motor. It is usually expressed in kilowatts (kW).

44. (Driver's) License and Equivalent

Refers to a driver's license or an Individual Number Card with license information record (includes license information record, also referred to as "Myna Driver's License").

● Interpretation of Numerical Expressions as Used in this Book

- ① XX or more: Includes the value stated and those larger. (Example: 5 or more = 5, 6, 7 ...)
- ② XX or less: Includes the value stated and those smaller. (Example: 5 or less = 5, 4, 3 ...)
- ③ More than XX: Includes values larger than but excluding that stated. (Example: More than 5 = 6, 7, 8 ...)
- ④ Less than XX: Includes values smaller than but excluding that stated. (Example: Less than 5 = 4, 3, 2 ...)

5 Your Driver's License and Other Documents

(1) Carrying Your Driver's License and Equivalent with You

You must carry the appropriate type of driver's license and equivalent¹ on your person when driving an automobile or general moped.

(2) Keeping a Vehicle Inspection Certificate in Your Vehicle

You must keep a valid vehicle inspection certificate in your automobile, except for compact cars² that are not subject to vehicle inspection and light special equipment.

(3) Keeping a Liability Insurance Form in Your Vehicle

You must keep a valid compulsory automobile liability insurance form or mutual relief system insurance³ certificate in your moped or automobile, except for light special equipment used for agriculture.

Vehicle Inspection Certificate
Liability Insurance Form
Driver's License and equivalent



6 Emergency Equipment

You must keep emergency signaling devices such as flares or red flashlights in your automobile⁴.

If you are planning to drive on an expressway (national expressway or motorway), be sure your vehicle is equipped with an emergency warning reflector device (emergency warning reflector board or emergency warning reflector light) in case you are forced to stop on the roadway on the occurrence of an accident, or similar.



7 Restrictions on Use of Mobile Phones While Driving

Using a mobile phone (smartphone etc.) or car phone while driving, or looking at the screen of a car navigation system or car TV, can prevent you from paying adequate attention to the traffic conditions around you and is extremely dangerous. Unless you are using the automatic operation device properly in an automated vehicle, never attempt to use a mobile phone⁵ or similar, or study the screen of a car navigation system, etc., while driving. You should also be sure to power off your mobile phone before starting your journey to ensure that it does not ring while you are driving.

RT Law 95 I,
RTV Law 66 I,
MVDI Law 8

Quick Hint

Conditions for driving
You must wear eye-glasses if it is mentioned on your license and equivalent.

*1
Driver's License and Equivalent...
See page 8 for details.

*2
Compact cars ... that are not subject to vehicle inspection.
This refers to vehicles exempted from the vehicle inspection requirement. See page 299 for details.

*3
mutual relief system insurance...
This refers to mutual aid programs run by agricultural cooperatives or consumer cooperatives that have the same purpose as automobile liability insurance.

Safety Standard 43-2, etc.

*4
Automobile...
Two-wheeled vehicles, heavy special equipment, light special equipment, and automobiles being towed by other vehicles are exempt from this requirement.

*5
Mobile phone...
Those that do not require you to hold a handset (i.e. hands-free) in order to communicate are exempt from this prohibition.

RT Law 71 (5-5)

Quick Hint

Dangers of Using a Mobile Phone While Driving

- ① Taking your eyes off the road to look for the handset, press buttons, etc.
- ② Possibility of loss of control of the automobile because you need to change your posture to pick up the handset, etc.
- ③ Danger that your attention will be focused on the phone call and not on driving.

Review

Mark each of the following statements true or false to check your comprehension of the preceding section.

1. Seatbelts have a variety of beneficial effects, such as reducing injury should an accident occur and helping to reduce fatigue while driving.
 2. When riding a motorcycle, you should wear clothing that exposes as much of your skin as possible.
- ▶ ▶ ▶ The correct answers are listed on the last page of the book.

1 The Japanese Driver's License System

*1
Roads...

Roads include areas that are accessible to people or cars such as parks or open spaces. See page 6 for details.

RT Law 64, 84 I

*2
To tow...

Refers to hitching a vehicle behind and pulling it. See page 127 in regard to towing licenses.

*3
Is suspended...

When certain criteria are met, due to traffic violations or having caused an accident, a license may be temporarily invalidated. See page 133 for details.

RT Law 95
95-2



Quick Hint

If you drive without carrying your license and equivalent, the traffic violation is not "driving without license" but "not carrying license."

*4
Required Action...

Refers to the use of an application installed on a device to retrieve information about a recorded license and display it on the device.

It would be very dangerous if people without the required knowledge and skills were permitted to drive automobiles, and general mopeds on roads¹ as they wished.

For this reason driver's licenses are issued only to those people who have met certain criteria that qualify them as possessing the knowledge and skills required for driving, thereby authorizing them to drive automobiles, and general mopeds.

1 Prohibition of Driving Without a Valid License

- ① When driving an automobile or general moped on a road, the driver must be licensed to drive that type of vehicle or to tow another vehicle.²
- ② A person who is licensed but whose license is suspended³ is prohibited from driving during the suspension.

Point

Examples of Driving Without a Valid License

Driving under any of the following conditions constitutes driving without a valid license.

- ① Driving without a license.
- ② Driving past the license and equivalent expiration date.
- ③ Driving after one's license has been revoked.
- ④ Driving with a suspended or temporarily suspended license.
- ⑤ Driving after passing the driving test but before being issued a license.
- ⑥ Driving a vehicle not covered by the license (non-licensed driving).

2 Carrying and Showing One's Driver's License and Equivalent

- ① When driving an automobile or general moped, drivers **must carry** the license and equivalent permitting them to drive that vehicle.

- ② If you commit a traffic violation or cause a traffic accident, you must show your license and equivalent to a police officer when requested.

If you are asked to take the required action⁴ when you present your Individual Number Card with license information record, you must comply with the request.



Point

Types of Automobiles, etc.

Large vehicle	<p>Applies to a vehicle that meets any one of the following conditions and is not heavy special equipment, a large-size or regular motorcycle, or light special equipment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gross vehicle weight: 11,000 kg or over • Maximum load capacity: 6,500 kg or over • Seating capacity: 30 passengers or more 		
Medium Vehicle	<p>This applies to a vehicle that meets any one of the following conditions and is not a large vehicle, heavy special equipment, a regular or large-size motorcycle, or light special equipment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gross vehicle weight: from 7,500kg or over to below 11,000kg • Maximum payload capacity: from 4,500kg or over to below 6,500kg • Seating capacity: 11 to 29 passengers <p>Note: Specified medium vehicles : Refer to page 40.</p>		
Quasi-medium vehicle	<p>This applies to a vehicle that meets any one of the following conditions and is not a large vehicle, medium vehicle, heavy special equipment, a regular or large-size motorcycle, or light special equipment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gross vehicle weight: from 3,500kg or over to below 7,500kg • Maximum payload capacity: from 2,000kg or over to below 4,500kg <p>Note: Seating capacity is 10 passengers or less.</p>		
Regular motor vehicle	<p>A vehicle that meets all of the following conditions and is not a large vehicle, a medium vehicle, quasi-medium vehicle, heavy special equipment, a large-size or regular motorcycle, or light special equipment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gross vehicle weight: Less than 3,500 kg • Maximum load capacity: Less than 2,000 kg • Seating capacity: 10 passengers or less <p>Note: Minicar: Refer to page 5.</p>		
Special heavy equipment	<p>A vehicle used for special operations with special construction, such as wheeled or caterpillar style equipment, that does not fall into the category of light special equipment in terms of maximum speed and body size.</p>		
Large-size motorcycle	<p>A two-wheeled vehicle with an engine displacement of more than 400 cc or rated motor output of more than 20.0 kW (including a motorcycle with sidecar)</p>		
Regular motorcycle	<p>A two-wheeled vehicle with an engine displacement over 50 cc up to 400 cc or rated motor output of over 0.60 kW up to 20.0 kW (including a motorcycle with sidecar)</p>		
Special light equipment	<p>Special equipment that meets all of the following conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum speed of 15 km/h or less • 4.7 m or less in length, 1.7 m or less in width and 2.0 m or less in height (2.8 m or less in height for vehicles with safety devices, but the vehicle itself may not exceed 2.0 m) 		
General oped	<p>A two-wheeled vehicle with an engine displacement of 50 cc or less, rated motor output of 0.60 kW or less, or a vehicle with three or more wheels (including three-wheeled mopeds) that meet certain requirements (125 cc or less for those with a maximum output of 4.0 kW or less), or a vehicle with three or more wheels not listed above with an engine displacement of 20 cc or less or rated motor output of 0.25 kW or less.</p>		

2 Term of Validity of Driver's Licenses and Equivalent

(1) Term of Validity of New License and Equivalent

The term of validity for a newly obtained driver's license and equivalent is until **one month past the third birthday** following the day the qualifying examination is passed.

(2) Term of Validity of Renewed License and Equivalent

After renewing a driver's license and equivalent it is valid until the "last day of term of validity" as shown in the following table (four classifications, varying according to age at renewal).

Classification	Age	Last Day of Term of Validity
Exemplary driver ¹ and Ordinary driver ²	Under 70	One month past the holder's fifth birthday following expiration of the license and equivalent's term of validity prior to renewal
	70	One month past the holder's fourth birthday following expiration of the license and equivalent's term of validity prior to renewal
	71 or over	One month past the holder's third birthday following expiration of the license and equivalent's term of validity prior to renewal
Driver with violations ³ , etc.		One month past the holder's third birthday following expiration of the license and equivalent's term of validity prior to renewal

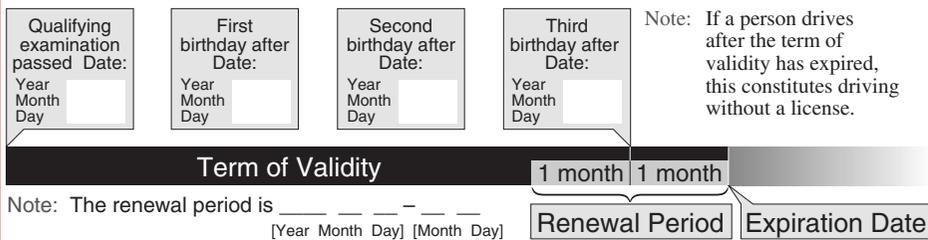
Note: The age listed here indicates the driver's age before his/her birthday during the renewal period.

3 Renewing a Driver's License and Equivalent

(1) Driver's License and Equivalent Renewal and Periodic Testing

After the term of validity of a license and equivalent has expired, if the holder wishes to continue driving with this license, he or she must **renew the driver's license and equivalent**.

A person wishing to renew his or her driver's license and equivalent must take the qualifying examination for driving an automobile or other vehicle given by his or her local public safety commission⁵ within **2 months before the expiration date**⁴ (This period is known as the renewal period. If the expiration date is a Saturday, Sunday or national holiday, it is extended to the following day).



(2) Driver's License and Equivalent Renewal Exceptions

If it can be foreseen that a person will not be able to complete these procedures during the renewal period for an unavoidable reason such as overseas travel or childbirth, that person may apply for renewal prior to the renewal period. In this case, a passport, medical certificate or other documentation is required.

RT Law 95-6
Enforcement
Ordinance 33-7

* 1
An exemplary driver is...

A person who has held a license for five years or more, and for the five years immediately prior to renewal has had no traffic violations.

* 2
An ordinary driver is...
A person who is not either an exemplary driver or a driver with violations.

* 3
A driver with violations, etc. is...

A person who has committed at least one traffic violation in the five years immediately prior to renewal (except for a single minor violation). This classification also applies if the license has been held for less than five years.

RT Law 101, 101-2,
101-3, 105, etc.

* 4
Leap year birthdays...

The expiration date for those people born on February 29 is March 29 in a leap year and March 28 in a non-leap year.

* 5
Exemplary drivers are allowed to go through the license and equivalent renewal procedures at a public safety commission that is not local to them.

Quick Hint

Term of Validity for International Driver's License

If a person holds a valid international driver's license, he or she may drive in a foreign country (signatory countries only).

The term of validity for an international driver's license is one year from the date of issue.

(3) Duties of a License Renewer

When renewing a license and equivalent, the holder must undergo the **renewal course** offered according to his or her classification. The content and time required for each course varies according to classification.

Classification	Type of Course	Time (min.)
Exemplary driver	Course for exemplary drivers	30
Ordinary driver	Course for ordinary drivers	60
Driver with violations, etc.	Course for drivers who have committed traffic violations	120
	Course for drivers who have held a license for less than five years.	120

A person who has undergone a specially designated course¹ provided by a public safety commission or other organization within a specified period prior to renewal is exempt from taking these courses.

(4) Invalidation of a Driver's License

If a driver's license and equivalent is not renewed, the license becomes invalid.

Point

When a License is Invalidated

After a driver's license has been invalidated, a person is required to take the licensing examinations over again in order to obtain another license. In the following instances, however, when the person takes a designated course², he or she will be exempt from taking part of the licensing exams.

① Within six months of the date of invalidation...

A person is exempt from taking the driving test and written test, and need only pass the qualifying examination to be issued a new driver's license.

② If for an unavoidable reason such as illness or being overseas a person is unable to take the qualifying examination within six months of the date of invalidation...

If a person applies, with documentation proving the validity of the reason, within one month of the date that the reason no longer applies, that person will be exempt from taking the driving test and written test.

However, if more than three years have passed since the expiration date for the term of validity, this exemption no longer applies.

4 Senior Driver's Course

If a person planning to apply for a license and equivalent renewal will be **70 years old or over** on the last day of the renewal period, that person must take a senior driver's course given by a public safety commission or other organization within the six months prior to the last day of the renewal period.³ In addition, those who will be **75 years old or over** will have to take a cognitive function test, in addition to a senior driver's course.

*1

Specially designated course...

- ① A person who has taken a senior driver's course within six months of the expiration date for the renewal period.
- ② A person who has taken a course or educational course mandated by government ordinance within six months of renewal.

*2

Designated course...

A renewal course, senior driver's course, etc.



Quick Hint

If it has been more than six months from the date of license invalidation but less than one year, a person is exempt from part of the learner's permit examinations required to reobtain a license.

RT Law 101-4
102

*3

A person who has taken a course or educational course mandated by government ordinance within the six months prior to the last day of the renewal period is exempt from taking this course.

5 Special Cognitive Function Test and Special Senior Driver's Course

Drivers age 75 or older who violate certain traffic rules due to behaviors commonly associated with cognitive decline are required to take a Special Cognitive Function Test. If it is determined from the results that cognitive decline may affect the person's driving, they will have to take a Special Senior Driver's Course. If the examination results indicate that the person may have dementia, they will have to either take a Special Qualifying Function Test or submit a medical certificate from their doctor.

6 Cancellation of a Driver's License by Application

When a driver's license is no longer needed, an application can be made to one's local public safety commission for cancellation of the license.

At such time, if the holder so requests, it is possible to obtain a different type of license¹, or have one's driving record² issued.

RT Law 101-7
102

RT Law 104-4
105-2

Review

Mark each of the following statements true or false to check your comprehension of the preceding section.

1. On a large vehicle license you can drive a large vehicle, a medium vehicle, quasi-medium vehicle, heavy special equipment, regular motor vehicle, light special equipment, and a general moped.
2. When driving for practice on a learner's permit, a "learner driver" sign must be displayed on either the front or back of the car.
3. On a regular motorcycle license it is permissible to drive a motorcycle with an engine displacement of 550 cc.

▶ ▶ ▶ The correct answers are listed on the last page of the book.

* 1

Different type of license...

For example, if you wish to keep driving on a regular motor vehicle license when canceling your medium vehicle license, it is possible to obtain a lower-grade license.

* 2

Driving record...

A document that displays a person's driving history for the five years prior to the cancellation date. It can be used in place of a driver's license as proof of identification.

* 3

Young drivers...

This refers to those who received a second-class (category 2) or large license at under 21 years of age and have not yet turned 21, or those who received a medium license at under 20 years of age and have not yet turned 20.

3 The Points System

1 Outline of the Points System

The points system is designed to remove dangerous drivers from the road. The driver of an automobile or general moped is assessed a certain number of points for a traffic violation or for causing a traffic accident. These points are **accumulated for three years**; when the total number of points reaches a certain level that person's driver's license will be suspended or revoked.

Note: Novice drivers and young drivers³ that meet the criteria may be required to take an additional training course.

2 Violations and Points

(1) Basic Points

① General violation of the law

Comparatively minor infractions are assessed one, two, or three points, while major violations such as drunk driving, driving without a license, and aiding and abetting dangerous driving are assessed a heavier penalty from 6 to 25 points.

4 Revocation of a Learner's Permit

If something such as a mental or physical disability that may interfere with driving happens to a person who has obtained a learner's permit, the person commits a certain traffic violation¹, the person incites a driver to commit a grievous violation, or that person's use of a vehicle not on a road has led to death or injury, his or her learner's permit will be revoked.

RT Law 106-2

* 1
This includes driving alone without a qualified instructor in the car.

5 Returning a Driver's License and Equivalent

In the following cases a license must be returned to the local public safety commission as quickly as possible. A holder of an Individual Number Card with license information record must have his or her license information record redacted.

- ① If the license is revoked.
- ② If the license is invalidated.
- ③ After being reissued a license, when the license that was lost or stolen has been found or recovered. In this case it is necessary to return the previous (old) license that has been found or recovered.

RT Law 106-3
106-4

Quick Hint

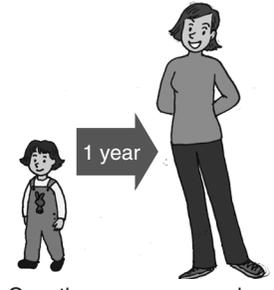
When your license has been suspended

You must quickly present your license to your local public safety commission. In this case, when the suspension period is over, your license will be returned.

5 Novice-Driver Term System

1 Novice-Driver Term

The period of one year² after obtaining a quasi-medium vehicle licence, regular license, large-size motorcycle license, regular motorcycle license, or moped license, is called the **novice-driver term**.



Over the year a person develops into a mature driver.

RT Law 100-2

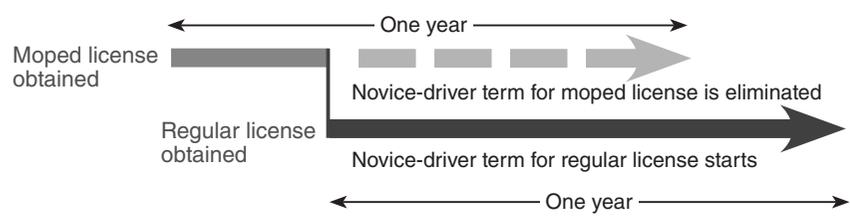
* 2
Period of one year...
This excludes any period of time that the license is suspended.

Point

When a higher-grade license is obtained during the novice-driver term

When a license for driving a different type of vehicle (higher-grade license) is obtained during the novice-driver term, the novice-driver term on the previous license is eliminated.

Example: Within one year of obtaining a moped license a person obtains a regular license.



Quick Hint

The novice-driver term is a dangerous time when the probability of causing a traffic accident or traffic violation is high.

This is an extremely important period of time for becoming a good driver by following traffic regulations and driving carefully.

● Basic Penalty Points

〈General violation of the law〉

No. of previous occurrences \ Type of penalty	Suspension or Withholding	Revocation or Denial				
		Disqualified for one year (three years)	Disqualified for two years (four years)	Disqualified for three years (five years)	Disqualified for four years (five years)	Disqualified for five years
None	6–14	15–24	25–34	35–39	40–44	45 or more
One	4–9	10–19	20–29	30–34	35–39	40 or more
Two	2–4	5–14	15–24	25–29	30–34	35 or more
Three or more	2 or 3	4–9	10–19	20–24	25–29	30 or more

〈Special violation of the law〉

No. of previous occurrences \ Type of penalty	Revocation or Denial							
	Disqualified for three years (five years)	Disqualified for four years (six years)	Disqualified for five years (seven years)	Disqualified for six years (eight years)	Disqualified for seven years (nine years)	Disqualified for eight years (ten years)	Disqualified for nine years (ten years)	Disqualified for ten years
None	35–39	40–44	45–49	50–54	55–59	60–64	65–69	70 or more
One		35–39	40–44	45–49	50–54	55–59	60–64	65 or more
Two			35–39	40–44	45–49	50–54	55–59	60 or more
Three or more				35–39	40–44	45–49	50–54	55 or more

Note: The number of previous occurrences is the number of times one's license has been revoked, suspended or withheld within the last three years.

Note: A license denial or withholding is calculated from the day that the latest traffic violation was committed.

Note: The number in the parentheses indicate the duration of time for voiding a driver's license or denial of re-issuing a driver's license within 5 years, after the period without a driver's license.

Review

Mark each of the following statements true or false to check your comprehension of the preceding section.

1. When there are changes to personal information such as legal residence, address, or name, it is permissible to report the change to your local public safety commission upon the next license and equivalent renewal.
2. A license and equivalent may be renewed two months prior to the end of its term of validity.
3. Prior to being issued a license, if you commit a traffic violation or cause an accident, you may not be able to receive the license or issuance of the license may be withheld for a certain period of time.
4. If you have committed a traffic violation during the novice-driver term and have received a notice that requires you to take a novice-driver course but you do not take the course, you will have to take the examination again.

▶ ▶ ▶ The correct answers are listed on the last page of the book.

OPEN SESAME II

Back Forward Home Refresh Images Open Print Search Stop Stage 1 – Lesson 13

About the photo on page 123...



Point of View

“I didn't know” is an unforgivable excuse.

As a matter of course for taxis and buses, but also for trucks and motorcycles, licenses must be checked in order to determine whether or not a person is permitted to drive such vehicles. For example, if you are moving and have borrowed a truck, you might wonder if your regular license allows you to drive it; or you might have carelessly lent your large motorcycle to a friend who only has a regular motorcycle license.

It is therefore necessary to know the passenger limit, maximum load, and other requirements for different types of vehicles, and to know which vehicles can be driven on what types of licenses so that you do not end up driving a vehicle without a valid license.







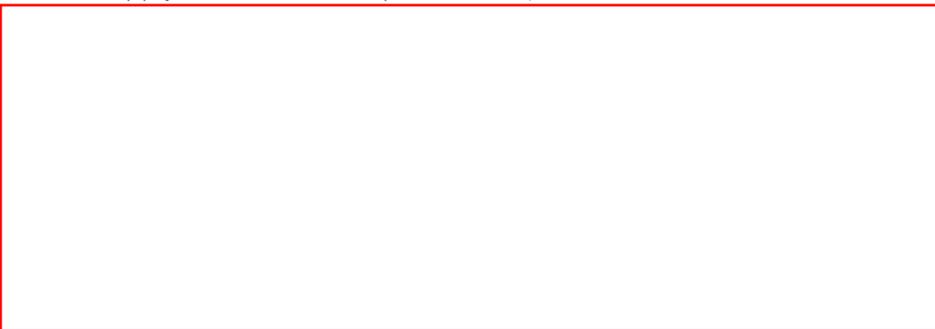
NEXT

2 Automobile Parking Certificate

When you register an automobile (excluding compact cars¹ and two-wheeled motor vehicles) for the first time or when you register a change in the base position from which an automobile is used, you must obtain an **automobile parking certificate** from the chief of police and submit it to the Land Transport Bureau. (This does not apply in certain municipal districts.) When the location of the parking place specified on the automobile parking certificate has been changed, you must report the location of the new parking place to the chief of the police having jurisdiction over the location of the new parking place. (This does not apply in certain municipal districts.)

3 Reporting a Parking Place for a Compact Car

When you newly purchase a compact car² and the parking place is changed, you must report the location of the new parking place to the chief of the police having jurisdiction over the location of the new parking place. (This does not apply in certain municipal districts.)



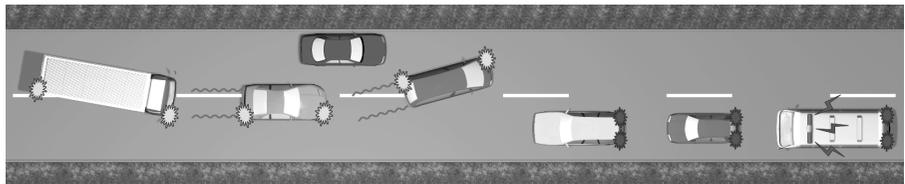
7 Effects of Parking on Others

Parking in places prohibited by laws and regulations—and even in places where parking is not prohibited—should be done with due consideration of the effects your car will have on other traffic and citizens living along the road. Otherwise it can inhibit the passage of pedestrians and other traffic and cause traffic congestion and even traffic accidents.

When parking on the road, be aware of the effects parking will have and park such that you do not cause trouble or create danger for pedestrians and other traffic.

(1) Space Occupied by a Parked Vehicle

When one vehicle is parked, the effect on other traffic is larger than simply the space occupied by one vehicle. If you park carelessly, you will cause serious disturbances such as traffic congestion and obstructing the passage of emergency vehicles.



VCP Law 4, 7

* 1
Compact cars...
The term “compact car” refers to regular automobiles having a total engine displacement of 660 cc or less.

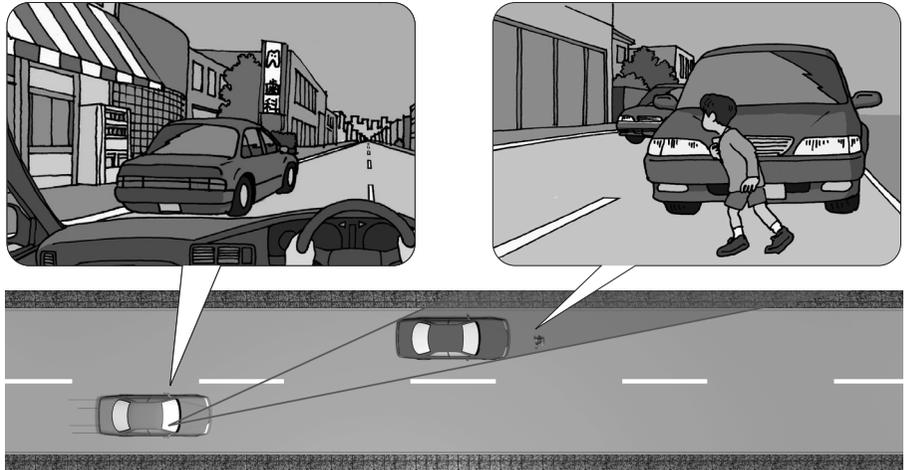
VCP Law 5

* 2
This includes cases in which the automobile is purchased or received from another person.

(2) Blocked Views Caused by Parked Vehicles

Parked vehicles obstruct the field of view and cause blind spots for pedestrians and other drivers, changing the road into a very dangerous place.

Parked vehicles are particularly dangerous for small children. Many lamentable accidents involving children occur that may not have occurred had a vehicle not been parked.



Quick Hint

Two-wheeled Vehicles...

Two-wheeled vehicles are smaller and do not occupy as much space as four-wheeled vehicles. Nevertheless, they have similar effects to four-wheeled vehicles and should not be parked carelessly.

Review

Mark each of the following statements true or false to check your comprehension of the preceding section.

1. When parking on a road having neither a sidewalk nor a side strip, you must leave a space of 0.75 m or more on the left side of the vehicle for the passage of pedestrians.
2. Since two-wheeled vehicles are small, it is not a parking violation to park them on sidewalks.
3. In a location having parking meters or a parking ticket issuing machine, you can park for as long as you wish after starting the meter or obtaining a parking ticket.
4. When an Abandoned Vehicle sticker is attached, the sticker may be removed when the driver of the vehicle moves the vehicle.
5. When you park and leave a vehicle having an automatic transmission, do the following: turn off the engine, apply the hand brake, and put the gearshift into the "R" position when on a level surface or a downhill slope and into the "L" position when on an uphill slope.
6. The person in possession of an automobile (excluding two-wheeled motor vehicles) must obtain a place to park the automobile that is not on a road and is within 5 km of the address or other base position from which the automobile will be used.

▶ ▶ ▶ The correct answers are listed on the last page of the book.

OPEN SESAME II

Back Forward Home Refresh Images Open Print Search Stop Stage 2 - Lesson 11

About the photo on page 269... *Point of View*

"If I can fit, so can other people." Really?

Like most people, you probably answered that you would go around the left side of the vehicle and your reason was probably that passing on the left side is safer or that passing on the road side would be risky. But what if you were unable to pass on the left side of the vehicle because you were riding a bicycle, in a wheelchair, blind, or carrying a large package? One carelessly parked vehicle might force you to risk the danger of passing on the street.

Do not assume it is okay to park so long as you leave enough space for you personally to pass through. It is important to know the rules and obey them so that all pedestrians can pass around your vehicle safely.

NEXT

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5 Carrying Dangerous Substances

When carrying dangerous substances, you should pack and load the materials in a suitably safe manner and display a signboard indicating that dangerous substances are being carried.

Avoid parking in dangerous or vulnerable places and keep dangerous substance under observation.



Review

Mark each of the following statements true or false to check your comprehension of the preceding section.

1. Cargo must not be loaded onto the seat of a regular passenger vehicle.
2. The minimum number of people required to load and unload the cargo is allowed to ride in the cargo bed of a truck.
3. When carrying cargo on a large-size motorcycle, regular motorcycle, or general moped, the cargo may protrude up to 0.3 m beyond both the left and right sides of the carrying device.
4. For all regular motor vehicles, cargo can be loaded up to a height of 3.8 m from the ground.

▶ ▶ ▶ The correct answers are listed on the last page of the book.

OPEN SESAME II

Back Forward Home Refresh Images Open Print Search Stop Stage 2 - Lesson 12

About the photo on page 283... *Point of View*

In an instant, the presence of one 55-kg adult beyond the seating capacity can become fatal.

The seating capacity and loading capacity varies from vehicle to vehicle because of the relationships between brake effectiveness, stability on curves, and other safety and performance factors. Consequently, you should not guess the seating capacity or cargo weight capacity or assume that many children can ride because they are small. Especially for the vehicles you drive often, check the actual numeric data recorded on the automobile inspection certificate.

NEXT

みきわめ	みきわめ judge, make sure	
みだりに	みだりに unnecessarily, recklessly	54
みちはば	道幅 road width	72
みとおしがきかない	見通しがきかない poor visibility	87, 103, 157
むめんきょうてん	無免許運転 driving without a valid license	124
めんきょしょうとう	免許証等 license and equivalent	8
もくし	目視 looking over one's shoulder, direct vision, look around	100, 106
やかん	夜間 at night	206, 276
ゆうこうきかん	有効期間 term of validity	129
ゆうせん	優先 right of way	72
ゆうせんつうこうたい	優先通行帯 priority lane	63
ゆうせんどうろ	優先道路 roads with right of way	7, 72
ゆうりょううんてんしゃ	優良運転者 exemplary driver	129
ようじ	幼児 preschool children	11, 157
よんりんしゃ	四輪車 four-wheeled vehicle	18, 252



ろかた	路肩 shoulder	56, 217, 320
ろせんばす	路線バス route bus	62
ろそくたい	路側帯 side strip	6, 50, 56, 320
ろめんでんしゃ	路面電車 streetcar	5, 22, 93
わりこみ	割り込み cutting in	97, 108

Review Answers

● Stage 1 ●

Lesson 1

P.12 1. ×
2. ○
3. ×

P.13 1. ○
2. ×

P.17 1. ○
2. ×

Lesson 2

P.26 1. ×
2. ×
3. ○

P.28 1. ×
2. ○

Lesson 3

P.48 1. ×
2. ○
3. ×
4. ○
5. ○

Lesson 4

P.54 1. ×
2. ○
3. ×

P.58 1. ×
2. ×
3. ×
4. ×
5. ×

Lesson 5

P.61 1. ○
2. ×
P.63 1. ○
2. ×

3. ○

Lesson 6

P.73 1. ○
2. ×
3. ○
4. ○
5. ×
6. ×

P.80 1. ×
2. ○
3. ×

Lesson 7

P.85 1. ×
2. ×
3. ○
4. ○
5. ×

Lesson 8

P.95 1. ○
2. ×
3. ○
4. ×
P.98 1. ○
2. ×

Lesson 9

P.102 1. ○
2. ×
3. ○
4. ○

P.104 1. ○

2. ×

Lesson 10

P.108 1. ○
2. ○
3. ×

Lesson 11

P.114 1. ○
2. ×
3. ○
4. ×

P.118 1. ×
2. ×

Lesson 12

P.122 1. ○
2. ×

Lesson 13

P.131 1. ×
2. ×
3. ×
4. ×

P.140 1. ×
2. ○
3. ○
4. ○

Lesson 14

P.145 1. ×
2. ×
3. ○
4. ×

● Stage 2 ●

Lesson 4

P.162 1. ○
2. ○
3. ○

Lesson 6

P.182 1. ○
2. ×
3. ○
4. ×
5. ×
6. ○

Lesson 7

P.188 1. ○
2. ×
3. ×
P.203 1. ○
2. ×

Lesson 8

P.211 1. ○
2. ×
3. ×
4. ×
5. ×

P.216 1. ×
2. ×
3. ×

P.220 1. ×
2. ×
3. ×

P.225 1. ×
2. ×
3. ○

P.229 1. ×
2. ×

Lesson 9

P.249 1. ×
2. ×

Lesson 10

P.255 1. ×
2. ○
3. ×
4. ×
5. ○

P.261 1. ○
2. ×
3. ×

P.267 1. ○
2. ×
3. ○
4. ○

5. ○
6. ×
7. ×

Lesson 11

P.274 1. ×
2. ×
3. ×
4. ×

P.282 1. ×
2. ×
3. ×

4. ○
5. ×
6. ×

Lesson 12

P.288 1. ×
2. ×
3. ×
4. ×

Lesson 13

P.292 1. ○
2. ×
3. ○

Lesson 14

P.296 1. ×
2. ×
3. ○

Lesson 15

P.300 1. ×
2. ×
3. ○
4. ×
P.305 1. ×
2. ○

Lesson 16

P.311 1. ×
2. ○
P.314 1. ○
2. ×

Lesson 17

P.323 1. ×
2. ×
3. ○
P.334 1. ○
2. ○
3. ×