Cheat Sheet

CALIFORNIA · KNOWLEDGE TEST

1 · Passing Score & Test Length

PASSING SCORE (%)	80
TEST FORMAT	Multiple choice, three answer choices per question
RETAKE WAIT (DAYS)	7 days under 18; no set wait for adults
PER-SECTION MINIMUMS?	none

2 · License & Test Fees

FEE PERMIT	$46
FEE KNOWLEDGE TEST	Included in the $46 application fee (3 attempts)
RETAKE FEE	$0; the $46 application fee covers 3 attempts

3 · BAC Limits & DUI Consequences

BAC LIMIT: ADULT	0.08%
BAC LIMIT: MINOR (UNDER 21)	0.01%
BAC LIMIT: COMMERCIAL	0.04%
IGNITION INTERLOCK REQUIRED	conditional

4 · Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL)

EARLIEST PERMIT AGE	15 years 6 months
PERMIT HOLDING PERIOD (MONTHS)	6
SUPERVISED DRIVING HOURS REQUIRED	50
OF WHICH, NIGHT HOURS	10
EARLIEST INTERMEDIATE LICENSE AGE	16
INTERMEDIATE CURFEW: START TIME	11:00 p.m.
INTERMEDIATE CURFEW: END TIME	5:00 a.m.
EARLIEST FULL LICENSE AGE	17

5 · Phone & Distracted Driving Laws

HANDHELD PHONE: BANNED FOR ALL DRIVERS?	yes
TEXTING: BANNED FOR ALL DRIVERS?	yes
HANDS-FREE ALSO BANNED FOR MINORS?	yes
PHONE FIRST OFFENSE FINE	$20 base fine (first offense)

6 · Default Speed Limits

RESIDENTIAL DEFAULT (MPH)	25
URBAN DEFAULT (MPH)	25
RURAL DEFAULT (MPH)	55
SCHOOL ZONE (MPH)	25
INTERSTATE MAXIMUM (MPH)	65
TURNING RIGHT ON A RED LIGHT	yes

7 · Following-Distance & Headlight Rules

DIM HIGH BEAMS WITHIN (FT): ONCOMING	500
DIM HIGH BEAMS WITHIN (FT): FOLLOWING	300
MIN FOLLOWING DISTANCE BEHIND EMERGENCY VEHICLE (FT)	300

8 · Seatbelt & Child Seat Laws

SEATBELT LAW ENFORCEMENT	primary
SEATS REQUIRED TO BELT	all seats
CHILD SEAT: AGE THRESHOLD	8

9 · Required Identification Documents

VISION TEST REQUIRED AT ISSUANCE	yes

Signs to know cold

Federal standard signs, the same in every state. The full set is at roadready.press/signs



Stop

Come to a complete stop at the line, crosswalk, or intersection, then proceed only when safe.



Yield

Slow down, give the right-of-way to cross traffic and pedestrians, and stop if needed.



Do Not Enter

Do not enter the roadway from this direction; you are facing one-way traffic or a restricted entrance.



Wrong Way

You are traveling against the legal flow of traffic; stop and turn around immediately.



Speed Limit 50

Maximum legal speed on this roadway is 50 mph.



No Left Turn

Left turns are prohibited at this intersection or driveway.



No U-Turn

U-turns are prohibited at this location.



Keep Right (Symbol)

Pass to the right of an upcoming island, divider, or obstruction.



Stop Ahead

A stop sign is ahead; prepare to come to a complete stop.



Signal Ahead Symbol

A traffic light is ahead; prepare to stop if the light is red or changes.



Merge Right

Traffic from the right merges into your lane ahead.



Slippery When Wet

The road surface ahead becomes slippery when wet; reduce speed and avoid sudden moves.



No Passing Zone

Marks the start of a no-passing zone on a two-lane highway; do not cross to pass.



School Advance Warning

Warns that a school zone is ahead; be prepared for children and reduced speeds.

Pavement markings to know

Also federal, and also the same in every state.



Broken Yellow Center Line

A single broken yellow line separates opposing traffic and permits passing when the way is clear.



Broken-and-Solid Yellow Center Line

Pass only from the broken-line side; the side with the solid line may not pass.



Double Broken Yellow Line (Reversible Lane)

Two broken yellow lines mark a reversible lane whose direction of travel changes at certain times; obey the lane-control signals overhead.



Double Solid Yellow Center Line

Two solid yellow lines separating opposing traffic; passing is prohibited from either direction.



Solid Yellow Center Line

A solid yellow line separates lanes of traffic moving in opposite directions; do not cross it to pass.



Yellow Diagonal Crosshatch (Neutral Median Area)

Yellow diagonal stripes inside a yellow border mark a painted median or neutral area between opposing-direction lanes that drivers must not enter.



Broken White Edge Line

A broken white line along the right edge of the roadway shows where through lanes separate from an auxiliary lane such as an exit, entrance, or right-turn lane.



Solid White Right Edge Line

Solid white line marks the right edge of the travel lane and the start of the shoulder.



Solid Yellow Left Edge Line

Solid yellow line marks the left edge of the roadway on a divided highway or one-way street.



Wide Solid White Edge Line

Extra-wide solid white edge line emphasizes the right edge of the travel lane.



Broken White Lane Line

Broken white line between same-direction lanes; lane changes are permitted when safe.



Dotted White Extension Line

Short white dots extend a lane line through a merge, exit, or intersection area.



Double Solid White Lane Line

Two solid white lines forbid lane changes; drivers must remain in their current lane.



Green-Colored Bike Lane

Solid green pavement bordered by white lines marks a bicycle lane, especially through conflict zones with motor vehicles.

The last thing to review before the test. Keep it in sight while you study, not while you drive.