

# The Essential Guide for Parents: A Comprehensive Handbook on Equipping Your Child with the Knowledge and Skills to Navigate the Road Safely

**NATIONAL TEEN DRIVER SAFETY WEEK** **FACTS FOR TEEN DRIVERS**  
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Teens have the highest number of crashes in any age group. Among crashes involving teenagers, 27% are fatal.

Among students who drove at least once in the past year, 61% used a cell phone while driving.

6 out of 10 teen drivers use a cell phone while driving.

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Having a single teen driver in a household increases the risk of a crash by 20%.

Teens who say their parents are strict about driving rules are 20% less likely to be involved in a crash.

50% The number of young drivers with licenses decreased by 50% from 2000 to 2012.

Of teens who admit to driving under the influence of alcohol, 80% say it was the first time they had ever done so.

**What Can Parents Do? Set a Good Example**

- Always model safe driving behavior
- Discuss safe driving with your teen on an ongoing basis
- Sign a contract with your teen driver

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As parents, we all want our children to be safe and successful. When it comes to driving, this means teaching them the skills and knowledge they need to be responsible and safe drivers. Handing over the car keys is a big moment in a child's life. It's a sign of independence and responsibility, but it can also be a nerve-wracking experience for parents.



## The Psychological Advantage: The 7 things every parent MUST teach their child before handing over the car keys. by Dan Myers

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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In this article, we will discuss the essential things every parent should teach their child before handing over the car keys. We will cover everything from basic driving skills to more advanced topics like defensive driving and car maintenance. We will also provide tips on how to talk to your child about driving and how to make the experience as positive and stress-free as possible.

### Basic Driving Skills

The first step in teaching your child to drive is to make sure they have the basic skills they need. This includes things like:

\* Starting and stopping the car \* Steering \* Accelerating and braking \* Turning \* Reversing

Once your child has mastered these skills, you can start practicing in different environments, such as in a parking lot or on a quiet street.

## **Defensive Driving Techniques**

In addition to basic driving skills, it's also important to teach your child defensive driving techniques. These techniques can help them avoid accidents and stay safe on the road. Some of the most important defensive driving techniques include:

\* Staying alert and aware of your surroundings \* Anticipating the actions of other drivers \* Maintaining a safe following distance \* Using your mirrors regularly \* Avoiding distractions

## **Car Maintenance**

It's also important to teach your child about basic car maintenance. This will help them keep their car in good condition and avoid costly repairs. Some of the most important car maintenance tasks include:

\* Checking the oil and other fluids \* Changing the tires \* Rotating the tires \* Inspecting the brakes \* Cleaning the car

## **Talking to Your Child About Driving**

Talking to your child about driving can be a difficult conversation, but it's important to have it. Here are some tips for having a productive conversation:

- \* Start by talking about the responsibilities of driving.
- \* Explain the importance of following the rules of the road.
- \* Discuss the dangers of distracted driving.
- \* Set clear expectations for your child's driving behavior.
- \* Be open to answering your child's questions.

## Making the Experience Positive and Stress-Free

Handing over the car keys is a big moment, and it's natural to feel nervous. Here are some tips for making the experience as positive and stress-free as possible:

- \* Stay calm and patient.
- \* Let your child know that you trust them.
- \* Set clear expectations and boundaries.
- \* Be there for your child if they need you.

Teaching your child to drive is a big responsibility, but it's also a rewarding one. By following the tips in this article, you can help your child become a safe and responsible driver.

Remember, the most important thing is to be patient and supportive. With time and practice, your child will be able to navigate the road safely and confidently.



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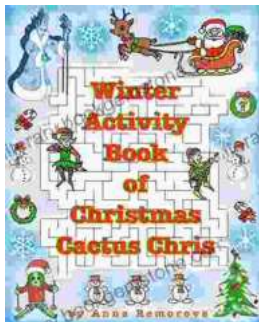
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