

_____ and the consequences for driving while intoxicated or driving under the influence. _____

_____ Find out what the open-container law is in your state. _____

c. Describe at least four factors to be considered in the design of a road or highway.

Explain how roadside hazards _____

and road conditions contribute to the occurrence and seriousness of traffic crashes. _____

d. Explain why a driver who is fatigued or distracted should not operate a motor vehicle. _____

List five common distractions, explain how driver distractions contribute to traffic accidents, and tell how drivers can minimize distractions.

(1) Distraction: _____

How it contributes to accidents: _____

How to minimize: _____

(2) Distraction: _____

How it contributes to accidents: _____

How to minimize: _____

(3) Distraction: _____

How it contributes to accidents: _____

How to minimize: _____

(4) Distraction: _____

How it contributes to accidents: _____

How to minimize: _____

(5) Distraction: _____

How it contributes to accidents: _____

How to minimize: _____

Describe how volunteer drivers can plan to be alert when transporting Scouting participants. _____

2. Do the following:

a. Demonstrate how to properly wear a lap or shoulder belt. Explain why it is important for drivers and passengers to wear safety belts at all times. _____

b. List five safety features found in motor vehicles besides occupant restraint systems.

(1) Describe each feature, _____

how each works, _____

and how each contributes to safety. _____

(2) Describe each feature, _____

how each works, _____

and how each contributes to safety. _____

(3) Describe each feature, _____

how each works, _____

and how each contributes to safety. _____

(4) Describe each feature, _____

how each works, _____

and how each contributes to safety. _____

(5) Describe each feature, _____

how each works, _____

and how each contributes to safety. _____

3. Do the following

a. Using your family car or another vehicle, demonstrate that all lights and lighting systems in the vehicle are working. Describe the function and explain why each type of light is important to safe driving.

Lighting Type _____

Function _____

Importance _____

Lighting Type _____

Function _____

Importance _____

Lighting Type _____

Function _____

Importance _____

Lighting Type _____

Function _____

Importance _____

Lighting Type _____

Function _____

Importance _____

Lighting Type _____

Function _____

Importance _____

b. Using your family car or another vehicle, *demonstrate* how to check tire pressure and identify the correct tire pressure for the vehicle. Explain why proper tire pressure is important to safe driving. _____

c. *Demonstrate* a method to check for adequate tire tread. Explain why proper tread is important to safe driving.

d. *Demonstrate* with a smear-and-clear test if the windshield wiper blades will clear the windshield completely or need to be replaced. Describe instances in good and bad weather when windshield washers are important to safe driving. _____

4. Do the following:

a. In a location away from traffic hazards, measure with a tape measure - not in a car - and mark off with stakes the distance that a car will travel during the time needed for decision and reaction, and the braking distances necessary to stop a car traveling

30, _____

50, _____

and 70 miles per hour _____

on dry, level pavement. Discuss how environmental factors such as bad weather and road conditions will affect the distance. _____

b. *Demonstrate* the difference in nighttime visibility between a properly lit bicycle and rider (or a pedestrian) wearing reflective material _____

and a bicycle and rider with no lights (or a pedestrian) dressed in dark clothing, without reflective material. _____

c. Explain how color _____

and shape _____

are used to help road users recognize and understand the information presented on traffic and roadway signs.

Explain the purpose of different types of sign: _____

signals, _____

and pavement markings. _____

d. Describe at least three examples of traffic laws that apply to drivers of motor vehicles and that bicyclists must also obey.

5. Do ONE of the following:

a. Interview a traffic law enforcement officer in your community to identify what three traffic safety problems the officer is most concerned about.

Discuss with your merit badge counselor possible ways to solve one of those problems. _____

b. Using the Internet (with your parent's permission), visit five Web sites that cover safe driving for teenagers. As a group, discuss what you learn with your counselor and at least three other teenagers.

c. Initiate and organize an activity or event to demonstrate the importance of traffic safety. _____

d. Accompanied by an adult and a buddy, pick a safe place to observe traffic _____

at a controlled intersection (traffic signal or stop sign) on three separate days and at three different times of the day, for 30 minutes on each visit. At this intersection, survey

- (1) such violations as running a red light or stop sign; or
- (2) seat belt usage.

Count the number of violations or number of drivers not wearing a seat belt. Record in general terms if the driver was young or old, male or female. Keep track of the total number of vehicles observed so that you can determine the percentage of compliance vs. violations. Discuss the findings with your merit badge counselor.

(1) Day & time _____

violations _____

Seatbelt Usage	AGE		SEX	
	young	old	male	female
not wearing a seatbelt				
wearing a seatbelt				

hint: use tick marks to count: /////

Total vehicles				
Percent using seatbelt				

(2) Day & time _____

violations _____

Seatbelt Usage	AGE		SEX	
<i>hint: use tick marks to count: ///</i>	young	old	male	female
not wearing a seatbelt				
wearing a seatbelt				
Total vehicles				
Percent using seatbelt				

(3) Day & time _____

violations _____

Seatbelt Usage	AGE		SEX	
<i>hint: use tick marks to count: ///</i>	young	old	male	female
not wearing a seatbelt				
wearing a seatbelt				
Total vehicles				
Percent using seatbelt				

Discuss the findings with your merit badge counselor. _____

Online Resources: *(Use any Internet resource with caution and only with your parent's or guardian's permission.)*

Boy Scouts of America: ▶ scouting.org ▶ [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) ▶ [Age-Appropriate Guidelines](#) ▶ [Safe Swim Defense](#)
▶ [Scout](#) ▶ [Tenderfoot](#) ▶ [Second Class](#) ▶ [First Class](#) ▶ [Rank Videos](#) ▶ [Safety Afloat](#)

Boy Scout Merit Badge Workbooks: usscouts.org -or- meritbadge.org **Merit Badge Books:** www.scoutstuff.org

Requirement Resources

These resources and more are at: http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Traffic_Safety.

- 1a. [Top Ten Driving Mistakes Teenagers Make](#) - [Center for Disease Control: Teen Drivers](#) - [Insurance Institute for Highway Safety: Teenage Driver Statistics](#) - [IIHS New Driver Brochure](#)
- 1b. [Driving and Alcohol](#) - [CDC: Impaired Driving](#) - [Insurance Institute for Highway Safety: Blood Alcohol Statistics](#)
 - [DUIDWI Laws, Blood Alcohol, and Open Container Laws By State](#)
- 1c. [Highway Design](#) A CalTrans education course.
- 1c. [Museum of Dumb Highway Design](#) What happens when design factors are not considered.
 - [Federal Highway Admin. Highway Safety and Crash Statistics](#) - [Highway Engineering](#)
- 1d. [Distracted and Fatigued Driving from NHTSA](#)
- 2a. [Center for Disease Control: Safety Belts](#)
- 2b. [Nine Car Safety Features to Look For When Buying a Car](#)
- 3a. [Video: Check and Replace Lights](#)
- 3b. [Video: Checking Car Tire Pressure](#) - [Video: How to Put Air in a Tire](#) - [Video: How to Check Tire Pressure](#)
- 3c. [Tread Wear - Tires & Wheels: Checking Tire Tread](#)
- 3d. [How to Tell if Your Wiper Blades Need to be Replaced](#) - [Video: Car Detailing](#) - [Video: Exterior Car Detail Tips](#)
- 4a. [Stopping Distances](#) - [Stopping Distances](#) - [Another Source](#)
- 4c. [Manual of Traffic Signs](#) All about traffic signs, including sections on shapes and colors.
- 5b. [Young Driver's Guide to Freeway Driving](#) - [TeenDriving.com](#) - [Top Ten Driving Mistakes Teenagers Make](#) - [Center for Disease Control: Teen Drivers](#) - [Insurance Institute for Highway Safety: Teenage Driver Statistics](#) - [IIHS New Driver Brochure](#)

General Resources

[The Safest and Most dangerous Cars, Trucks, and SUVs](#)

American Automobile Association Foundation for Traffic Safety: <http://www.aaafoundation.org>

American Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.org>

ASTM International: <http://www.astm.org>

Motorcycle Safety Foundation: <http://www.msf-usa.org>

Nat. Youth Sports Safety Found.: <http://www.nyssf.org>

Online Study Guide for Student Drivers: <http://golocalnet.com>

SAFE KIDS Worldwide: <http://www.safekids.org>

Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD): <http://www.sadd.org>

American Society of Safety Engineers: <http://www.asse.org>

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD): <http://www.madd.org>

Nat. Highway Traffic Safety Admin.: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

Nat. Safety Council: <http://www.nsc.org/issues/drivsafe.htm>

Road Ready Teens: <http://www.roadreadyteens.org>