

# **NIGERIA HIGHWAY CODE AND STANDARDS EXPLAINED**



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**Parts 1, 2 & 3 - Pre-Road Use Activities**

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**Published by the Nigerian Institution of Highway & Transportation Engineers (NIHTE)**

(A Division of Nigerian Society of Engineers)

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Off National Mosque-Labour House Road,  
Central Business Area, Abuja, Nigeria

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## PREFACE

Who The Highway Code is for, how it's worded, the consequences of not following the rules, and the hierarchy of road users, applies to every road user. The Highway Code is essential reading for everyone and the aim is to promote safety on the road, whilst also supporting a healthy, sustainable and efficient transport system. Many of the rules in the Code are legal requirements, and if one disobey these rules one is committing a criminal offence. One may be fined, given penalty points on one's licence or be disqualified from driving. In the most serious cases one may be sent to prison. Such rules are identified by the use of the words '**MUST / MUST NOT**'. In addition, the rule includes an abbreviated reference to the legislation, which creates the offence. Although failure to comply with the other rules of the Code will not, in itself, cause a person to be prosecuted, The Highway Code may be used in evidence in any court proceedings under the Traffic Acts to establish liability. This includes rules which use advisory wording such as '**should / should not**' or '**do / do not**'. Knowing and applying the rules contained in The Highway Code could significantly reduce road casualties. Cutting the number of deaths and injuries that occur on our roads every day is a responsibility we all share. The Highway Code can help us discharge that responsibility. The 'hierarchy of road users' is a concept that places those road users most at risk in the event of a collision at the top of the hierarchy. The hierarchy does not remove the need for everyone to behave responsibly. The road users most likely to be injured in the event of a collision are pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and motorcyclists, with children, older adults and disabled people being more at risk.

Everyone suffers when road collisions occur, whether they are physically injured or not. But those in charge of vehicles that can cause the greatest harm in the event of a collision bear the greatest responsibility to take care and reduce the danger they pose to others. This principle applies most strongly to drivers of large goods and passenger vehicles, vans/minibuses, cars/taxis and motorcycles. Cyclists, horse riders and drivers of horse drawn vehicles likewise have a responsibility to reduce danger to pedestrians. None of this detracts from the responsibility of ALL road users, including pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders, to have regard for their own and other road users' safety. Always remember that the people you encounter may have impaired sight, hearing or mobility and that this may not be obvious.

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H. SAIDU  
2022

## **FOREWORD**

This Highway Code applies to Nigerians and is essential reading for everyone. The most vulnerable road users are pedestrians, particularly children, older or disabled people, cyclists, motorcyclists and horse riders. It is important that all road users are aware of The Highway Code and are considerate towards each other. This applies to pedestrians as much as to drivers and riders. You **MUST** give way to pedestrians on a zebra crossing, and to pedestrians and cyclists on a parallel crossing. Pedestrians have priority when on a zebra crossing, on a parallel crossing or at light controlled crossings when they have a green signal. You should give way to pedestrians waiting to cross a zebra crossing, and to pedestrians and cyclists waiting to cross a parallel crossing. Horse riders should also give way to pedestrians on a zebra crossing, and to pedestrians and cyclists on a parallel crossing. Cyclists should give way to pedestrians on shared use cycle tracks and to horse riders on bridleways. Only pedestrians may use the pavement. Pedestrians include wheelchair and mobility scooter users. Pedestrians may use any part of the road and use cycle tracks as well as the pavement, unless there are signs prohibiting pedestrians. Do not turn at a junction if to do so would cause the cyclist, horse rider or horse drawn vehicle going straight ahead to stop or swerve. You should stop and wait for a safe gap in the flow of cyclists if necessary. This includes when cyclists are: -

- approaching, passing or moving off from a junction,
- moving past or waiting alongside stationary or slow-moving traffic, and
- travelling around a roundabout

**G. NSONWU**  
2022.

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### Introduction

The Highway Code is primarily designed to help all road users be safe on the roads. It includes the rules and regulations on how we should use the roads as well as providing advice on making our journeys less stressful. Also, if all road users follow the rules and advice provided, it will help reduce congestion and improve the environment. The Highway Code is a set of information, advice, guidance and mandatory rules for road users. Taken alone, its contents do not equate to a legal document. However, many of the instructions contained in it are backed up by law and so have legal muscle behind them. By acting on the Code's valuable guidance, all road users should remain safe, avoid prosecution and help contribute to the overall safety of all who use today's busy highways and by-ways.

Even though this book predominantly deals with the Highway Code, much of its content is equally applicable to the Rules of the Road. The vast majority of drivers will have perused the Highway Code or the Rules of the Road at some time or other, but especially before undergoing the theory test or actual driving test. Once passed, many drivers then resign the Highway Code and the ROTR to the bottom drawer never to be looked at again. The Highway Code is one of Nigeria's most popular non-fiction books and has been in constant publication for decades.

But is the Highway Code actually law and does its contents equate to a written legal document / instrument? Basically, the Highway Code is a set of information, advice, guidance and some mandatory rules for road users. Its objective is to promote road safety. The Highway Code applies to all road users including pedestrians, equestrians, motorists and motorcyclists, etc. It also gives information on road signage, road markings, vehicle markings and road safety. The Highway Code was first published in Nigeria 1931, and has been regularly updated to reflect current practices. It was last revised in 1989 and translated into three major Nigerian languages, Yoruba, Igbo and Hausa. It is claimed to have saved thousands of lives since its inception. This booklet has an in-depth look at this popular booklet and which most learner drivers will have perused at some stage during learning to drive. It also attempts to unravel some of the various rules which are advisory and those that are compulsory.

It looks at rules using wording like '**must**', '**must not**', that is supported by law, and words like '**should**', or '**should not**', that act as advice, and don't have legal weighting behind them. Finally, it concludes with an overall summary.

### Not a Legal Document

Taken alone, the Highway Code is not a legal document or instrument<sup>2</sup> and therefore is not law or legally binding. But many of the instructions are backed up by law and so have legal muscle behind them. These points supported by law are clearly identified in the document by wording like '**must**', '**must not**', rather than '**should**' or '**should not**'. Failure to comply with the other rules of the code can't directly cause you to be fined, prosecuted or disqualified – but the advice it offers can be used as evidence in any court of law to establish liability. Certain rules in the Highway Code are legal requirements, and are identified by the words '**must**' or '**must not**'. In these cases, the rules also include references to the corresponding legislation. Offenders may be cautioned, given license penalty points, fined, banned from driving, or imprisoned, depending on the severity of the offence. Although failure to comply with the other rules would not, in itself, cause a person to be prosecuted. The Highway Code may be used in court under the Road Traffic Act 1988 to establish liability. These include advisory rules with wording '**should**' and '**should not**' or '**do**' and '**do not**'. In general, only the latest official printed version of the Highway Code should be used, but in legal proceedings, whether civil or criminal, the version current at the time of the incident would apply.

### SOME DEFINITIONS

**Code:** -A code is a set of rules and specifications for the correct methods and materials used in a certain product, building or process. Codes can be approved by local, state or federal governments and can carry the force of law. The main purpose of codes is to protect the public by setting up the minimum acceptable level of safety for buildings, products and processes.

**Standard:** - A technical standard is an established norm or requirement. It is usually a formal document that establishes uniform engineering or technical criteria, methods, processes and practices. Standards allow for interchangeability of parts, system interoperability, and they ensure quality, reliability and safety.

**Highway Code:** - **The Highway Code** is a set of information, advice, guides and mandatory rules for road users. Its objective is to promote road safety. The Highway Code applies to all road users including pedestrians, horse riders and cyclists, as well as motorcyclists and drivers. It gives information on road signs, road markings, vehicle markings, and road safety. There are annexes on vehicle maintenance, licence requirements, documentation, penalties, and vehicle security.

This is the first publication NIHTE is making, and it is to be regularly updated to reflect current practices. (<http://www.highwaycode.com.ng/i-registration-requirements.html>). The Nigeria Highway Code is the Code of Conduct for human activities related to the open road in a technological age.

## Part One - Pre-Road Use Activities

### Section A: THE ROAD

A road is a path established over land for the passage of vehicles, people, and animals. It provides dependable pathway for moving people and goods from one place to another. Roads are typically smooth, paved, or otherwise, prepared to allow easy travel. Historically many roads were simply traditional or local routes without any formal construction or maintenance. or maintenance.

#### I. TYPES OF ROAD

Roads may be classified as: -

- Private drive pathways
- Two-lane highways
- Dual carriageways
- Expressway

#### Private Drive Pathways: -

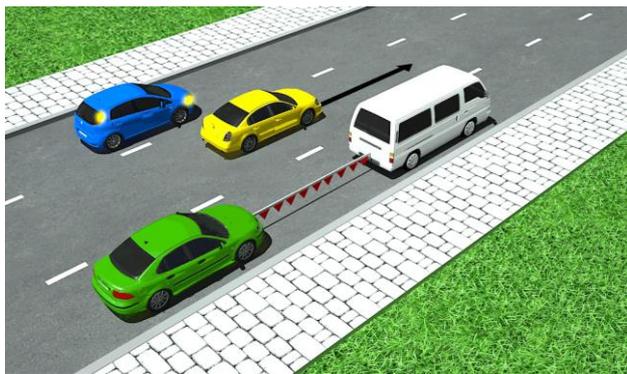
These are roads owned, maintained or controlled by an individual, agency or organization.

#### Two-Lane Highways:

These are the usual single carriageways. Traffic on two-lane highways normally flow in opposite direction on single lane. Two-lane highways may be rural, urban, intra or intercity roads.

#### Dual Carriageway:

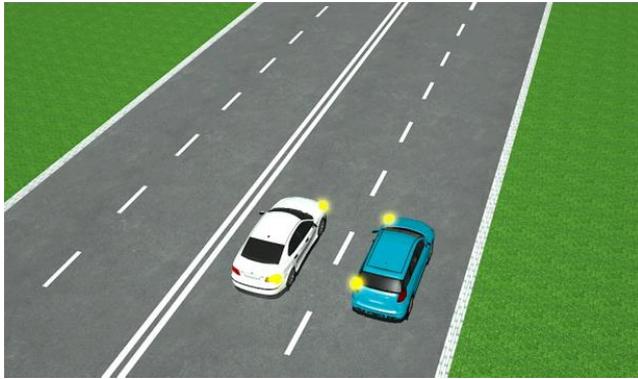
This is a road which has multiple lanes with traffic going in opposite direction. They may or may not be physically separated by non-passable dividers such as concrete barrier.



#### Dual Carriageway

#### Express-ways:

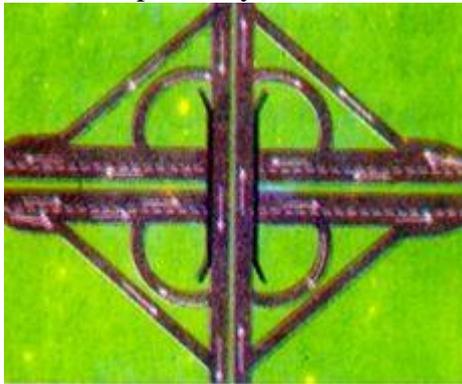
This is a specially designed and restricted highway divided with barriers which make traffic in opposite directions completely separated from each other.



## II. INTERCHANGES

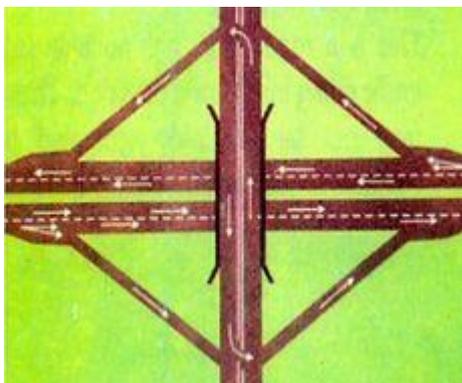
An interchange is a special intersection designed to enable road users cross, enter or leave the expressway without interfering with the flow of traffic.

- Private drive pathways
- Two-lane highways
- Dual carriageways
- Expressway



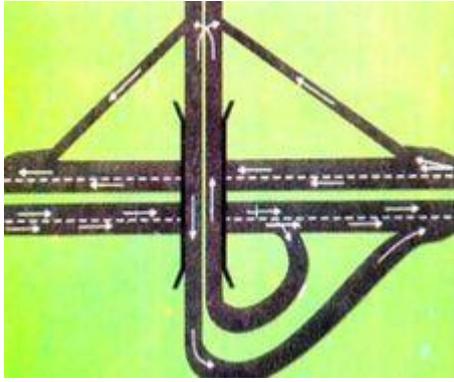
### **Clover Leaf**

Clover leaf interchange is designed to allow turning movement off or into the expressway from four directions using loop type connections. It eliminates left turn and traffic conflicts for all movements.



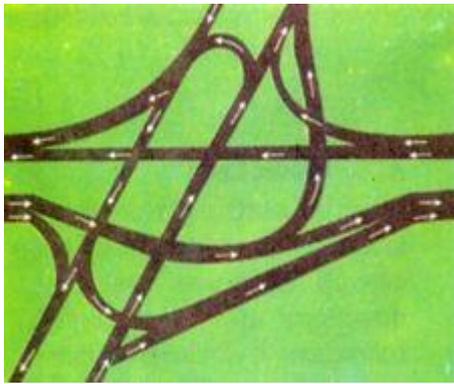
### **Diamond**

A diamond interchange has four ramps, allowing vehicles to enter or leave the main highway while flowing with the traffic. Left turns are made after leaving the expressway.



### **Trumpet**

Trumpet interchanges provide access to the expressway at a 'T' intersection.

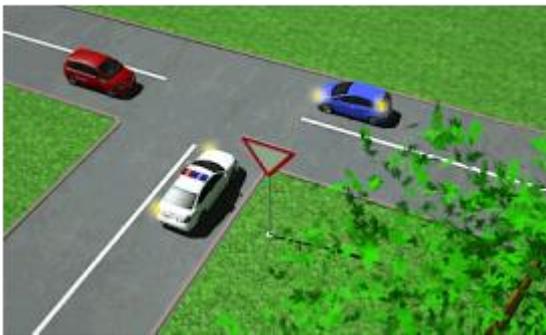


### **Directional**

Directional interchange are used where high volume traffic desire to transfer off an interchange.

## **III. ROAD JUNCTIONS**

A junction is the place where two or more roads meet.



### **A. T -Junction**

This is a place where two roads meet in the shape of letter T.



### **B. Y-Junction**

This is a place where two roads meet in the form of letter Y.



### **C. Cross Road**

A cross road is the place where two roads meet and cross each other. It could be in the form of:

- A major road crossing a minor road; or
- Two equal roads crossing each other.

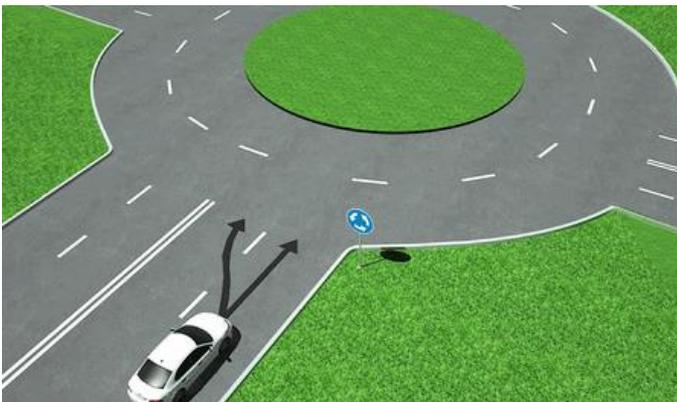
### **D. Roundabout**

A place where two or more roads meet, forming a circle that ensures that all traffic must go around in the same direction.

#### **Rules of Using Round-about**

When approaching a roundabout:

- Watch out for traffic already on it
- Take special care to look out for cyclist or motorcyclist ahead or to the side
- Give way to traffic on your left unless road marking indicates otherwise
- Keep moving if the way is clear



#### **How to Negotiate a Round-about**

**When turning right:**

Approach on the right-hand lane; keep to that lane in the roundabout and leave by the lane. Use the right turn indicator on approach and through the roundabout.

**When going straight:**

Approach on the right-hand lane; keep on that lane in the roundabout. Use the right turn indicator at the exit before the one to be taken.

If conditions dictate (for example, if the right lane is blocked) approach in the left hand lane, keep to that lane in the roundabout.

You must signal your intention here to turn right. Enter with the left signal on.

**When turning left:**

Approach in the left hand lane; use the left turn indicator before entering the roundabout and maintain this signal while keeping to the left-hand lane. On approaching a round-about, maintain it until you leave the area.

**When making a U-turn:**

- Enter with the left signal on and keep going
- Before exit, change the signal to right

**Leaving the roundabout**

When going forward or turning left, always leave the roundabout in the left-hand lane of the exit road, unless conditions dictate the use of right-hand lane.

**Mind Other Vehicles**

When in a roundabout, look out for vehicles crossing in front of you to leave by the next exit.

**Going Through Intersection**

Give way to traffic on the major road and drive through safely obeying posted signals like STOP or YIELD. Even if you are on the major road, always drive through the intersection as if other vehicles may be crossing or approaching.

Hazard lights, also known as Emergency lights or "double trafficators" are not meant to signify going straight or crossing intersection and should not be used as such. They are STRICTLY for emergencies!

**Section B: CATEGORIES OF ROAD USERS**

- The Motorist
- The Pedestrian
- The Cyclist
- The Motorcyclist
- The Child
- Animal
- The Hawker
- The Trader

**I. THE MOTORIST**

This class of road user is enclosed in motor vehicles. Because of this enclosure, they feel protected and often assume absolute immunity from accidents. This is a fatal self-delusion for

which the Federal Road Safety Commission has coined expression: Accident Immunity Delusion Syndrome (RAIDS).

### **Rules for Road Use**

Driver's Protection:

- The driver of a vehicle has only the protection guaranteed by his **STRICT** obedience to traffic rules.
- The best protection inside the vehicle is the **USE OF SEAT BELT**
- Always fasten your seatbelt and ensure that everyone in your vehicle belts up. S.10(4) (ee), FRSC Act, 2007.



### **Alcoholic Drinks and Drugs**

- Never drive after consuming alcoholic drinks or while under the influence of drugs
- Maximum blood alcohol level for drivers is 0.5gms per litre or 0.05% of blood alcohol (BAC)
- Alcohol affects your vision, judgement, reduces coordination, and slows down reaction
- Reduce driving stability even when taken below the legal limit. "DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE". S.10(4) (K), FRSC Act, 2007.



### **Long distance driving**

Driving for long distances tend to make you sleepy. To prevent this, ensure there is plenty of fresh air in your vehicle.

- Stop in a convenient place, rest and then walk around to let blood circulate and feed your brain adequately.
- Take a break of 15 minutes after every four (4) hours of driving.
- Do not rely on stay-awake drugs like coffee, kola nuts, and even chewing sticks.
- Have co-driver for any journey exceeding 10 hours.

### **Avoid fatigue**

- Fatigue is a deadly, yet silent killer that often goes unnoticed.
- Drivers tend to overestimate their capabilities and thus, do not know when to act on their tiredness.
- Do not drive if you are unwell, exhausted or tired from over-work, as ability to drive and coordinate becomes difficult when under stress, be it emotional or physical.

#### **Passenger's Protection/Responsibilities of Drivers**

- Drivers hold not only their lives but also that of passengers in their hands.
- Comprehensive insurance policy offers cover both the vehicle and passengers in the event of injuries or death occurring from road crashes.
- Vehicle owners are therefore required by Road Transportation Safety Standardization Scheme (RTSSS) to ensure that their vehicles are properly insured.
- Drivers are to ensure that passengers enter and disembark at officially designated places where provided.
- Drivers are not to overload their vehicles with goods or passengers. Passengers stand very high risk of severe injury or death in overloaded vehicles.

#### **Vehicle protection**

- Keep your vehicle in good working condition, paying particular attention to lights, brakes, steering mechanism, tyres and tyre pressure, direction indicators and wipers.
- Windscreens and windows should be clean and clear of obstructing materials and ornaments. S.10(4)(w), FRSC Act, 2007.

## **II. THE PEDESTRIAN**

A pedestrian is a person who is walking on the road especially in an area also used by vehicles. Drivers share the road with many other road users among whom are pedestrians who are part of exposed road users.

Generally there are three types of pedestrians most often involved in road traffic crashes: children, the elderly and adults under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

#### **Pedestrian protection involves**

- Use of pavement or suitable foot paths where provided.
- Walk on the left side of the road facing on-coming traffic, where footpaths are not provided.
- While walking in the dark, wear or carry white, bright coloured or reflective clothing as you can be easily seen in them.
- While walking in a group, keep to the extreme right of the road.
- At night, the person in front should wear a reflective clothing.
- 

#### **Traffic drill**

- Before you cross a road, stop, hold hands, look left, right and look left again. When the road is clear, walk directly and quickly across but keep looking out. Do not run because you may trip over and fall.

#### **Crossing point**

- You are to use pedestrian crossing, central islands, traffic lights, subways, or foot bridges where provided.
- Where they are not provided, step onto the road slowly, making sure you can see both ways clearly and that you can be seen.
- Do not cross the road between or in front of parked vehicles because drivers on the road may not be able to see you.

#### **At a one way street**

Before crossing a one-way street with traffic going only in one direction, do your traffic drill.

- Make sure you know which way the traffic is moving.
- Step on the street and quickly cross directly.

#### **Wait on the island**

- Where there is an island on the road, cross first to the island.
- Wait there until the second half of the road clears.
- Then finish crossing.

#### **At night**

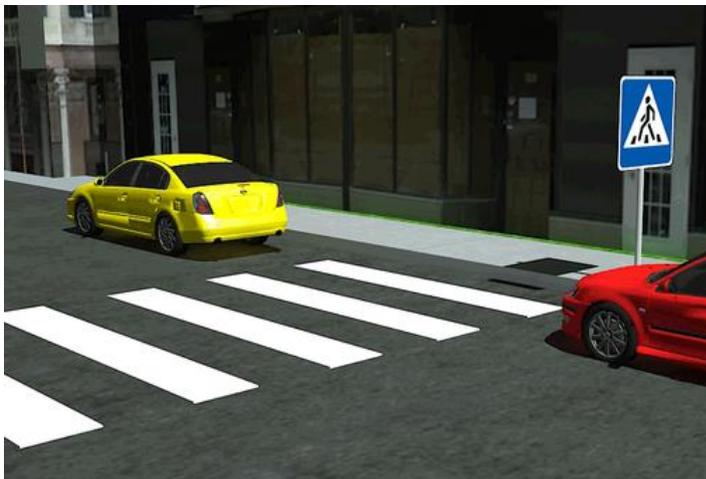
Cross the road near lighted area so that you can be seen especially if there is no convenient pedestrian crossing.

#### **At Guard Rails**

Do not cross the road where there are guardrails or other preventive fences to stop you.

#### **Pedestrian Crossing**

- You have NO right of way at a pedestrian crossing or Zebra Crossing until you have Stepped on it.
- Even then ensure no vehicle is coming.
- When you do, traffic should give way to you. Do your traffic drill before you start to cross, **exercise caution**.



#### **At Junctions**

When you cross at a junction, pay attention to traffic turning corner, especially from behind you.

#### **At Junctions Controlled By Traffic Lights**

- Watch the traffic as well as the lights.
- Do not attempt to cross when the lights are green or amber (yellow).
- At traffic light crossings with push buttons, press the button and wait for the signal to cross.
- When it comes, cross with care while watching for approaching traffic.

### **III. THE CYCLIST**

A cyclist is a person that rides a bicycle, motorcycle or tricycle or other such vehicles.

A bicyclist is a person who rides a bicycle by pushing the pedals with his feet.

- Bicycles are considered vehicles and have the same right-of-way as motor vehicles.
- Bicyclists are also expected to obey the same traffic rules and regulations as vehicle drivers. Parents or Guardian should ensure that their children or wards do not ride bicycle on the "Highway".

### **Cycle care**

Ensure your cycle is in good condition before riding, paying attention to the brakes, tyres, lamps and rear reflectors.

### **Look Behind**

You should first glance behind before starting off, making turns or pulling up.

### **Turning**

Hold out your arm sideways. Left for left turn, right for right turn. Wait until it is safe, and then start turning. Move into position with your arm held out throughout. Give signal in good time. Exercise CAUTION, turn quickly.

### **Ride In A Single File**

Do not ride side by side with other cyclists. It is dangerous.

### **Safety While Riding:**

- Always hold on to the handlebar firmly and keep your feet on the pedals
- Do not hold on to another vehicle or another cyclist
- Do not carry a passenger unless your cycle has been built for that purpose
- Do not ride too close behind another vehicle
- Do not carry anything which may affect your balance
- Do not lead an animal
- Where there is a cycle path, you must use it

## **IV. THE MOTORCYCLIST**

A motorcyclist is a person that rides a two wheel vehicle, Motorcycle, Tricycle and Moped powered by an engine.

Approximately half of fatal motorcycle crashes involve motor vehicles because of motorists failure to see a motorcycle in traffic until it is too late

### **Extra Problems**

In addition to problems faced by motor vehicles, motorcyclists are faced with extra problems similar to those faced by pedestrians and bicyclists

- They are exposed. less stable, small in size and not easily seen by motorists.
- Motorists find it difficult to judge their distance and speed.

### **Before You Ride**

Ensure that your motorcycle is in good working condition, paying attention to the brakes, tyres, clutch and throttle, trafficators, mirrors, horn, headlamps and rear lights.

### **Riders Protection**

- Wear smart. bright coloured clothing.
- Avoid flowing and flimsy garments, and slippers as they are not particularly protective.
- Protect your head with safety helmet, thick gloves and riding boots properly fastened even on short trips, as it increases your chances of surviving a crash.

S.10(4)(II), FRSC Act, 2007

### **Body Position and Control**

- Sit comfortably on the motorcycle. Hold the handlebars firmly with both hands and keep your feet on the pedals, with your knees against the petrol tank for stability.
- I You and your motorcycle must move together as a unit by aligning with the motorcycle as you make turns.
- Do not weave or meander along the roads.

- Do not squeeze between vehicles.

### **Before Pulling Out**

- Glance behind, do not start off, make turns or pull up without first glancing behind to see that it is safe.
- Give clear signal and in good time, of your intention to pull out.

### **Overloading**

- Do not carry more than one passenger on your motorcycle.
- Never carry oversized objects or people with oversized objects.

S.1D(4)(t).(x) FRSC Act 2007

### **Turning**

- Check traffic on both ways. using your mirror and glancing over your shoulder before you reach your turn off.
- Signal your intention in good time, and as soon as it is safe, take up position to turn, especially when making a left turn, a Make sure your trafficator is on, all the time, plus hand signals if possible. before making a turn.
- Make sure your trafficator is on, all the time, plus hand signals if possible. before making a turn. S.1D(4)(f), FRSC Act 2007.
- Make your left turn when it is safe to do so.

### **Avoid Blind Areas**

- Avoid staying where motorists may not see you.
- Avoid that spot where you cannot make eye contact with the motorist. If you cannot see his eyes, he may not be able to see you.
- I At bends, blind intersections. emerging between vehicles or from side road, and at the brow of a hill. always position yourself in a manner that you can see approaching traffic and be seen.

### **Keep safe Distance**

You must not follow closely, or squeeze in between vehicles.

- Always apply the 'two seconds' rule and when necessary use common sense modifications; the three or four seconds rule.
- I Do not ride too close to the sides of other vehicles.
- Doors may be opened, extended mirrors may take a swipe, or a vehicle may swerve.

### **Approaching an Intersection**

Slow down at intersections. A vehicle coming from the other side may enter the space in front of you. Be ready to stop. **More motorcycle crashes mostly happen at intersections.** Be careful.

### **Riding in Convoy**

Ride in a single file

- I Keep within speed limits for safety. Leave at least "two seconds" gap between you and the next cyclist.
- Avoid the danger of being over-run or running over other road users.
- Being in a convoy demands alertness and concentration.
- Be focused and alert.

### **Speed Limit**

- Maximum speed limit for motorcycles in built up area is 50km/hr. Motorcycles under 50cc are not allowed on the highways and expressways.
- Remember! Though your motor bike may be more flexible to manoeuvre and may speed like motor cars, you are more vulnerable and unprotected in case of a crash.

3.] n(4)(p), FRSC Act 2007.

## **V. THE CHILD**

**Child safety:** Drivers and Cyclists are urged to be careful near schools, churches, mosques, markets, snack shops, Ice Cream Stalls, Parks, Fruit trees, or street hawkers, because children are usually found in such places.

### **What to do when travelling with children:**

**Child Seats:** This is a special safety seat for a child that is fitted into a car, Make sure that the child is correctly placed in a child safety seat. This reduces the possibility of an injury or death in the event of a crash.

Children between the ages of 0-12 months should not ride in the front of the vehicle. This is for their safety.

Where children of given age groups are however carried on the front seat, they should ride facing the rear using child restraint.

The child restraint should be attached, such that the child will face the rear of the seat.

- Children from ages 1 to 7 should ride facing the front of the car in a child seat, strapped properly to the back seat.
- Do not carry a child on your laps as he or she may be crushed between your body and the dash board if there is a crash.
- Do not allow children to play with the handle of the doors or locks, use child lock where available.
- Do not allow children to ride in the luggage area of hatchbacks, station wagons or vans.
- Do not leave a hatchback open when a child is riding in the back seat.
- It is against the law to transport children under age 16 at the back of a pickup van.
- Children from ages 7 and above should ride in a vehicle facing the front but securely restrained with safety belts.
- When transporting children. the elderly and physically challenged people, the driver must not be under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

### **What to do when walking with a child**

While walking. face oncoming vehicle; hold the child on your left such that you will be between the child and the vehicle.

**Motorists are to stop for or give way to pedestrians, crossing at a zebra crossing sign. Failure to obey attracts a penalty.**

### **Children of School Age**

- While crossing the road, children should use overhead/foot bridges where they are provided.
- While walking on the road, children should always face traffic.
- Children should always use the pavement where provided.
- Children should not play on the roads!
- While riding bicycle, children should use bicycle paths where provided or ride towards the kerb facing traffic where t a cycle path is not provided.
- Children should wear reflective clothes during dusk.

## **VI. ANIMAL**

- Animals in the vehicles should be kept under control.
- Ensure they cannot disturb you while driving, especially by keeping them at the back.

### **Leading an Animal**

- Do not let your pet animal out on its own.
- While leading an animal on a road that has no foot path, walk on the left hand side of the road, and keep it close to the edge of the road.

### **Horse Riding**

- When riding a horse, keep to the right side of the road.
- If you are riding a horse while leading another, you should still keep to the right and keep the led animal on your right side.

### **Herding Animals**

- When herding animals along or across the road and there is someone with you, send him along to warn drivers at such places like bends, brow of hills where motorists may not be able to see in good time.
- I Always lead herds of animals in the direction of traffic.

## **Section C: QUALIFYING FOR DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Driver's Licence:

A Driver's Licence is a legal document that confers on a driver the right to drive. Both the driver's licence and traffic offences are fully computerized to enable law enforcement agencies keep record of multiple offenders

### **I. OBTAINING LEARNER'S PERMIT**

- Obtain form MVA 15
- Pay prescribed fee
- Attend a driving school approved by FRSC
- You must obtain a pass from driving school with third issue learners permit
- Drive for at least 3 months accompanied by an Instructor who is a licensed driver
- Affix 'L' sign on the front and rear of the vehicle
- Tested by the appropriate authority after the third issue of the learners permit for a period not less than 3 months.

S.27, National Road Traffic Regulations, 2004.

### **II. CLASSES OF DRIVER'S LICENCE**

A. Motor cycle

B. Motor vehicle of less than 3 tonnes gross weight other than motor cycle, taxi, stage carriage or omnibus

C. A motor vehicle of less than 3 tonnes gross weight, other than motor cycle

D. Motor vehicle other than motor cycle, taxi, stage carriage or omnibus excluding an articulated vehicle or vehicle drawing a trailer.

E. Motor vehicle other than a motor cycle or articulated vehicle

F. Agricultural machines and tractors

G. Articulated vehicles

H. Earth moving vehicles

I. Special, for physically handicapped persons

### **III. HOW TO OBTAIN DRIVERS' LICENCE**

- Obtain and complete Form MVA 11 from Motor Licencing Authority (MLA).
- Attend driving test with the appropriate authority for desired category of driver's licence 11 Form
- If successful, a certificate would be issued indicating the class of licence qualified for
- Pay the prescribed fee to the Motor Licencing Authority (MLA).
- MLA sends the Form to FRSC (IPC) for processing
- Driver applicant proceeds to FRSC Information Processing Centre (IPC) for physical capture of photograph, finger print and signature.
- Processed licence is sent to MLA for distribution to successful applicants

- An experienced driver may in addition obtain trade test certificate Issues (3), (2) and (1) from the ministry of labour and productivity.
- The minimum age for driving is 18 years
- The terminal age for driving is 70 years

**Note:** Changing category of drivers' licence requires a new test

#### **IV. RENEWAL OF DRIVER'S LICENCE**

- Upon expiration of a drivers' licence, the holder returns to Licensing office to obtain and complete MVA 12
- Pays the prescribed fee to the MLA
- MLA sends the Form to FRSC (IPC) for processing
- Proceeds to FRSC Information Processing Centre (IPC) for physical capture of photograph, finger print and signature.
- Processed license is sent to MLA for distribution to successful applicants.

#### **V. REPLACEMENT OF DRIVERS LICENCE**

- Obtain a police extract, sworn affidavit and photocopy of lost licence and apply as stated above
- Proceed to MLA to obtain and complete Form MVA 12.
- Pay the prescribed fee to the MLA
- MLA sends the Form to FRSC (IPC) for processing
- Proceeds to FRSC Information Processing Centre (IPC) for physical capture of photograph, finger print and signature.
- Processed license is sent to MLA for distribution to successful applicants.

#### **VI. SUSPENSION/REVOCAION OF DRIVERS LICENCE**

- Upon conviction of a licenced driver by a court of law and depending on the nature and gravity of the offence, the driver may have his licence suspended or revoked.

S.33 National Road Traffic Regulations, 2004

**ENDORSEMENT:** Traffic offences carry penalty points against offender's licence in addition to the prescribed fine/prison term. These penalty points are cumulative. 21 cumulative points lead to an endorsement of the offender's licence. After five of such endorsements, a driver's licence stands suspended. Confiscation of licence can be between 3-6 months while revocation can be for life.

S.10(5)(c), FRSC Act, 2007

### **Section D: VEHICLE REGISTRATION**

#### **I. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:**

- Obtain and complete Form MVA01
- Pay the prescribed fee
- Submit certificate of payment or exemption from import duty by Customs and Excise
- Obtain valid insurance certificate
- Obtain road worthiness certificate in case of commercial vehicle

#### **II. VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION MARK (Number Plate)**

- Number plate is a vehicle identification mark. It is reflective to improve safety at night.
- The colour code is used to differentiate various categories of vehicles and the security water mark is meant to deter forgery.
- The first two and the last three digits are alphabets, the middle are three numerals. It is alpha-numeric.

- The last three alphabets represent the Local Government or Licensing Office where the vehicle is registered.

<b>Types</b>	<b>Background</b>	<b>Lettering</b>
Temporary	Black	White
Private	White	Blue
Commercial	White	Red
Government	White	Green
Armed Forces/Paramilitary	White	Black

### **Temporary Number Plate**

This is obtained whenever the original number plate is lost.

### **Procedure for Obtaining a Temporary Number Plate:**

- Apply to the licensing authority with a sworn court affidavit and a police report.
- In the course of processing the number plate, write the number on a black background with white lettering.
- There must be an evidence that the person is processing a new one.

### **Vehicle Identification Tag**

This is a sticker having the same alpha numeric number with the number plate. It is an added security device to prevent illegal transfer of number plate. It is affixed to the rear windscreen.

### **Proof of Ownership**

It is a certificate designed to provide ultimate proof of ownership of a vehicle. It is a product of information provided on form MVA01 used in vehicle registration.

### **Vehicle Licence**

Shows that the appropriate road tax has been paid. It is pre-formatted in categories (truck, car, bus etc.). It carries the description of vehicle like colour, engine and chassis number.

### **Road Worthiness Certificate**

Regular inspection of vehicles is required to ascertain their road worthiness. The successful vehicle is issued certificate which is affixed to the certified vehicle.

### **Road Worthiness Validity Tag**

A vehicle that passes road worthiness test is also issued a validity tag which is pasted on the screen of the vehicle to save time during road checks.

### **Special Number Plate**

- Obtain and complete Form MVA01
- Pay prescribed fee
- Obtain vehicle registration book
- Obtain current certificate of insurance
- Obtain road worthiness certificate

## **III. ROUTINE INSPECTION FOR ROAD WORTHINESS**

### **Vehicle Inspection Requirements**

- Present vehicle at VIO's office (Vehicle Inspection Officer's office)
- Pay the prescribed fee at MLA

**The test may be a road test, visual test or with computer.**

- The test shall focus on serviceability of the vehicle. the Chassis, Engine. Electrical parts, Transmission, Brake system and safety devices.
- Inspection for road worthiness certificate is carried out and validity tag affixed to certificated vehicle.
- It is repeated every 6 months for commercial vehicles and annually for other vehicles older than 4 years from the date of manufacture, except those of exempted bodies / organizations.

#### **IV. VEHICLE INSURANCE**

- **Third Party Motor Insurance:** This policy covers damage to third parties arising from auto crashes Here, only the third party is indemnified.
- **Fire and Theft Insurance:** This policy covers risks associated with damage to vehicle through fire and/or theft. Third party liability is also covered.
- **Comprehensive Insurance:** This is a policy covering risks on vehicles such as third party liability, fire. theft and in some cases, diminution in value of the vehicle.

**The more frequent you are involved in accident, the less the value of your vehicle. Do not obtain insurance policy from unauthorized source.**

#### **Section E: VEHICLE CHECKLIST**

Certain gadgets are expected to be carried in every vehicle at all times to meet the requirements of the law. These include: -

1. Warning triangle (c-caution)
2. Fire extinguisher
3. Jack
4. Spare tyre
5. First Aid kit
6. Wheel spanner
7. Water
8. Hydraulic
9. Transmission fluid
10. Torch light
11. Spare fan belt

**A. Warning Triangle:** To warn motorists that there is a break down.

**B. Fire Extinguisher:** There are two types of fire extinguishers: Dry powder-80F Liquid gas, which each vehicle is expected to carry with required number of units and sizes.

<b>VEHICLE</b>	<b>NO./REQUIRED</b>	<b>SIZE</b>
*Articulated	2 units	9 kg
*Lorries	2 units	6 kg
*Luxury buses	2 units	6 kg
*Medium buses	1 unit	2 kg
*Light goods Vans	1 unit	1 kg
*Taxis	1 unit	1 kg
*Cars	1 unit	1 kg

**C. First Aid Kits:** The basic knowledge of first aid is among the most useful skills you can have as a driver.

A First Aid kit should contain the following items:

- Pair of scissors
- Safety pins
- Iodine
- Cotton wool
- Handkerchiefs
- Plasters/dressing for wounds
- Splints
- Bandage
- Disposable gloves
- Razor blades
- Adhesive tapes
- Aspirin/ Paracetamol
- Antibiotic ointment
- Antiseptic
- Petroleum jelly
- Antibacterial Soap
- Latex gloves / Facial mask

**Note that some of these items are consumables therefore, there is need to constantly check and replenish them. Pay attention to items with expiring dates.**

**D. Spare tyre:** A vehicle must always have a spare tyre.

**Ensure that the pressure on all tyres including the spare is at maximum stability and road-holding. Under inflated tyres cause tyre burst and over inflated tyre wears rapidly at the centre of thread. This can cause damage to tyre casing**

**E. Jack:** the gadget enables you to change your tyre when you need to.

**F. Wheel spanner:** this is used along with the jack to unscrew wheel nuts and tighten them as the need arises.

## **Section F: BASIC VEHICLE SAFETY CHECK**

Vehicle parade refers to the basic checks that must be considered on a motor vehicle daily before it is put into use.

### **I. First "parade"**

WOFT: (For petrol engines)

W = Water: Check water level in the radiator

O = Oil: Check the level of engine oil in the sump using dip stick

F = Fan belt: Check fan belt for tension and cuts

T = Tyre: Check for cuts, punctures, depth of threading, pressure, alignment symptoms and wheel nuts

### **II. Second "Parade"**

#### **Lighting System:**

- Check head lamps, side lamps, signal indicators and reverse lights.

#### **Brakes and Clutches:**

- Check the hydraulic level

- Check effectiveness of the brakes; start the vehicle, drive off a little and step on the brake pedal to test the effectiveness
- Check the tightness and effectiveness of the brakes and clutches
- Change all the gears, one at a time, while pressing the clutch pedal

8.54 National Road Traffic Regulation, 2004

#### **Wipers:**

- Ensure that the wind screen wipers are functional
- Check the blades for effectiveness

8.63 National Road Traffic Regulation, 2004

#### **Steering Mechanism:**

- Check for clearance or 'free play'
- Check level of Automatic Transmission Fluid (ATF) for power steering only

8.60 National Road Traffic Regulation, 2004

#### **Horns:**

- Ensure that your horns are in good working condition
- Do not fit wrong horn on your vehicle

8.57 National Road Traffic Regulation, 2004

#### **Spare Tyre:**

- Check spare tyre for cut, puncture, thread and pressure
- Ensure that jack, jack handle and wheel spanner are in the vehicle

8.53 National Road Traffic Regulation, 2004

#### **Reflective Triangle:**

Ensure that a pair of reflective triangle is in the vehicle

#### **Fire Extinguisher**

Ensure that you have the correct type and size of fire extinguisher for your vehicle. A multipurpose fire extinguisher is preferable.

#### **Battery:**

Check level of electrolyte (battery liquid) and condition of battery terminals.

#### **Body Inspection:**

Walk round the vehicle to check for dents and loose parts.

### **III. Third Parade**

At the end of the day's activities:

- Check all items in the first and second parade
- Record appropriately in the log book

#### **Tyres**

Select the correct tyre and inner tube size and specifications for your vehicle and ensure that they are not defective.

Worn out tyres or tubes with multiple patches are very unsafe. The traffic officer or Marshal can stop or warn for defective tyres.

#### **Tyre Pressure**

Road traffic crash research has shown that tyre defect and "blow outs" constitute a high incidence factor.

Ensure that your tyres, including the spares are correctly inflated at all times in accordance with the recommended level for the tyre type.

Check the manuals of your vehicles and the size of the tyre for the correct pressure.

### **Under Inflation**

Contrary to what some drivers believe, under inflated tyres are bound to cause road crashes by sudden blow-out, peeling or tearing at the sides.

Do not under inflate your tyres hoping that they will inflate themselves as you drive along.

### **Section G: REQUIREMENTS FOR A TOURIST IN NIGERIA**

A Tourist is a person travelling or visiting a place for pleasure; when visiting Nigeria, ensure that:

- You are familiar with the Nigerian road network
- I You show evidence that you are permitted to import your vehicle temporarily (if any) into Nigeria. Such vehicle carries the number plate of its country of origin
- Ensure that the vehicle is road worthy and has the following:
  1. Vehicle licence
  2. Vehicle inspection tag
  3. Proof of ownership certificate
  4. Road worthiness certificate
  5. Road worthiness Validity Tag
  6. National vehicle identification and
  7. Any other relevant vehicle documents
- Such vehicle carry the number plate of the country of its origin affixed at the appropriate spaces at the front and rear of the vehicle
- Within 90 days of your stay in Nigeria, change the number plate to Nigerian number plate
- You have your country's international driving permit in addition to your country's normal driver's licence
- You seek and obtain permit to drive in Nigeria within 15 days of arrival
- Drive carefully and obey all rules and regulations

**Ignorance of the law is no excuse.**

**It is your responsibility to get yourself acquainted with the procedure guiding your stay, as well as the use of your vehicle while in Nigeria.**

Within 30 days of your stay, you must have obtained the appropriate Nigerian National Driver's Licence for the category of your vehicle.

If you are representing your company / organization, ensure that you have the details of your country's Embassy or Consulate and any agent your company / organization has in Nigeria.

This can be useful to you in case of emergencies.

### **Section H: SERVICES FOR PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED PERSONS**

- Road users who require special consideration as regards applications for driver's licence or testing must notify appropriate authorities of their disabilities
- A qualified doctor must certify the level of disability and suitability of the applicant to drive
- Ensure the reconstruction of the vehicle to suit their conditions
- Obtain appropriate physically challenged person's identification stickers to be affixed conspicuously on the front and rear wind screen of the vehicle
- Any of these disabilities (as the case may be) would be indicated on the holder's class J driver's licence so that other road users and law enforcement officers may take note

**The physically challenged persons are part of the society and they are also entitled to same privileges while using the road. However, they are not exempted from traffic rules and regulations**

It is illegal for disabled persons' identification sticker holder to engage in the following:

- Allow an able bodied individual to use his or her sticker unless they are transporting the disabled person
- Create or use a counterfeit of a disabled person identification sticker
- Use another person's car
- Make a false statement about a disability in order to obtain or assist someone else

### **Section I: CAUSES OF ROAD CRASHES**

Road crashes have resulted in more waste of lives and property than major communicable diseases and sundry ailments put together.

Research conducted on Road Traffic Crashes have shown that there are three major causes of these crashes, namely:

- Human Factor
- Mechanical Factor
- Environmental Facto

#### **I. Human Factor**

This constitutes about 90% of road traffic crashes. Out of this percentage, drivers' action or reaction makes up 80%.

Human factor can further be classified under the following:

##### **Drivers:**

- **Overconfidence:** Drivers often feel that they are masters of the vehicle and road.

However we all know that tyres, brakes and the engine control the motion of the vehicle. Drivers merely operate these controls.

Failure to ensure good working condition, as well as observing safe driving measures while on the road will result in road traffic crashes.

- **Speeding:** Drivers believe that the faster they drive, the more they impress themselves and others.

They however forget that anything can happen to the vehicle, such as tyre burst, brake failure, or pedestrian running across the road.

More disasters and casualties are recorded when vehicles travel at higher speed than what obtains at low speed.

At 100 Km/hr, a vehicle moves at 28 meters per second. Imagine where driver would be if this vehicle veers off the road for 1 second, bearing in mind that the road is usually 12 meters wide.

Drivers forget that they cannot control the road, weather conditions and the environment.

On-coming vehicles or vehicles being overtaken may do the unexpected, like swerving, stopping or trying to avoid pot holes. Furthermore, some of the roads have narrow bridges hidden around the corner.

- **Lack of Concentration:** Drivers often engage in things that distract their attention while driving.

Such things include discussions with passengers, answering phone calls, eating, gesticulating, changing radio station or cassette.

Lack of concentration is very dangerous as it takes only a moment for crashes to occur. The vehicle in front may stop abruptly or a child may run into the road suddenly; hence anything can happen.

Be alert, always anticipate danger.

- **Tiredness:** Some drivers drive long distances without even stretching their legs and improving their blood circulation to the brain. This makes the drivers feel tired and sleepy.

It is a frightening experience to be driven by a driver who sleeps while driving. Sudden awakening of the driver may result in a crash.

Again driving after a heavy meal can also be hazardous as the blood concentrates in the stomach to absorb the food, thus depriving the brain of oxygen which can cause the driver to fall asleep.

Over working also causes fatigue. Some articulated vehicle drivers work an average of 9 to 12 hours per day which is dangerous.

- **Driving under the influence of alcohol:** Alcohol can cause over confidence, poor judgement, lack of coordination and recklessness.

In many countries, it is a major cause of road traffic crashes. This is the reason why special tests are conducted to detect those who have been drinking prior to driving.

Numbers of Bottles	Percentage of Concentration of Blood	Behavior
1	0,01-0,02	Slight behavior
2	0,03-0,06	Feeling of warm and mental relaxation
3	0,07-0,09	Exaggerated emotion and behavior or noisy or gloomy
4	0,10-0,12	Clumsiness, unsteadiness in standing or working in uncoordinated movement
5	0,12-0,60	Gross intoxication

- **Driving under the influence of drugs:** Drugs can interfere with the ability to drive, Sometimes drugs that are prescribed by doctors have sedative (i.e, sleep inducing) effect on the driver. Coffee and kola nut are stimulants that tend to increase the alertness of drivers. Another stimulant popularly taken by these drivers is Indian hemp which is a street drug, and sometimes cocaine.

Such stimulants may work for some time and then tiredness and sleep come suddenly while driving, resulting to road traffic crashes.

Some drivers have been known to use chewing sticks to keep their mouths active, with the aim of staying awake. Remember, these drugs are no substitute for rest.

- **Poor vehicle care:** Drivers often do not check their vehicles to ensure that they are in good condition for the road before setting out on a journey.

Tyres, tyre pressure, brake fluids, trafficator and brake lights are often neglected, These lead to road traffic crashes.

- **Indiscriminate Parking:** Parking a vehicle in the middle of the road just to change a tyre or because of engine trouble is among the causes of road traffic crashes especially at night or around a sharp bend or close to the crest of a hill where the vehicle cannot be seen far off by other road users.

Some drivers of broken down vehicles do not give adequate warning signs to approaching vehicles and as such, others run into these vehicles.

In some cases hazardous obstacles placed on the road to warn or divert traffic, are left behind when the vehicles move on after repairs. This endangers other road users and may result in crashes.

S.10(3)(i) FRSC Act 2007

- **Dangerous overtaking:** This is responsible for about 45% of all crashes. Careless overtaking and poor judgement combine to cause road traffic crashes.

If in doubt about your judgement don't overtake.

S.10(4)(j) FRSC Act 2007

### **Passengers:**

- **Distraction:** Passengers contribute to road traffic crashes by engaging the driver in discussions and arguments.

Sometimes the passengers show the driver interesting things inside and outside the vehicle. These distract drivers from total concentration.

8.50 National Road Traffic Regulations. 2004

- **Non-chalant Attitude:** Passengers board buses, taxis and private vehicles without even taking a look at the tyres to see if they are worn out.

They often encourage speeding, reckless driving, overtaking at corners and other dangerous practices by either cheering on the driver or keeping quiet.

You can report this to the driver's employer or to the first traffic authorities you encounter on the road, or demand to be set down at the next convenient spot if the driver persists on driving recklessly, before he drives you to death.

**Remember, crashes claim the lives of more passengers than drivers. On the average, eight passengers are killed along with only one driver.**

**S.10(3)(i) FRSC Act 2007**

- **Pedestrians:** Pedestrians contribute to road traffic crashes by not observing road traffic rules and regulations.

Some pedestrians walk or run across the road without looking and ensuring the road is safe to do so, while others do not wear reflexive dresses or clothes at night so that drivers could easily see them.

These behaviours contribute to road traffic crashes.

## **II. Mechanical Factor**

Irregular and poor maintenance of vehicle can lead to crashes which may manifest while the vehicle is in motion. This constitutes about 10% of road crashes.

Such irregular maintenance may lead to stoppage of the vehicle, or development of other faults that affect the control of the vehicle, especially when the vehicle is on high speed.

These could lead to crashes. The choice of preventive servicing and routine maintenance is between the road mechanics and approved motor dealers.

The road side mechanics are the most popular because they attend to the problem immediately and are less expensive. However, they may cause more dangers to the vehicles due to lack of adequate knowledge and equipment.

In essence, crashes due to mechanical factors have to do with malfunction of the vehicle which eventually leads to loss of control of the vehicle and invariably to road traffic crashes.

Factors contributing to this include the following: -

- Malfunction of engine
- Poor steering mechanism
- Tyre burst
- Brake failure
- Failed wipers during rainy season
- Spilled oil leading to crashes
- Exhaust fumes or smokes leading to temporary road blindness
- Faulty security gadgets
- Defective lighting system
- Defective horn
- Faulty wheel balancing and alignment
- Absence of rear mirror
- Leaking fuel that may result to fire outbreak
- Lack of reflective triangle

- Incompetent wheel nuts
- Electrical fault
- Inconsistency in vehicle load design
- Lack of seatbelt

### **III. Environmental Factor**

It is believed that bad road causes more crashes than good road. However, it has been observed that with the construction of new roads, crashes are known to be on the increase.

Other elements constituting environmental factor include: -

- Improperly placed or absence of road signs
- Pot holes on our roads
- Bad roads (Narrow, rough, dusty and winding roads)
- Heavy rain
- Harmanan Haze
- Hot sun on roads in desert/savannah area
- Absence of road markings
- Collapsed bridges
- Slippery surface; (oil spill on the road)
- Fallen trees on the road
- River overflow

## **Part Two - Road Use Activities:**

### **Section A: HOW TO DRIVE SAFELY**

### **Section B: ROAD SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND MARKINGS**

### **Section C: LANE DISCIPLINE**

### **Section D: DRIVING UNDER SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

### **Section E: DEFFENSIVE DRIVING**

### **Section F; DRIVING HOURS**

## **Section A: HOW TO DRIVE SAFELY**

Driving is a profession that requires total concentration Every driver should know the basic rules and regulations of driving This is necessary in order to ensure good driving culture.

### **I. BEFORE TAKEOFF:**

- Ensure that the gear is in a neutral position
- Ensure that all the mirrors are functional
- Turn on the ignition key to observe the fuel level and other electrical appliances
- Start the vehicle and allow it to steam for few minutes

### **II. DURING TAKEOFF:**

- Observe the mirror and ensure that the road is clear
- Use the left leg to press the clutch
- Engage the gear in gear one
- Gently release the left leg from the clutch while simultaneously using the right leg to press the throttle
- Observe that the vehicle is moving forward gradually
- Manoeuvre the steering on to the road
- Keep your eye on to the road while the vehicle moves on
- Be ready to change the gear to the next as soon as the sound of the vehicle becomes high
- Vehicles with automatic gear do not need this change
- Subsequent change of gear will depend on the sound of the vehicle and it will go on progressively from gear one to the last gear
- Be ready to go back to a lower gear when the vehicle slows down

Note: The reverse gear is used only when the vehicle is reversing

### **III. BRAKING:**

Never get too close to the vehicle in front. When it is safe to slow down, brake smoothly and in a controlled manner.

Sudden braking could result in loss of control. Always try to brake gently and in plenty of time.

### **IV. REVERSING:**

Before you reverse, make sure that there are no pedestrians particularly children or physically challenged persons or physical obstructions on the road behind you.

Be especially careful about the "blind area" behind you that is, that part of the road you cannot see from the driving seat either through the mirror or by looking backwards.

#### **Do not reverse**

If you cannot see clearly behind, get someone to guide you when you reverse. Otherwise don't. NEVER reverse from a side road into a major road.

#### **While reversing**

Persons reversing are liable for any obstruction or accident, which they might cause.

At night, always put your headlight off while reversing. Ensure that your reverse light is working, you may switch on your HAZARD lights.

### **Turning round**

In the course of driving, motorists may need to change the course of their direction. This can be achieved by making U-turns or the "three-point turn" in areas where they are permitted.

Generally, you may turn around only in areas where traffic is low such as parking garages, side roads, petrol stations, private driveways and in designated areas.

## **V. U-TURNS**

You may make U-turns, unless road traffic signals indicate otherwise, at controlled intersections when you are given right of way to turn left.

Note: Whenever you have cause to turn round, it is safer to keep moving forward, turn left or right at a suitable place and reenter the desired traffic.

### **Do not make U-turn**

You must not make U-turns at or near the following places

1. Crest or brow of a hill
2. Bends or corners
3. Where a NO U-TURN SIGN is pasted
4. Busy streets, highways or expressways
5. Any place where other drivers cannot see your vehicle from at least 120 meters

REMEMBER: Do not make U-Turn anywhere it is unsafe to do so

### Three-point turn

The three point turn (four-step manoeuvres) is mandatory for U-turn on any narrow road where this is permitted.

The steps are shown below: -

Step 1: Move to the extreme right edge of the road and stop. Turn your wheels fully to the left.

Step 2: Check traffic from behind and front When it is safe, signal left, and then move out to take a full turn to the left towards the opposite side. Remember the **LOOK, SIGNAL, MOVE** routine.

Step 3: Look out for traffic again and turn your wheels to the maximum right, if it is safe, signal right, and then reverse, keeping as close as you can to the right edge of the road.

If it is necessary you must give priority to traffic, and then reverse.

Step 4: Check traffic again Do not forget, you must give priority if it is necessary Turn your wheels properly, then reenter traffic in the opposite direction.

Note: You must allow enough time for approaching traffic and give due consideration to other road users.

## **VI. PARKING**

Before parking, check your mirror and look out for other road users Signal to show your intention to stop.

Remember the Look-Signal-Move routine. Stop as close as you can to the edge of the road.

Before leaving your vehicle. switch off the engine and make sure your parking brake is on. Always lock your vehicle.

Do not expose valuables in your vehicles. Where safety or anti-theft devices are installed, use them. Remember to switch off your headlamps at night.

### **Where not to park**

You must not park wherever you see NO PARKING sign. You must not park wherever your vehicle will obstruct the views of other road users or constitute danger to them, for instance at or near:

- Road junction
- Bends or corners
- Brow or crest of a hill

- Narrow bridge
- Level crossing
- Bus stop
- Pedestrians crossing, or on either side of a crossing
- School entrance or other entrances
- Footpath, pavement or cycle path
- The left hand side of the road at night (except in a one-way street)

### **Do not block view of traffic signs**

You should not park your vehicle in such a manner as to stop traffic flow or cause any inconvenience to others.

Do not park:

- On a narrow road
- On flyovers, in tunnels or in underpasses (unless there are signs to say you may park there)
- On expressways (except on the hard shoulder in an emergency)
- On a single track road or in a passing place on such a road
- Outside a private entrance for vehicles

### **Emergency Entrance Exit**

Do not park your vehicle to block or within 15 meters of entrances through which emergency vehicles go in and out, that is, near the entrance of:

- Hospitals
- Roadside clinics
- Road Safety Stations
- Fire Stations
- Fire hydrants
- Police stations
- Market

### **Avoid Obstruction**

Do not park where you would make the road narrow:

- Opposite traffic island
- Alongside another parked vehicle
- Opposite another vehicle if this would narrow the road to less than the width of two vehicles (double parking)
- Near road works

Note: Make sure you always park your vehicle safely. Walk a few more meters rather than cause an accident.

### **Parking on a slope**

In order to avoid your vehicle rolling down the slope or being forced down in the event of a collision, always apply your hand brake or the parking brake and follow the simple parking guidelines set below:

#### **Road with kerbs**

If you are facing UPHILL on a road with a kerb to your right, turn your wheels as much as possible to the left. The kerb will prevent your vehicle from rolling backwards.

If you are facing DOWNHILL, turn your wheels fully to the right so that in event of rolling forward, the kerb will prevent your vehicle from rolling into traffic.

#### **Road without kerbs**

Whichever direction you are facing, uphill or downhill, turn your wheels as far as possible to the near edge of the road.

Note: Parking the vehicle with the position in a non-neutral gear may assist in extreme cases; it is not usually recommended as a practice.

### **Parking between vehicles**

This manoeuvre is a mandatory test of your driving competence, before you even obtain a driver's licence, The usual method is to reverse into available space.

### **Other parking rules**

Leave enough room for your vehicle to move out from where you are parked and leave enough room for other vehicles to move out.

You must park within half a meter from the edge of the road but not on the edge or walkway.

Do not open the door on the traffic side as it may interfere with traffic flow.

## **VII. ROAD JUNCTIONS**

### **Do not block-junction**

- Always approach a junction with great care and be ready to stop.
- Before crossing or turning, look left then right, then left again. Do not proceed until you are sure it is safe and that you will not block the road.

Restrict yourself to signalling your own intention. Do not relay signals to other drivers. Leave that to authorized officers.

### **Check road markings**

A junction with double broken white lines across the road may also have a GIVE WAY sign. You must slow down and be ready to stop to let traffic on the major road go by first.

### **Stop**

The STOP sign is an eight sided polygon formerly known as octagon. You must make a complete stop at a junction with a 'STOP' sign. and go slowly to a point with maximum visibility, then check traffic on both sides before proceeding.

### **Crossing a dual carriageway**

When crossing a dual carriageway, treat each half as a separate road. You may wait at the central dividing strip (the central reserve) until there is a safe gap in the traffic on the second half of the road.

### **Junction controlled by Officers**

When traffic ahead is held up, do not assume it is safe to filter right unless the traffic officer signals you to do so. He may be moving other traffic into that line.

### **Traffic lights at junctions**

- Although green light means you may go, do not go forward if other vehicles are held up at the junction, as you will only contribute to traffic jam.
- When the red and amber lights are showing together you must stop. Make sure you stop at a distance to see the lights before the double lines across the road.

### **Always stay behind the stop lines at traffic lights controlled junctions**

### **Junction with green arrow filter signal**

When traffic lights have a green filter arrow signal, do not get into the lane of the direction of the filter. unless you want to go in that direction, otherwise, you deny others their right of way.

### **Turning Left**

- Before you turn left, use your mirror to make sure you know the position and movement of traffic behind you.
- When it is safe, give a left-turn signal, take up position just left of the middle of the road, or in the space marked for left turning traffic.
- Leave room for other vehicles to pass on the right. Stay parallel to the lane until you can wheel left.
- Do not position your vehicle in a half turn, it obstructs other vehicles.
- Wait until there is safe.

### **Turning left at dual carriageway**

When turning left from a dual carriageway. or when joining in from a side road and then turning left, wait in the opening in the central reserve until there is a safe gap in the traffic in the second half of the road.

## **Turning Right**

Wait before you turn right. use your mirror and give a right turn signal Do not swing out to the left before or after the turn.

## **VIII. OVERTAKING RULES**

Do not overtake unless you are sure it is safe for you and other road users.

Before you start to overtake make sure that the road is clear ahead and behind. Look out properly.

Use your mirrors and glance behind you to see the blind spots. You must signal before you start to move out.

Be particularly careful at dusty and in misty environment or bad weather when it is more difficult to judge speed and distance.

**REMEMBER: the LOOK-SIGNAL-LOOK again and MOVE routine ("LSLM").**

### **Clear View**

On fast roads, vehicles may be coming up behind much more quickly than you think.

Make sure that the lane you will be going into is clear for a good distance behind and in front of you.

### **Cutting in**

Once you have started to overtake, move past the vehicle you are overtaking as quickly as possible. and leave it plenty of room.

Then move back to the right side of the road as soon as you can, but without cutting in.

Do not accelerate against the rear of the vehicle in front, or out to the left at the last moment. The vehicle in front of you may have cause to slow down abruptly. Always move out from a safe distance.

### **On the right**

Overtake only on the left except:

1. When the driver in front has signaled that he intends to turn left and you can overtake him on the right. Watch out in case the driver in front abruptly changes his mind or has wrongly left his signal on.
2. When you want to turn to the right at a junction and have signaled to do so.
3. When traffic is moving slowly in queues and vehicles in the left lane are moving slower than you are.
4. In a one-way street as vehicles may pass on either side.

### **On Being Overtaken**

Do not accelerate when you are overtaken Slow down if necessary to help and let the overtaking vehicle pass.

### **Parked Vehicles**

On an ordinary two-lane road, give way to vehicles coming towards you before you overtake parked vehicles or other obstructions on your right side of the road.

Sometimes, two vehicles are nearly double parked (an illegal act in itself), or other impediments such as road work, potholes, or mounds of garbage obstruct both sides of the road.

Drivers approaching such obstacles are usually unable to determine which of them should give way to the other.

The general rule is that the vehicle further from the stationary object should slow down or stop to allow the nearer vehicle to go first.

Common sense however should compel both drivers to show adequate caution and consideration for each other. to avoid collision.

Never compete for speed supremacy with other motorists; do not gamble with your life and life of others in traffic; it is sure to end in a crash.

### **Do Not Overtake**

Do not overtake at or when coming to:

- A pedestrian crossing, a bus station, a road junction, a corner or bend, a narrow bridge and where the road narrows.
- A level crossing; the crest of a hill, when to do so would force another vehicle to swerve or brake suddenly.
- If you would have to cross double solid white lines.
- If the solid line of the centre lines is nearer you.
- When you see a 'NO OVERTAKING' sign

**Overtaking Guides:**

- Is it safe?
- Is it legal?
- Is it Necessary?

**If in Doubt, Do Not Overtake.**

**IX. SPEED LIMITS ON DIFFERENT ROADS AND FOR DIFFERENT VEHICLES**

**Speed Limits:** This can be described as the pace of a moving vehicle at a given time frame, according to laid down traffic laws. It is a maximum legal speed a driver can travel on a road under ideal conditions.

Speed limits differ in application, depending on the types of roads, vehicles and the environment. The sign below indicates speed limits according to place and road condition.

**These speed limits require the driver to adhere strictly to the speed indicated because of the condition of the road, and the nature of the place.**

**Speed Limits for Different Vehicles**

Different vehicles are required by law to keep within specified speed limits.

For example, in Nigeria the law imposes maximum limit of 100 Km/hr for cars on any highway in Nigeria.

Taxis and Buses are expected to maintain 50Km/hr within built up areas like streets in towns, villages and cities.

Articulated vehicles like tankers and trailers re expected to maintain a maximum speed limit of 50Km/hr on highways and 60Km/hr on expressways respectively as shown below: -

**SPEED LIMITS FOR VEHICLES IN km/hr**

<b>TYPES OF VEHICLES</b>	<b>BUILD-UP</b>	<b>HIGHWAY</b>	<b>EXPRESSWAY</b>
MOTORCYCLES	50	50	-
PRIVATE CARS	50	80	100
TAXIS & BUSES	50	80	90
TANKERS & TRAILERS	45	50	60
TOW VEHICLE (WHILE TOWING)	45	45	45
TOW VEHICLE (WHILE NOT TOWING)	50	60	70

**Speed Limit Regulations**

Common sense often dictates lower speed limits. Common sense speed should be lower when the weather is bad or the roads are defective.

Speed monitors are installed in some vehicles to regulate speed and some roads are specially built with speed cameras to make or force motorists to drive at a required speed limit.

Ignorance is no excuse in law. obey speed regulations and avoid conviction.

**X. EXPRESSWAY DRIVING**

The term expressway means any specially assigned and restricted highway divided with un-reversible barriers with traffic in opposite directions completely separated from each other. Traffic in one direction may be in two or more lanes.

### **Special distinction**

Expressways are designed for traffic movement with minimum interruption but are certainly not speed tracks.

Violators stand the risk of being prosecuted according to the National Road Traffic Regulations.

### **Restrictions**

Expressways are subject to very stern restrictions as given below;

- No animals
- No pedestrians or hawkers
- No pedal cycles
- No motorized cycles with capacity below certain specified capacity, except where tracks are provided, or special concessions have been given specially for motorcycles.
- No learner drivers
- No stopping
- No loading or unloading

Other restrictions on expressways relate to minimum and maximum speed limits and other regulations which are clearly posted on road signs. Always watch out for these.

### **Before Entering the Expressway**

Make sure your vehicle is fit to cruise at a safe speed, has correct tyre pressure, and enough fuel; oil and water to take you to the next service area.

### **Expressway**

When you join the expressway other than at its start, you will approach from a road on the right (a slip road).

Give way to traffic already on the highway, and then accelerate in the extra lane (the acceleration lane) so that when you join the inside lane, you are already travelling at the same speed as the traffic on it.

You should not exceed the prescribed speed limit for that highway.

### **Interchanges**

Because of the nature and restrictions on the expressway, there are stipulated ways in which you may join or leave the expressway.

Special intersections called interchanges are designed to enable you cross, enter or leave the expressway without interfering with other vehicles.

The four common types of interchanges are the CLOVERLEAF, DIAMOND, TRUMPET and DIRECTIONAL, see part one section A.

### **Driving on the expressway**

1. **Concentrate.** Traffic travels faster on expressways than on ordinary roads, and you will need to fathom up traffic situations quickly. Use your mirrors, and concentrate always. Watch out for vehicles entering the expressway.
2. **Keep your distance.** Do not get too close to the vehicle in front. Remember the "two-second-rule".
3. **Maintain a Steady Speed.** Do not move in jerks. There are both minimum and maximum speed limits on the expressway. Apply the common sense speed limits and the limitations of your vehicle.
4. **Avoid Lane Hopping.** Stay in one lane unless when overtaking. If you have to overtake, do so smoothly and do not hop. Overtake only from the left. Remember the LOOK-SIGNAL-MOVE routine. Be sure to check blind spots.
5. **Never Reverse on the Expressway.** Under no circumstance should you reverse on the expressway. If you miss your exit, go to the next one.

6. **No Stopping.** Do not wait or stop on the expressway. If you have to stop, pull out to the hard shoulder and post a suitable and safe signal. Do not leave your parking lights on to prevent other vehicles from running into you. You may put on your HAZARD LIGHTS.
7. **Stop! If Sleepy.** Driving for long distances may make you feel sleepy. To help prevent this, make sure there is plenty of fresh air in your vehicle. Stop at a service area, or turn off at an exit, and walk around for a while. Get off the highway. Take a nap if necessary. Avoid the monotony of the expressway which may hypnotise you into a fatal error. Avoid fatigue or the effect of drugs. If you are in any doubt or feel unfit, STOP driving immediately.
8. **Leaving the Expressway.** If you are not going to leave at the end of the expressway, you will leave by a slip road on your right. Watch for signs letting you know you are getting near your turnoff point, give a right turn signal, get into the extra lane (the deceleration lane) in order to slow down before you join the slip road.

### Missing Your Exit

If you miss your exit point, YOU MUST CARRY ON UNTIL YOU REACH THE NEXT ONE, do not reverse or turn back.

### As You Leave the Expressway

When you leave an expressway, remember to alter your driving to suit the different conditions on the other roads.

Your speed will be higher than you think - a speed of 30km/hr MAV FEEL like 50km/hr. So be sure to check your speedometer. Observe the posted speed limit signs.

## XI. FOLLOWING AND STOPPING DISTANCE

### Stopping distance

Never get too close to the vehicle in front. Leave enough space between you and the vehicle in front so that you can stop safely if the vehicle in front slows down or stops suddenly.

The safe rule is never to get closer than the overall stopping distance as shown in the table below. On wet roads the gap should be much more. Slow down if an overtaking vehicle fills the gap in front of you.

**Stopping Distance**

<b>Speed</b>	<b>Thinking distance</b>	<b>Braking distance</b>	<b>Overall stopping distance</b>
(Km/h)	(Metre)	(Metre)	(Metre)
20	5	5	10
40	10	12	22
60	16	30	46
80	22	50	72
100	27	65	92

**NOTE:** Stopping distance increases greatly with wet and slippery road, poor brake, bad tyres and tired drivers with low speed reacting time (Distance given above are approximate).

### A Simple Way to Keep Safe Distance

To provide a safe distance between your vehicle and the one ahead of you, you should always apply the following simple rule known as the "TWO SECOND RULE".

### Two Second Rule

Choose a stationary object in front of the vehicle ahead of you near or above the road, like a road sign, tree or overpass, any convenient object will do. As the vehicle ahead passes it recite slowly: "**Staying too close or trailing for safety**". If you reach the same object before you finish reciting, you are following too closely. Slow down and let the vehicle move further away ahead of you.

Some wise drivers actually prefer the "three second rule" and they add: -

**"Playing it Safe"**. When weather conditions are bad, you are strongly urged to add the extra jingle: -

**"Safer and Sane"**. For extra distance, that is, adopt the "four- second rule". Memorize these simple jingles. Try it out.

**NOTE:**

1. It takes approximately two seconds to recite any three word phrase. It is unsafe to select very short words.
2. The safe gap between your vehicle and the one in front depends on the relative speed between the two vehicles.

**Beware of Heavier Vehicles**

It is obvious that smaller vehicles stand greater risks on collision with larger vehicles such as articulated Lorries (or "trailers"), tankers, "luxury buses" and other heavier trucks and vans.

You must know that heavier vehicles are more difficult to control and their ability to stop or manoeuvre is greatly hampered by weight of load conveyed.

**Avoid the "No Contest" Encounter**

You are urged to note the large weight differential or disparity between cars and heavy trucks and buses.

A typical laden 'trailer' weighs 30 to 40 metric tonnes and a fully loaded 'luxury bus' weighs some 10 to 20 metric tonnes with full load.

It is a scientific fact that when it comes to a collision, a "trailer" for instance, travelling at a speed of 50km per hour has the same destructive effect as a Peugeot Saloon car travelling at 250km/hr.

No wonder the smaller vehicle usually gets shredded and its driver and passengers mangled on impact when collision occurs.

**Section B: ROAD SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND MARKINGS**

A thorough knowledge of traffic signs, signals, roads and pavement markings is compulsory for all drivers.

Road signs and markings together with signals by authorized traffic officers are to ensure a smooth and safe traffic flow.

You must know them and be able to recognize them immediately. In the case of signs, signals and markings, you must obey them without hesitation.

**The Signs**

Traffic signs tell you about traffic regulations, special hazards and other road conditions, construction areas speed limits, etc.

You should not only be familiar with each of the signs, you should recognize the special shapes and colours.

Their shapes are: -

**Regulatory Signs** are mostly circular in shape and are of two types. Those with red & yellow circles are **PROHIBITIVE SIGNS**.

Those with blue circles but no red border are **MANDATORY SIGNS**. They give positive instructions, and are regulatory signs.

**Informative signs.**

They are usually rectangular in shape and provide guidance information.

The stop Sign is a prohibitive sign. It is the only sided traffic sign. It means come to a complete stop before entering. Proceed when it is safe to do so.

Warning Signs are usually triangular in shape, with red perimeter.

The only one warning sign with inverted triangle means YIELD or GIVE Way.

**I. I. REGULATORY SIGNS (Prohibitory)**



STOP AT INTERSECTION



STOP POLICE



NO LEFT TURN



NO RIGHT TURN



NO "U" TURN



OVERTAKING PROHIBITED

SUPPLEMENTED WITH ROAD MARKING INCLUDING 'NO CHANGE LANE'

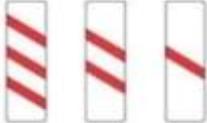
 <p>NO ENTRY FOR VEHICLES HAVING AXLE LOAD EXCEEDING 8 METRIC TONNES</p>	 <p>NO ENTRY FOR VEHICLES HAVING OVERALL WIDTH EXCEEDING 2M</p>	 <p>NO ENTRY FOR LORRIES</p>	 <p>NO HORN</p>
--	---	---	---

 <p>SPEED LIMIT (MAXIMUM)</p>	 <p>DERESTRICTION SIGN</p>	 <p>CLOSE TO ALL VEHICLES IN BOTH DIRECTIONS</p>	 <p>NO ENTRY TO PEDAL CYCLES</p>
--	---	--	---

 <p><b>NO ENTRY FOR ALL VEHICLES</b></p>	 <p><b>NO ENTRY FOR VEHICLES HAVING OVERALL HEIGHT EXCEEDING 3.5M</b></p>	 <p><b>NO ENTRY FOR VEHICLES EXCEEDING 12 METRIC TONNES LADEN LOAD</b></p>	 <p><b>STOP CUSTOMS INSCRIPTION VARIED TO SUIT OTHER OBLIGATIONS TO STOP</b></p>
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 <p><b>PARKING PROHIBITED 8.30AM TO 5.30PM</b></p>	 <p><b>NO STOPPING</b></p>	 <p><b>LITTER PROHIBITED</b></p>
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**II. WARNING SIGNS**

 <p><b>A RAILWAY LEVEL CROSSING WITH GATE</b></p>	 <p><b>RAILWAY LEVEL CROSSING WITHOUT GATE</b></p>	 <p><b>SUPPLEMENTARY INTERMEDIATE LEVEL CROSSING SIGNS OR COUNTDOWN SIGN</b></p>	 <p><b>GENERAL DANGER SIGN</b></p>
--	---	--	---

 <p><b>"Y" JUNCTION</b></p>	 <p><b>CARRIAGEWAY NARROWS</b></p>	 <p><b>CARRIAGEWAY WIDENS</b></p>	 <p><b>NARROW BRIDGE</b></p>
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DANGEROUS  
DOUBLE BEND  
(FIRST TO LEFT)



PEDESTRIAN  
CROSSING



CHILDREN  
CROSSING



BEWARE OF  
ANIMALS



ROAD WORK



BLIND PEOPLE  
DRIVE  
CAREFULLY



GIVE WAY TO  
THE TRAFFIC ON  
THE RIGHT OR  
GIVE WAY TO  
TRAFFIC ON THE  
LEFT



CROSS-ROAD



"T" JUNCTION



"T" JUNCTION



"T" JUNCTION



"Y" JUNCTION



"Y" JUNCTION



LONG GRADE  
DANGEROUS HILL



DANGEROUS  
BEND RIGHT



DANGEROUS  
BEND LEFT



DANGEROUS  
DOUBLE BEND  
(FIRST TO RIGHT)



ROUNDBOUT



SLIPPERY  
SURFACE



FERRY

			
FALLING ROCKS	UNEVEN ROAD	LOOSE CHIPPINGS	

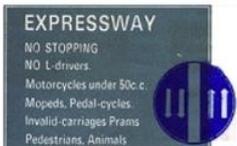
**III. REGULATORY SIGNS (Mandatory)**

			
DIRECTION TO BE FOLLOWED	DIVERSION	ONE WAY	ROUNDBOUT

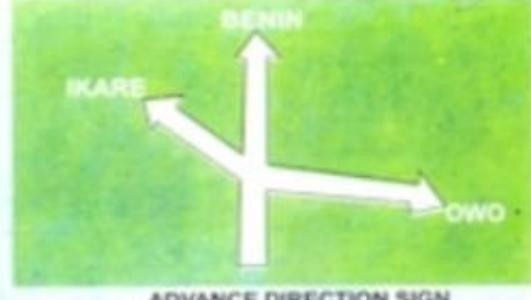
			
COMPULSORY CYCLE TRACK	PEDESTRIAN TRACK	DIVIDED 2-LANES 2-WAY AHEAD	2-LANE-2 WAY AHEAD

			
4-LANES UNDIVIDED 2-WAY AHEAD	PRIORITY TO APPROACHING VEHICLE	TWO WAY	TWO WAY

			
KEEP RIGHT	END DIVERSION	PASS EITHER SIDE	PEDESTRIAN TRACK

 <p><b>SPEED LIMIT (MINIMUM)</b></p>	 <p><b>DIVIDED 4-LANES 2-WAY AHEAD</b></p>	 <p><b>SIGN FOR TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL</b></p>	 <p><b>EXPRESSWAY</b> NO STOPPING NO L-drivers Motorcycles under 50cc Mopeds, Pedal-cycles Invalid-carriages Prams Pedestrians, Animals</p>
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**IV. INFORMATION SIGNS**

 <p><b>PARKING</b></p>	 <p><b>HOSPITAL</b></p>	 <p><b>FIRST AID STATION</b></p>	 <p><b>MECHANICAL HELP</b></p>
 <p><b>TELEPHONE</b></p>	 <p><b>FILLING STATION</b></p>	 <p><b>ADVANCE DIRECTION SIGN</b></p>	



**V. TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNS**



Vehicles on the right move on



Vehicles on the left move on



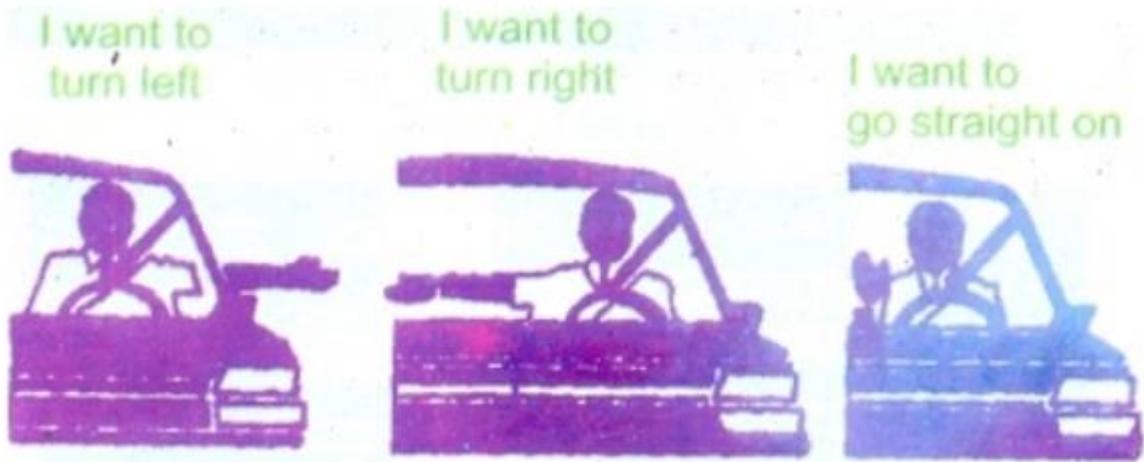
Vehicles on the right and left stop



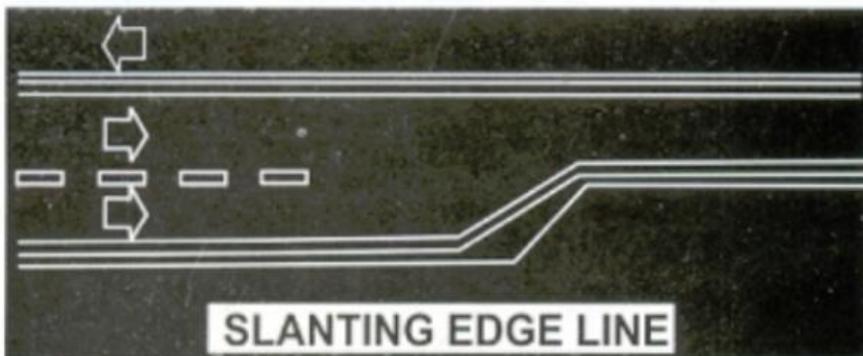
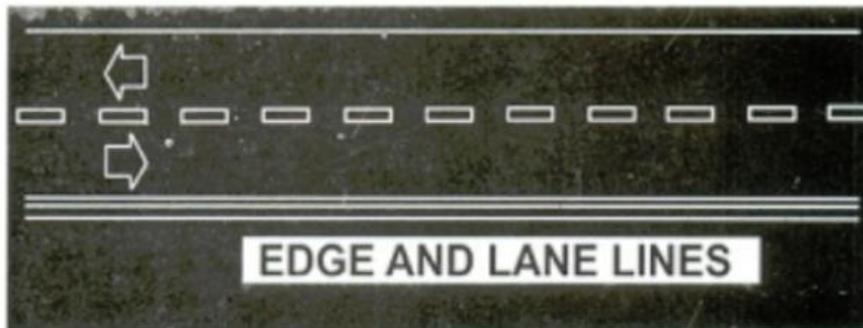
Vehicles in front stop

## VI. HANDS SIGNALS





## VII. ROAD MARKINGS



## Across the carriageway



WARNING GIVE WAY SIGN



GIVE WAY TO TRAFFIC ON ROUNDABOUT



GIVE WAY TO TRAFFIC ON MAJOR ROAD



STOP LINE AT SIGNALS OF POLICE CONTROL



STOP LINE AT STOP SIGN

## Along the carriageway



NO CROSSING



NO CROSSING SOLID LINE IF NEARER TO DRIVER THAN BROKEN LINE



DO NOT ENTER MARKED AREA



LANE LINE



CENTRE LINE



WARNING LINE



ZEBRA CROSSING

Edge marking at



JUNCTIONS WITH GIVE WAY LINES



OTHER JUNCTIONS AND LAY-BYS



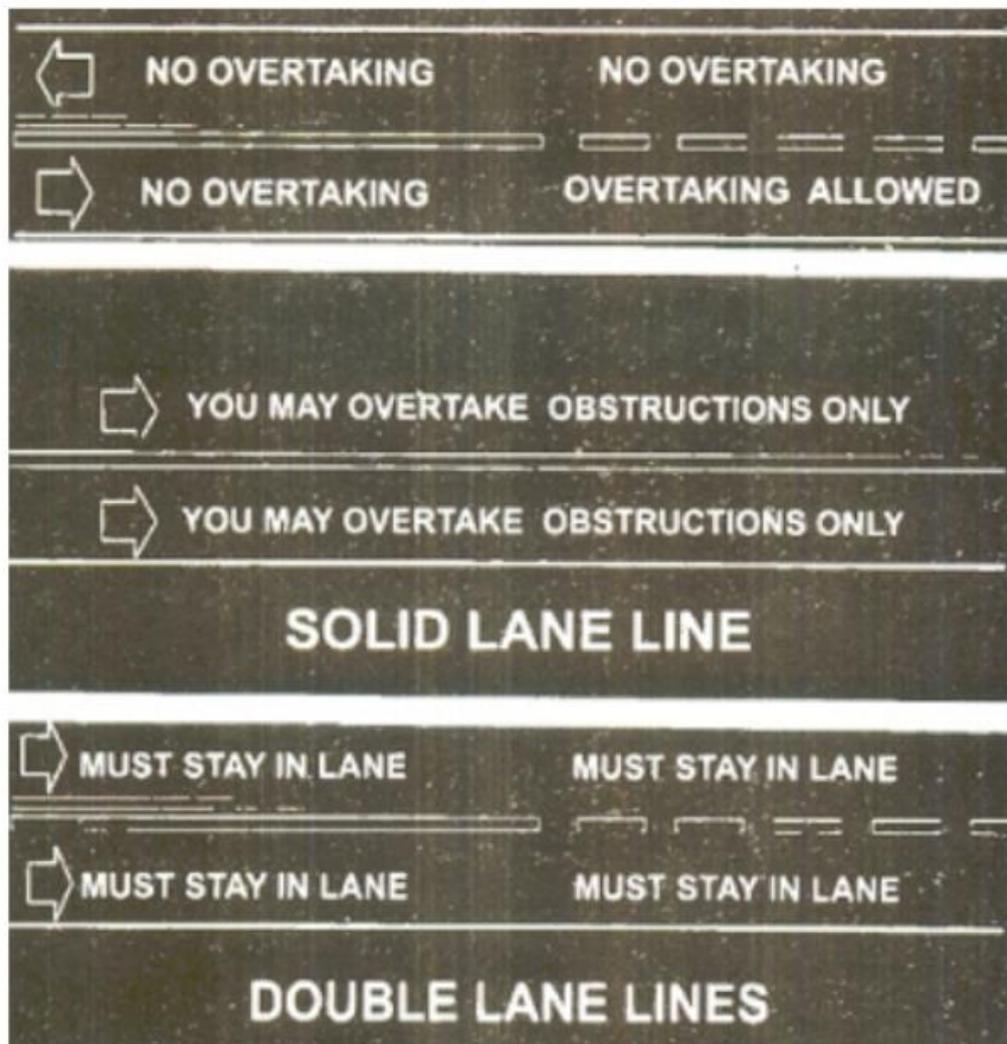
BENDS AND OTHER HAZARDS



ELSEWHERE



SCHOOL ENTRANCE  
HOSPITAL ENTRANCE  
KEEP ENTRANCE CLEAR OF STATIONARY VEHICLES



## Road Markings

Lines and symbols on the road are meant to show the alignment of the roads. Ideally these are reflective so that you may clearly and safely follow the roads even at night.

Road markings also indicate the number of lanes on the road, where you may overtake other vehicles, which lane to use for turning, and where you must stop for signs or other traffic signals. Road markings are basically of four major types: center lines, edge lines, cross walks and pavement messages.

### Centre Lines

These are lines in the center of the road to separate traffic proceeding in opposite directions.

Broken lines are used in areas where there are no restrictions on overtaking. In areas where there are no restrictions on overtaking, a solid line is painted alongside the broken line.

You may not overtake if the solid line is on your side of the center line.

**Overtaking for traffic in both directions is strictly forbidden where the center is marked by double solid lines.**

REMEMBER: Do not overtake unless you can see the road ahead is clear. Edge lines: These are solid lines along the side of the road. They indicate where the edge is and can be used also as traffic guidance.

**Edge lines:** These are solid lines along the side of the road. They indicate where the edge is and can be used also as traffic guidance.

An edge line which slants towards the centre of the road forewarns that the road is narrowed ahead.

An edge line may be crossed only by traffic moving to and from the shoulder of the road.

### **Cross Walk**

White solid lines across the road are usually used to denote pedestrian's crosswalks commonly at intersections. You must stop for pedestrians at crosswalks.

A solid white line across the road, usually at intersection, shows where you **MUST** stop for a GIVE WAY sign, STOP sign or for red traffic light signal.

### **Pavement Messages**

These are messages or symbols which are lettered or painted on the road's pavement to warn of conditions ahead.

### **Diagonal Lines**

These are painted on the road for protection, to separate traffic or to prevent traffic from turning left.

Do not drive on these areas if you can avoid doing so.

### **Zebra Lines**

These are used to indicate where pedestrians can cross the roads. You must stop for pedestrians that have stepped on the lines.

In traffic queues, leave pedestrian crossing clear.

### **Lanes**

These are spaces on the road demarcated by lines to guide traffic flow moving in the same or opposite direction.

For traffic in the same direction, the lines are normally yellow. Lines separating traffic moving in opposite directions are usually white.

The lines may be broken or solid, indicating whether or not they may be crossed.

Usually broken lines may be crossed while solid lines are not expected to be crossed.

**REMEMBER:** some roads do not have any marking, yet the lanes exist. The lanes and lines are easily assessed by the road user. Look with your eyes and see with your mind.

### **Lane Rules**

Keep between the traffic lane markings. Stay on the right-hand lane unless you are ready to overtake, to turn left or pass parked vehicles.

### **Changing Lanes**

Do not wander unnecessarily from lane to lane. If you need to move into another lane, first use your mirror, if it's safe to move over, signal before doing so.

Making sure you will not force another driver to swerve or slow down.

### **Island**

Where there is a traffic island on the road, pass on the right of it unless signs or road markings indicate otherwise.

### **At Junctions**

When coming to junctions, obey the **lane indication arrows** marked on the road.

### **Traffic Hold-up**

In a traffic hold-up or so-called "traffic jams" do not try to "jump the queue" by cutting into another lane or unauthorized use of siren by overtaking the vehicles waiting in front of you.

### **Traffic Lights at Junctions**

Although green light means you may go, do not go forward if other vehicles ahead are held at a junction.

It is pointless, as you will only contribute towards a solid jam. When the red and amber lights are showing together, you must stop.

It is an offence to pass a junction when the red and amber lights are shown. Make sure you stop at a distance to see the lights or before the double lines across the road.

### **Rail crossing**

#### **Level crossing Space**

Never drive "nose to tail" over any level crossing. Never drive on to one unless you can see that the road is clear on the rail and on the other side.

Never stop on or immediately after any level crossing.

### **Level Crossing with Gates**

Some level crossings have gates, or barriers that are operated automatically or by attendant.

Some also have flashing red warning lights. Do not cross the railway once the lights have started to flash or when the gates are being closed.

### **Level crossing without Gates**

At level crossing with no gates, or attendants or warning light, you must stop, look both ways, listen, and make sure there is no train coming before you cross.

Always give way to trains

### **Unmanned Level Crossing**

Some level crossings without gates or attendant have flashing red("stop light"). When the red lights flash, you must stop and wait.

Do not cross the railway as train will reach the crossing soon after the lights begin to flash, The lights will go off when it is safe to cross.

### **Stopping on a Crossing**

If your vehicle stalls or breaks down, or if you have an accident on the crossing:

FIRST: Get passengers out of vehicle and away from the level crossing as quickly as possible.

SECOND: Listen carefully for the approach of railway traffic, try and push the vehicle clear of the crossing and stand well clear of the crossing.

THIRD: If the above attempt proves impossible, making phone call or get in contact with the Signalman.

NOTE: Common sense dictates that where there are sufficient hands around, some could be used to push the vehicle off the tracks while someone tries to contact the signalman.

### **Level crossing Alarm**

If you are already crossing when the red light comes on/ashes and bell starts ringing, keep going.

### **Work Zone Devices**

The lives of highway construction workers depend on drivers who are expected to obey speed limits in work zones.

If you are convicted of exceeding the speed limit in a highway work zone, the penalty carries heavy fine.

Do not forget, the color orange marks a work zone and means slow down, You would also see this sign "**SLOW, MEN AT WORK**" at such places.

### **Flaggers**

Flaggers show signs to drivers in work zone areas They wear orange or yellow vest, yellow - green shirt or jacket.

They use "STOP/SHOW" paddles/red flag to direct motorists and to let workers or construction vehicle to cross the road.



**MEN AT WORK**

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### **Slow Vehicle Moving Over**

Slow moving vehicles on a single carriage way must ensure that four or more vehicles do not queue behind them. They should move over immediately they notice this as failure to move over carries a heavy penalty.

On a dual carriageway, failure to move over to the slow lane for all categories of vehicles constitutes an offence.

### **Section C: LANE DISCIPLINE**

After joining the highway, stay on the inside lane long enough to get used to the speed or traffic before trying to overtake.

#### **Two Lanes**

Drive in the red light hand lane on a two-lane carriageway, except when overtaking.

#### **Three Lanes**

On a three lane carriageway you must stay in the middle lane when traffic is slower on the inside lane, but you should return to the inside lane when you have passed them.

The outside lane is for overtaking only. If you use it always move back into the middle lane and then into the inside lane as soon as you can, but without cutting in.

Failure to observe this rule may lead to multiple accidents.

#### **Overtaking**

Overtake only on the left, unless traffic is moving in queues in all lanes and you have no choice but to keep moving forward where you are.

Never move to a lane on your right to overtake, Hard shoulders are meant for maneuvering during emergencies.

#### **Warning signals**

When you come into expressways which have flashing amber light signal at their entrances or intervals, the lights warn of danger ahead.

For example, an accident, mist or risk of skidding. When lights are flashing, keep your speed under 50 km.p.h.

When you see the danger sign, slow down still further to a crawl if need be. **Do not exceed 50 kmph.**

#### **Do not stay or park on:**

- The carriage-way itself
- The slip roads
- The hard shoulders or diagonally stripped lane
- The central reserve

### **Section D: DRIVING UNDER SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

#### **Special conditions are: -**

- Night driving
- Driving in the Rain
- Driving in Harmattan Haze
- Driving in Misty/Foggy Weather
- Driving in a Convoy

This means driving when it is dark. Night driving is discouraged because:

- The road user cannot see far ahead unlike in daylight
- In the event of emergency, help is not readily available
- Security is uncertain
- The driver may easily fall asleep

#### **Precautions**

- Motorists are advised to avoid night journeys;

- Plan your journey ahead;
- Ensure that your vehicle is in good condition;
- Ensure that the driver is healthy;
- Drivers should not drive under the influence of drug/alcohol;

**If you are dazzled by the high beam of an oncoming vehicle:**

- Do not do the same
- Avoid looking directly at the bright lights
- Slow down and keep an eye on the right side of the road
- Stay close to the right side of the road
- Look quickly ahead intermittently to determine the other vehicle's position, continue until you have passed the other vehicle

**AT BEST STOP UNTIL THE VEHICLE WITH DAZZLING LIGHTS PASSES YOU**

**What to do while driving in the dark**

- The driver should reduce his speed by at least half
- Never drive at night with only one headlamp or with your parking lights
- The driver should see and be seen
- Dim your light while facing an oncoming vehicle

**Driving in the rain:**

This means driving when rain is falling. When it rains, road surfaces become wet and slippery.

**Driving in harmattan / misty / foggy conditions:**

This means driving where there is strong wind, dust, mist, fog, thunderstorm, and other related conditions.

**What to do while driving under these conditions**

- Put on your wipers;
- Reduce your speed;
- Ensure that your demister is functional;
- Put on your headlights;
- Dim your headlights in order to see and be seen;
- Put on your hazard lights;
- If visibility is poor, move off the road and park safely
- Leave your parking lights on
- Keep a safe distance from the distance in front of you

**Driving in a convoy**

This means driving in a group of vehicles travelling together, often with an escort for protection.

**What to do while driving in a convoy:**

- Drivers must obey the recommended speed limits
- Drivers must observe common sense following distance
- Drivers must not constitute hazards to other road users
- Drivers must drive on straight line
- Do not drive on straight line
- Do not get excited on being in a convoy
- Being in a convoy demand attention and total concentration

**Section E: DEFFENSIVE DRIVING**

**Meaning of defensive driving:**

Defensive driving means driving to save lives, money and time in spite of the conditions around you and the provocative actions of the other driver.

**Qualities of a defensive driver:**

- A defensive driver assumes he is the only sane person on the road

- He drives intelligently in order to arrive alive
- A defensive driver is always cautious
- A defensive driver knows and obeys all road traffic signs and symbols
- A defensive driver should develop the right attitude to driving. These are patience, care, skill and consideration for other road users

## **A DEFENSIVE DRIVER RECOGNIZES HAZARDS, UNDERSTANDS THE DEFENCE AND ACTS CORRECTLY AND IN TIME**

### **Things a Defensive Driver must know**

Motor crashes are not mere accidents. They are caused by the faulty decisions and actions of drivers and other road users.

Any person on the road constitutes hazard to other road users and other road users constitute hazards to him. Most road users are not knowledgeable on the rules of the road.

They are therefore likely to make faulty decisions or take actions that may result in danger to others.

### **Section F: DRIVING HOURS**

There is time for everything. Many have embarked on journeys without adequate planning and management.

This has caused much avoidable crashes as drivers are prone to sleep on steering while driving.

**A driver must rest for 15 minutes after every 4 hours of driving. No single driver should drive more than 10 hours in 24 hours (or a day)**

## **Part Three - Post Road Use Activities:**

### **Section A RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE EVENT OF ROAD CRASH**

### **Section B VEHICLE FIRE PREVENTION, DRILLS**

### **Section C WARNING DANGER LABELS FOR HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES**

### **Section D TRAFFIC OFFENCES AT A GLANCE**

## **Section A RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE EVENT OF ROAD CRASH**

### **I. DRIVERS OF VEHICLES**

Owners Responsibility in the event of road crash

- Stop at the scene of the crash
- Check if you are hurt
- Check if anybody is hurt
- If not hurt, leave the epicenter of the crash to a safe location, summon courage and assist others
- State the fact of the case if asked by law enforcement agents
- Get skid marks, other identification and photographs
- Contact your insurer and lawyer
- Report the crash to the nearest FRSC Office or phone 0700-2255-3772

### **II. VEHICLE OCCUPANTS**

- If not hurt, vacate the hazardous location on the highway
- Give all necessary information
- If hurt but can talk, explain where it hurts to the first Aider
- Cooperate with first Aider

### **III. VOLUNTEERS**

- Stop to help at every traffic crash scene
- By-standers are to cooperate with first Aider
- Do not compound the pain of the victim with your expressed emotion
- Help to clear obstructions
- Do not constitute obstructions

Note: The life you help save today may save yours tomorrow

#### **IV. FIRST AID AND CASUALTY HANDLING**

First Aid is the immediate treatment given to an injured person or someone that suddenly falls ill, before the arrival of medical personnel.

First Aid treatment is mostly rendered in a state of emergency. It involves careful application of accepted principles of treatment. using facilities available to the first Aider and within the short scene to the hospital.

Proper handling of casualties facilitate administration and reduces the chances of complications.

- Every road user is expected to have basic knowledge of First Aid
- First Aider must have aid kit and be able to improvise when necessary (i.e. getting things from the immediate environment to replace the item needed. E.g. part of clothing for bandages, light woods for splints etc)
- Ensure that you are before proceeding on the First Aid i.e. leave hazardous location, remove battery terminals, put on hand gloves
- Follow the A, B, C categorization of traffic crash victims strictly
- Never assume the role of a doctor, evacuate victims to the hospital
- Make use of by-standers when necessary in transporting victims

#### **Note- Improper handling can worsen the victim's condition**

##### **First Aid is aimed at:**

1. Saving Life
2. Preventing injuries from becoming worse
3. Promoting recovery by relieving pain as fast as possible

##### **General Rules of First Aid**

The first things to do in first aid procedure in order of importance are: -

A. Remove the casualty from the danger or remove the danger from the casualty

B. Assess the victim and treat the most urgent casualties at an accident scene.

There are four categories of casualties:

1. Casualties with life threatening conditions such as cessation of breath, or circulation of blood and the unconscious.
2. Casualties with serious injuries, head and spinal cord injuries and casualties with impelled objects
3. Casualties with fractures, minor injuries, bruises and scald

C. Casualties with life threatening conditions are mostly the unconscious, move them with great care. Before moving them, watch out for spinal cord injuries. Put the unconscious in a comfortable position (prone or recovery position) to ease respiration.

D. Give artificial respiration ( mouth to mouth, or mouth to nose respiration) for casualties with breathing problems.

E. Restore the functioning of the heart by instituting the principle of external cardiac massage (chest compression) if heart has stopped working.

F. Guard against shock by stopping severe bleeding and pains.

G. Reassure the victim to give him confidence of recovery from whatever condition he/she may be in

H. Control the crowd, keep them away to ensure adequate supply of fresh air and prevent them from inciting casualties

I. Do not give the casualty anything to eat or drink

J Handle casualty properly in a case of suspected fracture of the spinal cord . DO NOT LIFT casualty alone until there are enough helpers (four to six persons)

K. Transport the casualty to the hospital or any nearby medical center without delay

### **AIRWAY- is he breathing?**

If he does not reply to questions and not breathing, then: -

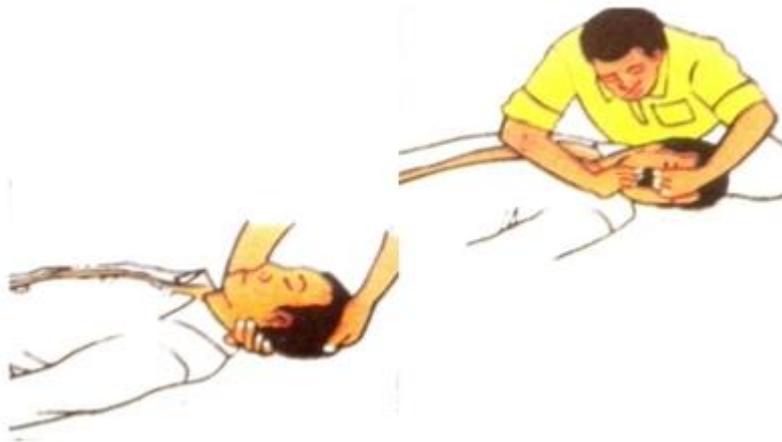
Loosen any tight clothing around his chest or neck

Check to see if there is any blockage in his mouth or windpipe. Clear out if possible

Carefully tip the head backwards placing one hand under the neck and the other under the head.

Bring the jaw forward so that the tongue is not blocking the airway.

If the victim does not start to breath normally, you will need to give the "kiss of life".



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### **The Kiss of Life**

Keep his head tilted backwards and pinch his nostrils with your thumb and index finger.

With the other hand, take hold of his chin and open his mouth. Take a deep breath and place your mouth over his.

Breathe out slowly into his mouth, His chest should rise

Take your mouth away, his chest should fall

Take another deep breath.

Repeat about every second until the victim starts to breathe normally.

**DONT GIVE UP!** It may take some time for him to be able to breathe on his own.

**NOTE:** Use a clean cloth or handkerchief to cover your mouth while breathing into the victim's mouth.

### **BLEEDING**

If the victim is bleeding heavily, undertake arterial bleeding control by putting pressure points or by use of tourniquet, which is tying a bandage immediately below the wound, making sure it is only tight enough to allow the insertion of the little finger under it, so as not to restrict flow of blood to the extremities which could cause gangrene.

However, if the bleeding is not heavy, use your hand to apply pressure over the wound using a gauze, clean cloth or handkerchief for 5-10 minutes.

Additionally, raise the bleeding site above heart level if it is a limb.



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### **CONSCIOUSNESS- Is he conscious?**

If he is breathing and answers questions, then - Lie the victim on his back and keep him warm.

If he is breathing but does not answer questions, then - Put him in the recovery position to stop him choking on his own blood, tongue or vomit.

Ensure the victim's blood is discreetly handled so that it does not come in direct contact with your blood.

### **V. THE RECOVERY POSITION**

Place the victim on his back on a level surface. Kneel beside him.

Loosen any tight clothing.

Extend the arm and leg nearest to you. His elbow and knee should be slightly bent.

Turn his head towards you.

Grip his far shoulder and upper thigh and gently pull him towards you so that he can roll on to his front.

Pull his jaw forward to make sure that his tongue is at the front of his mouth and not blocking his airway.

Check for a pulse in his wrist, or temples or by placing two fingers beside the Adam's apple.

Protecting his neck, turn him on his back.

Place the heel of your hand on the lower half of his breastbone. Keep your palm and fingers off his chest.

Cover this hand with your other hand. Keeping your arms straight. rock forward to press down firmly on his breastbone.

Repeat every (five) seconds

### **Section B: VEHICLE FIRE PREVENTION, DRILLS**

We are all acquainted with fire as a source of heat, light and power, and as one of the most dangerous things to play with, Every year, so many people die by fire.

Good worth millions of naira and vehicles are destroyed, thereby causing interruption to business and business and productions.

**Every automobile fire is an environmental pollution, the wastage; "national lose", and its prevention, a national dirt.**

#### **Definition of fire**

Fire:-Is a rapid combination of two or more substances which produce heat, light, smoke and carbon.

Before fire could occur, oxygen, heat and fuel must be present.

1. Oxygen: This is the gas that supports burning
2. Heat: Is the sufficient temperature needed for ignition of fire
3. Fuel: Is any combustible material (s) i. e Solid, Liquid, and Gas, This is to say that fuel can exist in any of the three states of matter: Oxygen, heat, and fuel form, what is called the FIRE TRIANGLE.

When an automobile fire or any fire is deprived of any of these. the fire goes off.

### **Classes of fire:**

For easy identification and extinction purpose, fire is classified into four categories and they are

#### **Class A**

Fire involving free burning materials like wood, paper, textiles, etc WATER is the best extinguisher agent in form of jet or spray.

#### **Class B:**

Fire involving flammable substances like petrol, paint. grease, etc., fall under class B fire, Fire under this category could best be extinguished with LIQUID FOAM extinguisher.

Dry chemical powder, Carbon-dioxide extinguisher and dry sand are also good materials that can put off class B fire.

#### **Class C:**

Fire involving combustible gases or liquefied petroleum like propane, Butane, etc. They can best be extinguished with Dry chemical powder and Carbon Dioxide fire extinguishers; water in spray form could be used to cool down the cylinder

#### **Class D**

Fire involving metals, e.g Potassium, Aluminium, Magnesium, Zink, etc. They can best be extinguished with Dry Chemical Powder fire extinguisher or Dry sand.

### **Automobile Fire**

An automobile can start to burn because of so many things such as from electrical sparks, faulty wiring, over heating etc

1. In most cases the fire usually starts from the engine compartment
2. As soon as an automobile fire is discovered, switch off and safely discharge the passengers.
3. Reach out for your fire extinguisher, open the bonnet gently and discharge fire extinguisher directed to the base of the fire
4. The battery terminals may be disconnected to avoid more sparks

A jet of water may be necessary for passenger compartment fire. Also, the cooling of the tank with water spray may be necessary to prevent busting. All moving vehicles should be stopped and made to switch off the engine.

All vehicles should park within reasonable distance from the leaking tanker.

Allow only vehicles with spark arrestor fixed to their exhaust pipe to move across

Discourage/stop everybody within the vicinity from smoking Contact fire Brigade as soon as possible.

Apply foam or jet spray or sand to dissolve the already leaded fuel. Improvise and stop the leaking.

If the petrol tanker is on fire, clear people from the vicinity and call fire Brigade. Don't fire the fire leave it for the experts.

### **Types of Extinction:**

#### **Cooling**

Water can be used to reduce the temperature of the burning material(s) below ignition point or the flash point

#### **Smothering**

Excluding air or the supporter of combustion by the use of foam or fire blanket.

#### **Starving**

The act of removing the burning material to a safe place thereby avoiding its spread

### To Operate a Fire Extinguisher

Hold it up-right and do the following:

1. Pull the safety pin/break cartridge
2. Aim horn at the base fire
3. Press/squeeze nozzle
4. Discharge at the base of flame

**Fire prevention is in everyone's utmost interest, Fire that begins from your own property can spread to others and can cause a lot of inconveniences to the general public**

### Section C: WARNING DANGER LABELS FOR HARZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

In many countries, vehicles carrying dangerous goods are required by law to display hazard information panels

The codes in the boxes give important information about:

- The equipment needed to deal with any spillage of fire
- The chemical being carried
- The telephone number in an emergency situation

If you have an accident with a vehicle carrying a dangerous load, make sure the emergency services know what the load is and its code numbers, if given.

Diamond Symbols Indicating Other Risks Are Shown Below:



**Flammable**



**Explosive**



**Oxidiser**



**Toxic**



**Harmful/Irritant**



**Corrosive**

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**Diamond Symbols Indicating Other Risks Are Shown Below**



### Explanation of Symbols

The danger labels prescribed for substances and articles have the following meaning

No. 1 (Black bomb on orange back ground): Liable to explosions

No. 2.1 (Black flame on red back ground; Danger of flammable gas

No. 2.3 (Skull and crossbar on the white background: danger of TOXIC GAS

No. 3.0 (Black flame on a red background): danger of the inflammable Liquids):

No. 4.1 (Black flame on ground of equidistant alternate and white vertical stripes) danger of fire (inflammable solids)

No. 4.3 (Black flame on blue back ground) danger of emission of inflammable gases on contact with water

No. 5.1 and 5.2 (Flame over a blank circle, blank on yellow back ground): oxide substances or organic peroxide

No. 4.0 (St Andrew's cross on ear corn black on white back ground): harmful substances. to be kept apart from foodstuffs in vehicles and at loading, unloading or Trans load points

No. 8.0 (Liquid dripping from test-tube on to hand. Black on white back ground lower triangle with black label, white boarder: corrosive substance).

No. 6.0 (Crystallized trefoil inscription RADIOACTIVE, contain radioactive substances

### Section D: TRAFFIC OFFENCES AT A GLANCE

On every road there are road users such as motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists, passengers and animals

As a road user, it is expected that the road is used in accordance with the rules and regulations, Every road user should be disciplined, careful and considerate to others, to ensure safer roads, thereby avoiding road crashes and or arrest and prosecution.

In the exercise of the functions conferred by (510(4) of the FRSC Act, 2007 establishment), members of the corps shall have the right to arrest and prosecute any person reasonably suspected to have committed any traffic Offence(s).

It is therefore an offence to:

1. Be on any road without any lights or faulty lights, signs or reflectors or wrongful use of signals
2. Obstruct any section of the road with vehicles or in any other way that may affect free flow of traffic
3. Use a restricted road where it is marked "one way" or "no entry"
4. Disobey speed-limits erected at road construction areas or any other road
5. Drive a vehicle without a valid learner's permit; driver's license or any other permit required by law
6. Drive a vehicle without a valid vehicle license of identification mark being displayed
7. Overtake another vehicle wrongfully
8. Disobey traffic light signals
9. Disobey or disregard road signs or pavement markings
10. Drive a vehicle, a two or three wheel cycle on any road in a reckless or negligent manner that will be dangerous to other road users.
11. Drive a vehicle or motorcycle with forged vehicle papers
12. Drive a vehicle or motorcycle under the influence of drugs or alcohol
13. Drive a vehicle or motorcycle or any mechanically propelled engine that would result in the damage to any public presence, street light, traffic lights, road signs etc
14. Engage in any act of commission or omission by motorists which may constitute hazard to other road users
15. Remove from a vehicle, the sign, "Do not move"
16. Use a road that is under construction
17. Fail to move over to the slow lane to free up traffic flow
18. Uncover gravel or other unstable materials with tarpaulin or strong plastics to stop it spilling on the road
19. Cover number plates at the front and rear sides the vehicle
20. Load a vehicle above the weight or number of passengers required by law
21. Drive a vehicle with projected load
22. Obstruct a marshal in the performance of his duty
23. Drive a vehicle with damaged or shattered windscreen
24. Drive a vehicle with worn tyres or without spare tyre
25. Drive a vehicle that is mechanically deficient
26. Drive a vehicle without fire extinguisher
27. Assault a marshal on duty
28. Corrupt a marshal on duty
29. Fail to report at designated place by a traffic offender
30. Drive a vehicle that emits excessive smoke
31. Drive a commercial vehicle without a passenger manifest
32. Use your GSM phone while driving
33. Driver under 18 years of age
34. Ply the road by commercial drivers and conductors without badges
35. Ply the road without side and inner rear mirrors
36. Smoke or eat while driving

37. Drive a double-decker bus in Nigeria
38. Fail to use your headlights during inclement weather
39. Fail to signal when changing lanes, making a turn or pulling in front of another vehicle
40. Fail to properly secure under-aged children in an approved school safety seat or booster seat
41. Travel in a bed of a pick-up truck by any person
42. Fail to use belts while driving
43. Fail to pay any prescribed fine or other fees under the law
44. Provide incorrect address under the law
45. Reject accident victims by hospital medical personnel
46. Ride a motorcycle without a crash helmet properly strapped to the head and fastened under the chin
47. Drive with one hand.

## **Part Three - Post Road Use Activities:**

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### **III. VOLUNTEERS**

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- Do not compound the pain of the victim with your expressed emotion
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### **IV. FIRST AID AND CASUALTY HANDLING**

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Proper handling of casualties facilitate administration and reduces the chances of complications.

- Every road user is expected to have basic knowledge of First Aid
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**Note- Improper handling can worsen the victim's condition**

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5. Preventing injuries from becoming worse
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- D. Give artificial respiration ( mouth to mouth, or mouth to nose respiration) for casualties with breathing problems.
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- G. Reassure the victim to give him confidence of recovery from whatever condition he/she may be in
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**AIRWAY- is he breathing?**

If he does not reply to questions and not breathing, then: -

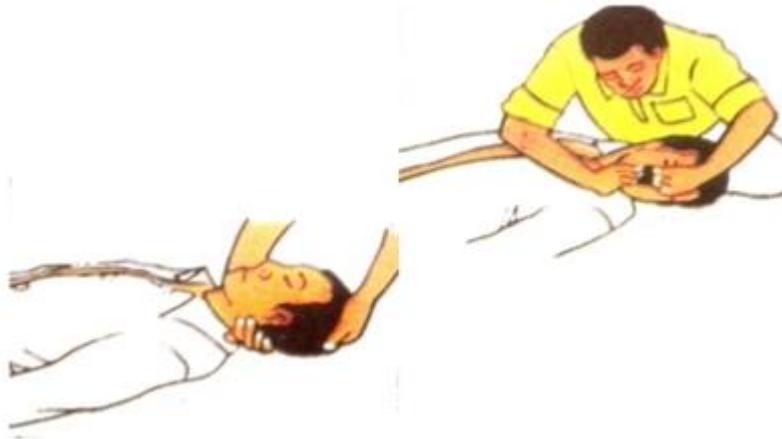
Loosen any tight clothing around his chest or neck

Check to see if there is any blockage in his mouth or windpipe. Clear out if possible

Carefully tip the head backwards placing one hand under the neck and the other under the head.

Bring the jaw forward so that the tongue is not blocking the airway.

If the victim does not start to breath normally, you will need to give the "kiss of life".



---

### **The Kiss of Life**

Keep his head tilted backwards and pinch his nostrils with your thumb and index finger. With the other hand, take hold of his chin and open his mouth. Take a deep breath and place your mouth over his.

Breathe out slowly into his mouth, His chest should rise

Take your mouth away, his chest should fall

Take another deep breath.

Repeat about every second until the victim starts to breathe normally.

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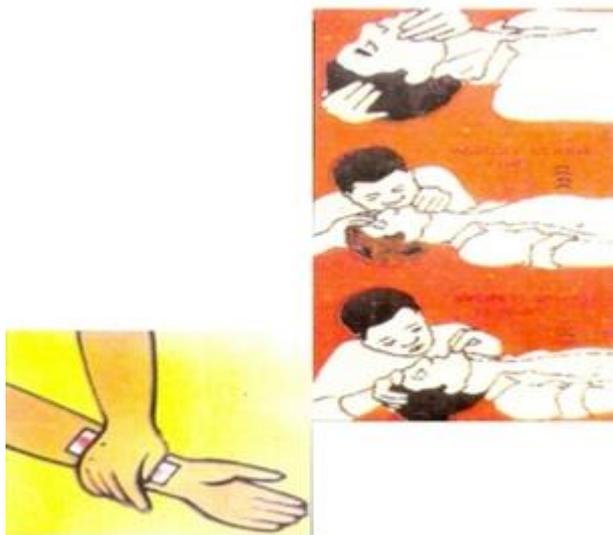
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If the victim is bleeding heavily, undertake arterial bleeding control by putting pressure points or by use of tourniquet, which is tying a bandage immediately below the wound, making sure it is only tight enough to allow the insertion of the little finger under it, so as not to restrict flow of blood to the extremities which could cause gangrene.

However, if the bleeding is not heavy, use your hand to apply pressure over the wound using a gauze, clean cloth or handkerchief for 5-10 minutes.

Additionally, raise the bleeding site above heart level if it is a limb.



## **CONSCIOUSNESS- Is he conscious?**

If he is breathing and answers questions, then - Lie the victim on his back and keep him warm.

If he is breathing but does not answer questions, then - Put him in the recovery position to stop him choking on his own blood, tongue or vomit.

Ensure the victim's blood is discreetly handled so that it does not come in direct contact with your blood.

## **V. THE RECOVERY POSITION**

Place the victim on his back on a level surface. Kneel beside him.

Loosen any tight clothing.

Extend the arm and leg nearest to you. His elbow and knee should be slightly bent.

Turn his head towards you.

Grip his far shoulder and upper thigh and gently pull him towards you so that he can roll on to his front.

Pull his jaw forward to make sure that his tongue is at the front of his mouth and not blocking his airway.

Check for a pulse in his wrist, or temples or by placing two fingers beside the Adam's apple.

Protecting his neck, turn him on his back.

Place the heel of your hand on the lower half of his breastbone. Keep your palm and fingers off his chest.

Cover this hand with your other hand. Keeping your arms straight. rock forward to press down firmly on his breastbone.

Repeat every (five) seconds

## **Section B: VEHICLE FIRE PREVENTION, DRILLS**

We are all acquainted with fire as a source of heat, light and power, and as one of the most dangerous things to play with, Every year, so many people die by fire.

Good worth millions of naira and vehicles are destroyed, thereby causing interruption to business and business and productions.

**Every automobile fire is an environmental pollution, the wastage; "national lose", and its prevention, a national dirt.**

### **Definition of fire**

Fire:-Is a rapid combination of two or more substances which produce heat, light, smoke and carbon.

Before fire could occur, oxygen, heat and fuel must be present.

4. Oxygen: This is the gas that supports burning
5. Heat: Is the sufficient temperature needed for ignition of fire
6. Fuel: Is any combustible material (s) i. e Solid, Liquid, and Gas, This is to say that fuel can exist in any of the three states of matter: Oxygen, heat, and fuel form, what is called the FIRE TRIANGLE.

When an automobile fire or any fire is deprived of any of these. the fire goes off.

### **Classes of fire:**

For easy identification and extinction purpose, fire is classified into four categories and they are

#### **Class A**

Fire involving free burning materials like wood, paper, textiles, ect WATER is the best extinguisher agent in form of jet or spray.

#### **Class B:**

Fire involving flammable substances like petrol, paint. grease, etc., fall under class B fire, Fire under this category could best be extinguished with LIQUID FOAM extinguisher.

Dry chemical powder, Carbon-dioxide extinguisher and dry sand are also good materials that can put off class B fire.

#### **Class C:**

Fire involving combustible gases or liquefied petroleum like propane, Butane, etc. They can best be extinguished with Dry chemical powder and Carbon Dioxide fire extinguishers; water in spray form could be used to cool down the cylinder

#### **Class D**

Fire involving metals, e.g Potassium, Aluminium, Magnesium, Zink, etc. They can best be extinguished with Dry Chemical Powder fire extinguisher or Dry sand.

#### **Automobile Fire**

An automobile can start to burn because of so many things such as from electrical sparks, faulty wiring, over heating etc

5. In most cases the fire usually starts from the engine compartment
6. As soon as an automobile fire is discovered, switch off and safely discharge the passengers.
7. Reach out for your fire extinguisher, open the bonnet gently and discharge fire extinguisher directed to the base of the fire
8. The battery terminals may be disconnected to avoid more sparks

A jet of water may be necessary for passenger compartment fire. Also, the cooling of the tank with water spray may be necessary to prevent busting. All moving vehicles should be stopped and made to switch off the engine.

All vehicles should park within reasonable distance from the leaking tanker.

Allow only vehicles with spark arrestor fixed to their exhaust pipe to move across

Discourage/stop everybody within the vicinity from smoking Contact fire Brigade as soon as possible.

Apply foam or jet spray or sand to dissolve the already leaded fuel. Improvise and stop the leaking.

If the petrol tanker is on fire, clear people from the vicinity and call fire Brigade. Don't fire the fire leave it for the experts.

#### **Types of Extinction:**

##### **Cooling**

Water can be used to reduce the temperature of the burning material(s) below ignition point or the flash point

##### **Smothering**

Excluding air or the supporter of combustion by the use of foam or fire blanket.

##### **Starving**

The act of removing the burning material to a safe place thereby avoiding its spread

#### **To Operate a Fire Extinguisher**

Hold it up-right and do the following:

5. Pull the safety pin/break cartridge
6. Aim horn at the base fire
7. Press/squeeze nozzle
8. Discharge at the base of flame

**Fire prevention is in everyone's utmost interest, Fire that begins from your own property can spread to others and can cause a lot of inconveniences to the general public**

#### **Section C: WARNING DANGER LABELS FOR HARZARDOUS SUBSTANCES**

In many countries, vehicles carrying dangerous goods are required by law to display hazard information panels

The codes in the boxes give important information about:

- The equipment needed to deal with any spillage of fire
- The chemical being carried

- The telephone number in an emergency situation

If you have an accident with a vehicle carrying a dangerous load, make sure the emergency services know what the load is and its code numbers, if given.

Diamond Symbols Indicating Other Risks Are Shown Below:



Diamond Symbols Indicating Other Risks Are Shown Below



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## **Explanation of Symbols**

The danger labels prescribed for substances and articles have the following meaning

No. 1 Black bomb on orange back ground): Liable to explosions

No. 2.1 Black flame on red back ground; Danger of flammable gas

No. 2.3 Skull and crossbar on the white background: danger of TOXIC GAS

No. 3.0 (Black flame on a red background): danger of the inflammable Liquids):

No. 4.1 (Black flame on ground of equidistant alternate and white vertical stripes) danger of fire (inflammable solids)

No. 4.3 (Black flame on blue back ground) danger of emission of inflammable gases on contact with water

No. 5.1 and 5.2 (Flame over a blank circle, blank on yellow back ground): oxide substances or organic peroxide

No. 4.0 (St Andrew's cross on ear corn black on white back ground): harmful substances. to be kept apart from foodstuffs in vehicles and at loading, unloading or Trans load points

No. 8.0 (Liquid dripping from test-tube on to hand. Black on white back ground lower triangle with black label, white boarder: corrosive substance).

No. 6.0 (Crystalized trefoil inscription RADIOACTIVE, contain radioactive substances

## **Section D: TRAFFIC OFFENCES AT A GLANCE**

On every road there are road users such as motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists, passengers and animals

As a road user, it is expected that the road is used in accordance with the rules and regulations, Every road user should be disciplined. careful and considerate to others, to ensure safer roads. thereby avoiding road crashes and or arrest and prosecution.

In the exercise of the functions conferred by (510(4) of the FRSC Act, 2007 establishment), members of the corps shall have the right to arrest and prosecute any person reasonably suspected to have committed any traffic Offence(s).

It is therefore an offence to: -

1. Be on any road without any lights or faulty lights, signs or reflectors or wrongful use of signals
2. Obstruct any section of the road with vehicles or in any other way that may affect free flow of traffic
3. Use a restricted road where it is marked "one way" or "no entry"
4. Disobey speed-limits erected at road construction areas or any other road
5. Drive a vehicle without a valid learner's permit; driver's license or any other permit required by law
6. Drive a vehicle without a valid vehicle license of identification mark being displayed
7. Overtake another vehicle wrongfully
8. Disobey traffic light signals
9. Disobey or disregard road signs or pavement markings
10. Drive a vehicle, a two or three wheel cycle on any road in a reckless or negligent manner that will be dangerous to other road users.
11. Drive a vehicle or motorcycle with forged vehicle papers
12. Drive a vehicle or motorcycle under the influence of drugs or alcohol
13. Drive a vehicle or motorcycle or any mechanically propelled engine that would result in the damage to any public presence, street light, traffic lights, road signs etc
14. Engage in any act of commission or omission by motorists which may constitute hazard to other road users
15. Remove from a vehicle, the sign, "Do not move"
16. Use a road that is under construction

17. Fail to move over to the slow lane to free up traffic flow
18. Uncover gravel or other unstable materials with tarpaulin or strong plastics to stop it spilling on the road
19. Cover number plates at the front and rear sides the vehicle
20. Load a vehicle above the weight or number of passengers required by law
21. Drive a vehicle with projected load
22. Obstruct a marshal in the performance of his duty
23. Drive a vehicle with damaged or shattered windscreen
24. Drive a vehicle with worn tyres or without spare tyre
25. Drive a vehicle that is mechanically deficient
26. Drive a vehicle without fire extinguisher
27. Assault a marshal on duty
28. Corrupt a marshal on duty
29. Fail to report at designated place by a traffic offender
30. Drive a vehicle that emits excessive smoke
31. Drive a commercial vehicle without a passenger manifest
32. Use your GSM phone while driving
33. Driver under 18 years of age
34. Ply the road by commercial drivers and conductors without badges
35. Ply the road without side and inner rear mirrors
36. Smoke or eat while driving
37. Drive a double-decker bus in Nigeria
38. Fail to use your headlights during inclement weather
39. Fail to signal when changing lanes, making a turn or pulling in front of another vehicle
40. Fail to properly secure under-aged children in an approved school safety seat or booster seat
41. Travel in a bed of a pick-up truck by any person
42. Fail to use belts while driving
43. Fail to pay any prescribed fine or other fees under the law
44. Provide incorrect address under the law
45. Reject accident victims by hospital medical personnel
46. Ride a motorcycle without a crash helmet properly strapped to the head and fastened under the chin
47. Drive with one hand.

## **Conclusion**

The Highway Code is primarily designed to help all road users be safe on the roads. It includes the rules and regulations on how we should use the roads as well as providing advice on making our journeys less stressful. Also, if all road users follow the rules and advice provided, it will help to reduce congestion and improve our environment. We are all road users - whether we are walking, riding in a jitney / bus or driving a car – and need to be aware of, and follow, the rules that are there to help the whole community. All adults, especially the parents of young children, should know about the contents of the Highway Code, even before they are aiming to become a driver, but learner drivers will need to study the contents in order to pass their driving test, obtain a license; and then become safe and considerate drivers. The Highway Code includes all the information you will need to know about traffic rules and regulations, traffic signs, signals and road markings. The Highway Code also provides guidance on maintaining your vehicle, what to do in the event of a breakdown or being involved in an accident and some useful advice on first aid. It also provides detailed guidance on how to go about passing your driving test - both the written knowledge part and the on-road practical test. So, even though the Highway Code is not a legal document / instrument per se, the advice contained therein is invaluable not just for learner drivers but for all motorists.

Taken alone the Highway Code is not a legal document or instrument and therefore not law or legally binding. But many of the instructions are backed up by law and so have legal muscle behind them. Also, in the event of a vehicle crash where the parties go to court, the judge may well rely on its provisions to give some guidance. By acting on the Highway Code's valuable guidance, it should help all road users remain safe, avoid prosecution and help contribute to the overall safety of all who use today's busy highways and by-ways.

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