



Fact Sheet 8

Tips for supervising your Learner Driver (L)

- Safe driving takes time and practice – it is more than just operating a vehicle.
- Use the 120 supervised hours to help young drivers learn to recognise and respond safely to hazards.
- Plan a variety of driving experiences eg, different road conditions, weather conditions and vary time of day.
- Shorter drives can be useful early on.
- Reduce the risk of distraction e.g. turn off mobile phones.
- Keep instructions short and clear.
- Be positive and acknowledge when your teenager does well rather than criticise.
- At the end of a drive reinforce achievements and discuss areas to work on.
- Real on-road driving experience is more beneficial than 'advanced' or 'defensive' off-road driver training. ¹
- Find out more about supporting your young driver by attending a 'Helping Learner Drivers Become Safer Drivers Workshop' in your local area. Contact the RTA on 132213, visit www.rta.nsw.gov.au or visit your local Council's website.
- You and your young driver must be familiar with the RTA Road Users Handbook and understand NSW road rules and licence conditions.

1."Research indicates that advanced or defensive driving courses do not enhance skills for novice or learner drivers. Such courses can also lead to overconfidence of drivers resulting in increased risk taking. The Graduated Licensing Scheme in NSW consists of three stages and four tests. The focus is on supervised on-road driving experience in a range of conditions and environments." Limiting Risks, Protecting Lives." NSW Centre for Road Safety. RTA. 2009

For more information about the RRISK program and risk taking, visit www.rrisk.com.au