

Tennessee Road Signs Cheat Sheet 2026

The night-before summary, built like the exam.

30 Questions	— Time limit	80% minimum score Passing score
\$0 Exam fee	Tennessee Department o... Governing body	

The numbers to remember

- 30 questions total on the test.
- 80% minimum score required to pass — miss more than a handful and you're at risk.
- Traffic signs and signals are tested as their own dedicated category, alongside safe driving, rules of the road, and drugs & alcohol.
- With only 30 questions on the whole test, each one carries real weight toward your score, so treat every category as high-stakes, not just the parts that feel hardest.

Sign shapes at a glance

- Octagon = stop. It's the only sign this shape, so recognize it instantly.
- Downward triangle = yield.
- Diamond = warning about upcoming road conditions, such as curves, hills, or crossings.
- Pentagon = school zone / crossing.
- Circle = railroad crossing.
- Rectangle = regulatory instruction or a guide/information sign, depending on color.
- Red = stop, yield, prohibition. Yellow = general warning. Orange = construction/work zone. Green = guide/directions. Blue = services like gas, food, or hospitals. White = regulatory (speed limits, one-way, etc.).

Right-of-way in one breath

- First to arrive at a stop, first to go; ties go to the vehicle on the right.
- Left turns yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians.
- Pedestrians in any crosswalk, marked or not, have the right-of-way.
- Emergency vehicles with lights/siren always get the right-of-way — pull right and stop.
- Merging traffic yields to traffic already in the lane.
- In a roundabout, vehicles already circulating have the right-of-way over vehicles entering.

Top traps

- Posted speed limits are maximums for ideal conditions — the safer, slower answer is usually correct in rain, fog, or work zones.
- Increase following distance in poor conditions and at night; don't assume the posted limit alone answers the question.
- Impairment from alcohol or drugs affects judgment even when you feel fine — the correct answer is almost always "don't drive."
- Implied consent means driving on public roads generally means agreeing to chemical testing if lawfully suspected of impairment; refusing carries its own penalty separate from an impairment charge.
- Mixing alcohol with certain medications can amplify impairment beyond what either substance causes alone.
- Don't skip sign-shape review the night before — it's the fastest category to lose easy points on if it's gone stale, and it's

worth a full quarter of the test on its own.

Official sources

- Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security — Driver License Knowledge Permit Test Online - Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security: <https://www.tn.gov/safety/driver-services/classsd/teengdl/knowledge-test-online.html>
- Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security — Teen/Graduated Driver License - Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security: <https://www.tn.gov/safety/driver-services/classsd/teengdl.html>
- Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security — Driver License Fees - Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security: <https://www.tn.gov/safety/driver-services/helpful-information/fees.html>

Free practice questions for this exam: www.everyexamprep.com/exams/tennessee-road-signs/practice-test