

Virginia Road Signs Cheat Sheet 2026

The night-before summary, built like the exam.

40 Questions	— Time limit	100% (10 of 10) on road ... Passing score
\$0 Exam fee	Virginia Department of M... Governing body	

The Numbers to Remember

- 40 total questions: 10 road-sign questions in part one, 30 general-knowledge questions in part two.
- Part one is all-or-nothing: all 10 road-sign questions must be correct before you can move on to part two at all.
- Part two passing score: 80% — you need 24 of 30 general-knowledge questions correct.
- No margin on signs, some margin on knowledge: the general-knowledge section allows for a few missed answers and still results in a pass, but the sign section allows for zero.

Sign Shapes at a Glance

- Red octagon = stop, no exceptions.
- Red-and-white triangle = yield.
- Yellow diamond = general warning.
- Orange diamond = construction/work zone warning.
- Pentagon = school zone or crossing.
- Circle = railroad crossing.
- White rectangle, black text = regulatory rule (e.g., speed limit).
- Green = guide sign (direction/distance/exit).
- Blue = motorist services (gas, food, lodging).

Right-of-Way in One Breath

- First to arrive at a four-way stop goes first; if tied, yield to the driver on your right.
- At unmarked intersections, yield to whoever is already in the intersection or arriving from the right.
- Left turns yield to oncoming traffic and to pedestrians.
- Entering a roundabout, yield to traffic already circulating.
- Pull right and stop for any emergency vehicle running lights/sirens.
- Pedestrians already crossing generally have the right-of-way.

Speed and Conditions

- Posted limits are maximums under ideal conditions, not a target — slow down for rain, fog, ice, or darkness.
- A 3-second following gap is a normal-conditions minimum; increase it in bad weather or behind large vehicles.
- Reducing speed on wet pavement helps prevent hydroplaning.

Top Traps

- Missing just one of the 10 sign questions stops your attempt cold — you never even see part two.
- Any level of alcohol or drug impairment counts, well before a driver feels obviously 'drunk.'
- Texting and handheld phone use are treated as distraction, not a minor habit.
- Fatigue slows reaction time similarly to impairment — don't underrate drowsy driving.

- When in doubt on a scenario question, pick the most cautious, most conservative answer — slow down, yield, or pull over.
- Practice tests exist to expose exactly these gaps before they cost you a real attempt.
- Seat belts are required and dramatically reduce injury severity — questions on this topic reward the obvious, safe answer.
- Extra caution around motorcyclists, cyclists, and pedestrians is expected on any shared-road scenario question.

Night-Before Checklist

- Run through all standard sign shapes and colors one more time until each is instant, not a guess.
- Re-read the right-of-way rules above — four-way stops, unmarked intersections, and roundabouts are the most commonly missed scenarios.
- Remind yourself: on part one, every single sign question counts equally toward the 10-of-10 requirement.
- Get normal sleep — fatigue affects reaction time and judgment just like the concepts tested on the exam itself.

Official sources

- Virginia DMV — Virginia DMV - Knowledge Exam: <https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/licenses-ids/exams/know-exam>
- Virginia DMV — Virginia DMV Fee Chart (DMV 201): <https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/sites/default/files/dmv201.pdf>
- Virginia DMV — Virginia DMV - Apply for a Learner's Permit: <https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/licenses-ids/learners/apply>

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