Keeping Your Teenager Safe on the Road

Most teens view getting a driver’s license as a sign of freedom, while many parents see a new risk to their child’s safety. Among the best ways to limit that risk is to create a driving contract with your teen.

In general, a driving contract should include:

- A statement recognizing that driving is a privilege, not a right
- A statement that he or she is willing to abide by the rules of the road or risk losing those privileges
- A ban on the use of alcohol and drugs by your teen and his or her friends
- Roads or areas that are off limits
- Behaviors such as traffic violations or accidents that could result in a loss of driving privileges
- Restrictions on the number of passengers
- Restrictions on driving hours
- Rules regarding seat belt use, cellphones and other safety issues

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