Road Safety — the Careful Driver

Dave's Driving School — All vehicles

David Apana Takwi

David Apana Takwi · dave.48hourrfprescue.com · info@dave.48hourrfprescue.com

A plain safety word. Driving law and test rules differ by country, and they change. This book teaches general driving knowledge only. It is not an official manual of any country. Always follow your own country's current official rules, the signs and instructions on the road in front of you, and the guidance of your qualified instructors.

Imprint

This book was written by the house for Dave's Driving School and is sealed under the name of **David Apana Takwi**, David Apana Takwi · dave.48hourrfprescue.com · info@dave.48hourrfprescue.com. It may be shared freely for learning. It teaches general driving knowledge only.

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How to use this book

Read a chapter, talk it over, then practise its lesson with your instructor in a safe place. Answer the review questions in your own words. Keep the checklists until they become habits. Where this book and your country's current official rules differ, the official rules win — always.

Chapter 1 — The Careful Driver's Promise

Safety is not a chapter of driving; it is the whole of it, practised on every journey however short.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: most collisions are not accidents of fate but the end of a chain of small carelessnesses. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. Safety is not a chapter of driving; it is the whole of it, practised on every journey however short — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. Most collisions are not accidents of fate but the end of a chain of small carelessnesses. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

Step by step

Work through this chapter's practice in order. One: read the chapter and say its main idea aloud in your own words. Two: watch the manoeuvre or situation as a passenger or observer, and name what the driver does and when. Three: practise it yourself at the lowest safe speed, in the safest place, until it feels ordinary. Four: practise it again on a different day, because a skill kept overnight is a skill truly learned. Five: ask your instructor to test you without warning, the way the road will.

Common mistakes

Learners most often rush this stage, copy the faults of impatient drivers around them, or practise only when conditions are easy. Another common mistake is silence: not asking the question that feels too simple. In a driving school there are no foolish questions — only unasked ones that the road later asks at speed. Name your difficulty early; that is what teachers are for.

A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because most collisions are not accidents of fate but the end of a chain of small carelessnesses, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

Checklist

Before you count this chapter as learned, be able to say yes to each of these: I can explain the main idea in my own words. I have practised it in a safe place with guidance. I know the common mistakes and can spot them in others. I know what my country's current official rules say about it. I can stay calm when it goes imperfectly and correct myself safely.

Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

Now take the lesson out of the book and onto the road, in the safest conditions you can choose. Tell your instructor beforehand which chapter you are practising, and agree together how it will be judged. Afterwards, while the journey is fresh, write down three things: what went well, what surprised you, and what you will do differently next time. This small habit of honest review, kept after every practice, is how ordinary learners become careful drivers — not by one great lesson, but by many small corrections willingly made. Repeat the practice on at least three separate days before you call the chapter finished: once in quiet conditions, once in ordinary traffic, and once when conditions are less kind, always with guidance and always within your country's rules. If any part still feels uncertain, that feeling is information, not failure — bring it back to your instructor and to this chapter, and practise again. The road rewards the driver who would rather practise once more than presume once too often.

Chapter summary

Safety is not a chapter of driving; it is the whole of it, practised on every journey however short. Most collisions are not accidents of fate but the end of a chain of small carelessnesses. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 2 — Before You Move — the Vehicle Check

Tyres, lights, brakes, mirrors, fluids and load: a two-minute check prevents the commonest roadside dangers.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: a defect found in the yard is an inconvenience; found at speed it can be a tragedy. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. Tyres, lights, brakes, mirrors, fluids and load: a two-minute check prevents the commonest roadside dangers — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. A defect found in the yard is an inconvenience; found at speed it can be a tragedy. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

Step by step

Work through this chapter's practice in order. One: read the chapter and say its main idea aloud in your own words. Two: watch the manoeuvre or situation as a passenger or observer, and name what the driver does and when. Three: practise it yourself at the lowest safe speed, in the safest place, until it feels ordinary. Four: practise it again on a different day, because a skill kept overnight is a skill truly learned. Five: ask your instructor to test you without warning, the way the road will.

Common mistakes

Learners most often rush this stage, copy the faults of impatient drivers around them, or practise only when conditions are easy. Another common mistake is silence: not asking the question that feels too simple. In a driving school there are no foolish questions — only unasked ones that the road later asks at speed. Name your difficulty early; that is what teachers are for.

A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because a defect found in the yard is an inconvenience; found at speed it can be a tragedy, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

Checklist

Before you count this chapter as learned, be able to say yes to each of these: I can explain the main idea in my own words. I have practised it in a safe place with guidance. I know the common mistakes and can spot them in others. I know what my country's current official rules say about it. I can stay calm when it goes imperfectly and correct myself safely.

Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

Now take the lesson out of the book and onto the road, in the safest conditions you can choose. Tell your instructor beforehand which chapter you are practising, and agree together how it will be judged. Afterwards, while the journey is fresh, write down three things: what went well, what surprised you, and what you will do differently next time. This small habit of honest review, kept after every practice, is how ordinary learners become careful drivers — not by one great lesson, but by many small corrections willingly made. Repeat the practice on at least three separate days before you call the chapter finished: once in quiet conditions, once in ordinary traffic, and once when conditions are less kind, always with guidance and always within your country's rules. If any part still feels uncertain, that feeling is information, not failure — bring it back to your instructor and to this chapter, and practise again. The road rewards the driver who would rather practise once more than presume once too often.

Chapter summary

Tyres, lights, brakes, mirrors, fluids and load: a two-minute check prevents the commonest roadside dangers. A defect found in the yard is an inconvenience; found at speed it can be a tragedy. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 3 — Seat Belts, Helmets and Protection

Belts and helmets are the simplest proven protection a driver or rider can wear.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: insist gently but firmly: nobody rides unprotected in your vehicle. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. Belts and helmets are the simplest proven protection a driver or rider can wear — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. Insist gently but firmly: nobody rides unprotected in your vehicle. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

Step by step

Work through this chapter's practice in order. One: read the chapter and say its main idea aloud in your own words. Two: watch the manoeuvre or situation as a passenger or observer, and name what the driver does and when. Three: practise it yourself at the lowest safe speed, in the safest place, until it feels ordinary. Four: practise it again on a different day, because a skill kept overnight is a skill truly learned. Five: ask your instructor to test you without warning, the way the road will.

Common mistakes

Learners most often rush this stage, copy the faults of impatient drivers around them, or practise only when conditions are easy. Another common mistake is silence: not asking the question that feels too simple. In a driving school there are no foolish questions — only unasked ones that the road later asks at speed. Name your difficulty early; that is what teachers are for.

A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because insist gently but firmly: nobody rides unprotected in your vehicle, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road

users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

Checklist

Before you count this chapter as learned, be able to say yes to each of these: I can explain the main idea in my own words. I have practised it in a safe place with guidance. I know the common mistakes and can spot them in others. I know what my country's current official rules say about it. I can stay calm when it goes imperfectly and correct myself safely.

Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

Now take the lesson out of the book and onto the road, in the safest conditions you can choose. Tell your instructor beforehand which chapter you are practising, and agree together how it will be judged. Afterwards, while the journey is fresh, write down three things: what went well, what surprised you, and what you will do differently next time. This small habit of honest review, kept after every practice, is how ordinary learners become careful drivers — not by one great lesson, but by many small corrections willingly made. Repeat the practice on at least three separate days before you call the chapter finished: once in quiet conditions, once in ordinary traffic, and once when conditions are less kind, always with guidance and always within your country's rules. If any part still feels uncertain, that feeling is information, not failure — bring it back to your instructor and to this chapter, and practise again. The road rewards the driver who would rather practise once more than presume once too often.

Chapter summary

Belts and helmets are the simplest proven protection a driver or rider can wear. Insist gently but firmly: nobody rides unprotected in your vehicle. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 4 — Children and Vulnerable Passengers

Children need correct restraints for their size, doors secured, and never a ride on a lap.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: the elderly and passengers with disabilities deserve time, patience and a vehicle stopped fully before boarding or leaving. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. Children need correct restraints for their size, doors secured, and never a ride on a lap — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. The elderly and passengers with disabilities deserve time, patience and a vehicle stopped fully before boarding or leaving. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

Step by step

Work through this chapter's practice in order. One: read the chapter and say its main idea aloud in your own words. Two: watch the manoeuvre or situation as a passenger or observer, and name what the driver does and when. Three: practise it yourself at the lowest safe speed, in the safest place, until it feels ordinary. Four: practise it again on a different day, because a skill kept overnight is a skill truly learned. Five: ask your instructor to test you without warning, the way the road will.

Common mistakes

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A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because the elderly and passengers with

disabilities deserve time, patience and a vehicle stopped fully before boarding or leaving, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

Checklist

Before you count this chapter as learned, be able to say yes to each of these: I can explain the main idea in my own words. I have practised it in a safe place with guidance. I know the common mistakes and can spot them in others. I know what my country's current official rules say about it. I can stay calm when it goes imperfectly and correct myself safely.

Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

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Chapter summary

Children need correct restraints for their size, doors secured, and never a ride on a lap. The elderly and passengers with disabilities deserve time, patience and a vehicle stopped fully before boarding or leaving. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 5 — Hazards — Seeing Trouble Early

A hazard is anything that may make you change speed or direction: a ball rolling out, brake lights ahead, a bus at a stop.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: scan near, middle and far, and check mirrors in a steady rhythm. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

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Then look closer. Scan near, middle and far, and check mirrors in a steady rhythm. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

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A worked example

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check mirrors in a steady rhythm, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

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Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

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Chapter 6 — Following Distance and Overtaking

Keep a gap you could stop in, and more in rain; overtake only where you can see the whole manoeuvre is safe.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: if in doubt, stay back — no arrival is worth a head-on risk. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

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Then look closer. If in doubt, stay back — no arrival is worth a head-on risk. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

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A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because if in doubt, stay back — no

arrival is worth a head-on risk, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

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Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

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Chapter summary

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Chapter 7 — Night, Rain and Difficult Conditions

Slow down, lengthen gaps, use lights wisely and never out-drive what you can see.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: in fog or heavy rain, being seen matters as much as seeing. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. Slow down, lengthen gaps, use lights wisely and never out-drive what you can see — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. In fog or heavy rain, being seen matters as much as seeing. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

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Common mistakes

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A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because in fog or heavy rain, being seen matters as much as seeing, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road

users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

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Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

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Chapter summary

Slow down, lengthen gaps, use lights wisely and never out-drive what you can see. In fog or heavy rain, being seen matters as much as seeing. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 8 — When Things Go Wrong

A breakdown, a puncture or a collision: protect life first — warn others, move to safety, call for help.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: stay calm, keep passengers away from traffic, and never stand between vehicles on a live road. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. A breakdown, a puncture or a collision: protect life first — warn others, move to safety, call for help — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. Stay calm, keep passengers away from traffic, and never stand between vehicles on a live road. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

Step by step

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Common mistakes

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A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because stay calm, keep passengers away from traffic, and never stand between vehicles on a live road, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

Checklist

Before you count this chapter as learned, be able to say yes to each of these: I can explain the main idea in my own words. I have practised it in a safe place with guidance. I know the common mistakes and can spot them in others. I know what my country's current official rules say about it. I can stay calm when it goes imperfectly and correct myself safely.

Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

Now take the lesson out of the book and onto the road, in the safest conditions you can choose. Tell your instructor beforehand which chapter you are practising, and agree together how it will be judged. Afterwards, while the journey is fresh, write down three things: what went well, what surprised you, and what you will do differently next time. This small habit of honest review, kept after every practice, is how ordinary learners become careful drivers — not by one great lesson, but by many small corrections willingly made. Repeat the practice on at least three separate days before you call the chapter finished: once in quiet conditions, once in ordinary traffic, and once when conditions are less kind, always with guidance and always within your country's rules. If any part still feels uncertain, that feeling is information, not failure — bring it back to your instructor and to this chapter, and practise again. The road rewards the driver who would rather practise once more than presume once too often.

Chapter summary

A breakdown, a puncture or a collision: protect life first — warn others, move to safety, call for help. Stay calm, keep passengers away from traffic, and never stand between vehicles on a live road. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

A last word from the school

Driving is freedom with responsibility attached. Learn patiently, drive carefully, and arrive — every time. Dave's Driving School is proud of every learner who chooses care over hurry.

A plain safety word. Driving law and test rules differ by country, and they change. This book teaches general driving knowledge only. It is not an official manual of any country. Always follow your own country's current official rules, the signs and instructions on the road in front of you, and the guidance of your qualified instructors.

David Apana Takwi · dave.48hourrfprescue.com · info@dave.48hourrfprescue.com