

**TOYOTA**

# Risk-ATTEND

Risk-Anticipation Training  
To Enhance Novice Driving



## PARENT GUIDE

# The Toyota Risk-ATTEND Program

The Toyota Risk ATTEND Program is a training program to improve drivers' abilities to predict or detect risky situations when driving. Your novice driver should complete the accompanying module from the driver's seat to practice identifying risky situations while driving.

## BACKGROUND

Many new drivers know about distracted driving, but Toyota is extending that knowledge into practice. In collaboration with the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Toyota provides teens with exposure to difficult driving scenarios before getting behind the wheel. The Toyota Risk-ATTEND (Anticipation Training to Enhance Novice Driving) Program aims to improve novice drivers' abilities to predict or detect risky situations when driving. In the self-paced module, novice drivers learn to evaluate a simulated environment for potential distractions and/or visual obstructions that are dangerous to drivers, passengers, and pedestrians. Users are presented with picture scenarios from the driver's seat and decide where to focus their attention to identify potential risks. After each scenario, feedback explains the potential risks and provides tips for driving the scenario. At the end of the module, novice drivers will better perceive and predict risky situations while driving. Parents are encouraged to discuss the self-paced module with their young driver before or after completing this activity.

## CONNECT

Your teen driver may already be aware of driving risks such as cell phone use and distracting passengers, but what are consistent and overlooked risks that may get less emphasis in driver education? How can we prepare teen drivers to increase awareness of their surroundings and practice predictive driving in risky situations?

## TALK

Before your child starts the module, consider discussing one or more of these questions:

- What are the common risks that novice drivers face on the road?
- How does awareness of one's surroundings help anticipate driving risks?
- What strategies can a novice driver use to avoid environmental risks while driving?
- What are the most effective ways to reduce accidents involving novice drivers?

## ACT

Choose one of the options for identifying driving risks and developing solutions to increase awareness. Be sure to include predictive driving skills to avoid risky situations.

**Option 1:** With your novice driver, go to [this link](#) and click on each target to discuss the risk associated with the picture. Utilize the talking points below.

OR

**Option 2:** Share the picture below and discuss the targets with your novice driver. Utilize the talking points below.



Icon	Risk	Discussion Points
1	Vegetation	Hazards may be hidden by vegetation. The edge of the vegetation is a primary area of interest where a hazard can appear unexpectedly. The view of oncoming traffic can be obstructed. Novice drivers should glance at the area frequently so they can slow down or stop immediately if someone or something appears from an obstructed view.
2	Children Playing	Children playing create risks for themselves and drivers. Children may chase toys such as balls or simply not look before entering the road. Glancing towards playgrounds and slowing speed when children are present can prevent accidents.
3	Large Vehicles	Hazards may be hidden by large vehicles that obstruct the view behind and/or beside it. Important cues such as traffic lights, pedestrians, or road signs may be hidden. Novice drivers should increase awareness of speed as well as vehicles in adjacent lanes. Special attention should also be paid to traffic signals.
4	Road Geometry	The shape or geometry of a road alone may be a risk to novice drivers. Paying attention to road signs warning of curves can help them avoid vehicles moving in adjacent lanes. Hills can also create hazards by obstructing the view of oncoming traffic. Novice drivers should adjust speed and road position in these situations.

5	Pedestrians	Novice drivers should always be cautious of pedestrians and cyclists, and pay special attention at crosswalks where both can cross in front of the vehicle. Slow down and be alert to other vehicles stopping to give pedestrians right of way to cross. Stop signs are usually warnings for crosswalks but are not always present.
6	Stopped Vehicles	Stopped vehicles indicate a variety of risks. If a stopped vehicle has a blinker on, it may be pulling out into traffic—slow down and give it room. Stopped vehicles can also pose a pedestrian risk if a passenger is exiting the vehicle—slow down and look for open doors. Additionally, stopped vehicles can obstruct the view of pedestrians. Drivers should pay close attention and slow down when approaching stopped or parked vehicles.
7	In-Car Distractions	Distractions inside a vehicle are not limited to cell phones. Novice drivers should be aware of the attention taken to change a radio station or even talk to passengers. Encourage novice drivers to avoid the risks of in-car distractions by putting away cell phones, setting the radio station prior to driving, and limiting passengers in the vehicle.

## LEARN

Want to learn more? Check out these resources from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- [Parents are the Key to Safe Teen Drivers](#)
- [Parent Resources for Danger Zones, Laws, and Teen-Driving Agreement](#)
- [Risk Management Fact Sheet](#)
- [Visual Search/Perception Fact Sheet](#)

## REFLECT

Now that you and your novice driver have practiced identifying potential risks and explored predictive driving, take a few minutes to discuss these questions:

- What are the consequences of ignoring road risks while driving?
- How can novice drivers take responsibility for their own safety on the road?
- What are the most effective strategies novice drivers can use to reduce road risks?

## CHALLENGE

Parents are encouraged to extend The Toyota Risk-ATTEND Program discussions by spending time modeling predictive driving with your novice driver. When you are driving, remove distractions such as the radio and cell phones. Think out loud as you see the common risks outlined in this activity to narrate your own predictive driving. Ask your novice driver to identify risks for you as you drive. Promoting discussions and modeling behavior provides opportunities for growth and reflection that will reduce the risks associated with novice drivers.