



The American Driving Society, Inc.

What Should You Be Learning As A New Driver?



What should a new driver expect to be learning in lessons?

1. The names of the parts function and fit of the harness
2. The names of the parts of the carriage
3. Safely getting on and off the carriage
4. Safety-in harnessing and unharnessing, in hitching and unhitching, in negotiating the space needed around your turnout to safely control and guide the horse
5. Driving equitation or Reinsmanship-how to sit on the box (seat), how to hold and manipulate the reins, how to hold and use the whip
6. Pace and speed control, halting and steering
7. Reinsmanship-how to use the reins to ask the horse to do something in conjunction with the other aids (voice and whip)
8. Use of safety equipment: hard hat, body protector, gloves, proper footwear.
9. Driving Etiquette: whether in a group in a ring or outside on a trail while driving for recreation or at a competition

Most importantly, your instructor should be able to explain the reasons behind driving practices.