

TEST YOUR ABILITIES

1. For each statement, check the box corresponding to the answer you believe is right.
2. Compare your choices with the answers on the back of the card and count how many correct answers you had.
3. Read the comments in the evaluation section.

QUESTIONS

- 1 You may become impaired before reaching 80 mg of alcohol per 100 ml of blood (0.08 blood-alcohol level).
TRUE FALSE
- 2 Sweating helps reduce your blood-alcohol level.
TRUE FALSE
- 3 You could be arrested and convicted even if your blood-alcohol level is below 0.08.
TRUE FALSE
- 4 Police officers can detect drivers under the influence of drugs and put them under arrest.
TRUE FALSE
- 5 You can drink alcohol in a parked vehicle, regardless of where you're sitting (driver or passenger side).
TRUE FALSE
- 6 You may be arrested if you are in your vehicle while impaired by alcohol, drugs or medication, even if the motor is off.
TRUE FALSE
- 7 A first criminal offence for driving while impaired costs at least \$1,750.
TRUE FALSE
- 8 Your vehicle will be seized immediately if you are driving after your licence was revoked for a criminal offence related to impaired driving.
TRUE FALSE
- 9 Driver's licence holders who are under 22 years of age, as well as all holders of a probationary licence or a learner's licence, are subject to the zero-alcohol rule.
TRUE FALSE
- 10 To avoid stiff penalties, you should refuse to submit to the breathalyzer test or the physical coordination tests requested by police officers.
TRUE FALSE
- 11 When leaving a bar, you breathed into a wall-mounted alcohol-screening device and your blood-alcohol level was 0.07. You could therefore drive without risk.
TRUE FALSE

EVALUATION

IF YOU HAD BETWEEN 8 AND 10 RIGHT ANSWERS: EXCELLENT! You know that driving while under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medication is dangerous for all road users, and could have severe legal consequences.

IF YOU HAD BETWEEN 4 AND 7 RIGHT ANSWERS: BEWARE! You may be knowledgeable as a driver, but you lack some important notions about impaired driving.

IF YOU HAD 3 OR FEWER RIGHT ANSWERS: DANGER! You should find out more about the effects of alcohol and other substances on driving.



ANSWERS

- 1 TRUE.** Your abilities are affected with your first drink.
- 2 FALSE.** Your liver eliminates 90% of alcohol, drugs or medication ingested. Nothing can speed up the process. The rate of elimination varies according to several factors; there is no fast and easy way to know how soon you can drive after consuming alcohol, drugs or medication.
- 3 TRUE.** Under the *Criminal Code*, you can be arrested and convicted even when your blood-alcohol level is below 0.08. A breathalyzer test is not always used to determine whether you are impaired. Police officers may assess your abilities by asking you to submit to physical coordination tests and, when needed, further assessment by a drug recognition expert. In some cases, a police officer may have sufficient grounds to put you under arrest simply by observing your behaviour.
- 4 TRUE.** See the answer to question 3.
- 5 FALSE.** Both drivers (\$300 fine) and passengers (\$200 fine) are prohibited from drinking alcohol in a vehicle, whether parked or not (even in the case of limousines and buses). If you are in the driver's seat, you may also face criminal charges if your faculties are impaired.
- 6 TRUE.** You may be arrested even if you are not driving. This is when the concept and having care or control of a vehicle applies. Here are a few examples:
- Sitting in the driver's seat when the keys are accessible, even when the motor is off;
 - Being in one's car (even sleeping in the back seat) and having the possibility of starting the vehicle;
 - Being close to one's vehicle (e.g. removing snow, putting things in the trunk or listening to the radio).
- 7 TRUE.** The following fees may apply:
- Minimum fine: \$1,000
 - Vehicle seizure (depending on the situation): \$600
 - Alcofrein program: \$150
 - Assessment of the risk of a repeat offence: \$300 to \$710 (depending on the situation)
 - Additional SAAQ insurance contribution: \$300
 - Ignition interlock device (depending on the situation): \$100/month
- The minimum cost is therefore \$1,750, in addition to inconveniences and the following variable expenses:
- Criminal record
 - Legal fees
 - Increased personal automobile insurance premiums
 - Trips to the United States made more difficult, even impossible (due to the criminal record)
- 8 TRUE.** Drivers must also pay a fine of \$1,500 to \$3,000 in addition to a \$600 fee related to a 30 day vehicle seizure. They may also face criminal charges.
- 9 TRUE.** A violation of this rule will result in suspension of the licence for 90 days, and in the event of a conviction, a \$300 to \$600 fine and 4 demerit points entered on your record.
- 10 FALSE.** Refusing to obey to a peace officer's orders automatically results in stiffer penalties.
- 11 FALSE.** Wall-mounted alcohol-screening devices (often placed near exits in bars) or small tubes purchased at low cost indicate your blood-alcohol level, but do not measure your ability to drive. Alcohol intolerance, fatigue, stress or the ingestion of other substances (medication or drugs) do not increase your blood-alcohol level, but amplify the effects of alcohol to the point of putting you at a greater risk of having an accident or being accused of impaired driving under the *Criminal Code* (even with a blood-alcohol level below 0.08). See the answer to question 3.

If you drink or use drugs or medication, choose an alternative:

- A designated driver
- A taxi or public transportation
- The hospitality of friends
- A drive-home service

