

Learning to drive is a complex task

Helping Learner drivers become safer drivers

- Learner drivers are the safest drivers on the road. But the moment they begin solo driving, their risk jumps dramatically.

Novice driver risk
(source: VicRoads)



- As drivers, 17 to 20 year olds are almost three times more likely to be killed in a serious crash than drivers aged 21 to 25 years, and more than 11 times more likely to be killed than drivers aged 40 to 44 years.
- Getting better on-road experience as a Learner is an important factor in reducing risk for solo driving. Experience in Sweden showed that increasing supervised, on-road experience to about 120 hours reduced crashes in the two years following licensing by about 40%.
- But many supervisors — who are often parents, brothers, sisters or friends — find teaching their Learner a daunting and stressful task. Many supervisors also underestimate the risk that young drivers face.
- keys2drive* is designed to help address these issues.

High levels of supervised practice, involving a variety of driving circumstances can reduce risk

keys2drive gives parents a chance to brush up on their own skills

Elements of the program

keys2drive helps foster a partnership between Learners, supervisors and professional driving instructors.

The key elements of the program are:

- One Commonwealth-funded professional driving lesson by an accredited driving instructor for Learner drivers when they are accompanied by their supervisor (this element draws on RACV's *Parent Plus* program).
- A voluntary accreditation scheme for professional driving instructors who wish to provide *keys2drive* lessons (this element draws on RACWA's *keys2drive* pilot program).
- A comprehensive website for Learners, supervisors and instructors.

Desired benefits for Learners and their families

- Reduced risk when Learners move to solo driving.
- Supervising drivers become safer drivers by brushing up on their own knowledge and skills.
- Tools to make Learning easier and safer.

When will *keys2drive* begin?

- The program is planned to begin with a trial late in 2008, followed by a staged national roll out in 2009.

