



Long Distance Rideshare Questionnaire, Do's and Don'ts, and Pre-screening Checklist

Schedule

- Are there any stops that you may need to make along the way aside from gas and bathroom breaks?
- Will you be bringing your own food/drinks or stopping along the way?
- Will anyone else be driving besides yourself?
- Will there be anyone else sharing the ride with us?
- Are you currently looking for other riders to join the trip?
- Are there any foreseeable problems that could cause you to cancel the trip?

Personality

- How would you describe your personality?
- What do you do for a living?
- How often do you listen to music when you're driving?
- Do you get cold or hot easily? At what temperature do you keep the car?
- Do you generally listen to music while you're driving? If so, what kind of music do you listen to?
- Would you mind if I sleep most of the trip?
- How sensitive are you to smell?

Experience

- Will this be your first time sharing a ride with someone you met online?
- When was the last time you took a rideshare?
- How was your experience with other rideshares?

Vehicle & Safety

- Do you have roadside assistance?
- Will you need help driving?
- Are there any known issues with the car that could cause discomfort (broken AC, loud noises, etc.)?
- Do you generally drive over or under the speed limit?
- Are there any security cameras in the car?

Payment

- Do you want the money upfront or when we stop for gas?
- How should I provide the money (cash, mobile app, etc.)?
- Will the price go down if you find additional riders?

Dos

- Keep your wallet/debit card in your pocket.** It may be best to keep some of your valuables on you or in the trunk if possible. Try to put them in a place that is less obvious and harder for anyone to access.
- Share your location on your mobile device with friends and family.**
- Trust your instincts.** If they are hesitant to provide any information or their replies are in one-word sentences without answering your questions, it's best to consider other candidates that are more serious about taking a trip.
- Discuss the route and expected stops in advance.** This will ensure everyone gets to their destinations at their expected time. It also reduces fear when everything's going as planned.
- Meet them outside of the vehicle.** Make it a habit to be picked up/dropped off in a lit public area such as a store front. A greeting even if you met prior will make all the difference and give you time to assess the person and car.

Don'ts

- Don't get in the vehicle without meeting the driver face-to-face.** Suggest a video chat or public meeting to confirm their identity.
- Don't approach the car with your hands in your pockets or in a bag.** This can make the driver or rider uneasy and fearful that you might have a weapon. This can be avoided by having your items or hand(s) free before approaching the vehicle.
- Don't get picked up or dropped off at your residence.** Provide an address of a nearby well store or clubhouse.
- Don't give your contact information out too soon.** Wait until you've asked all the important questions to avoid giving your information out to too many candidates. This includes email address, home address, and phone number. Social media has made it easy to use this information to find out where you work, live, and even hang out.
- Don't leave the keys in the car when you make stops.** Of course, you want the passengers to feel comfortable but it's better to be safe than sorry.

Etiquette

- Discuss payment arrangements upfront.** Pay or collect the money as soon as you get in the car. This way, there are no unexpected stops to the bank, and everyone can relax and enjoy the ride. Avoid making cash payments.
- Discuss unexpected stops as soon as possible.** Fuel up your car, get snacks, stop-by the bank, etc., before you pick up the rider. If you forgot to mention or discuss a stop, be sure to share it with the driver or rider right away. So they can accurately calculate their time of arrival.
- Have the car serviced and cleaned before offering a ride.** Keep in mind that riders evaluate the condition of your car as soon as they sit. Creating a pleasing visual appeal and don't forget smell can make a big difference when traveling. Clear out the clutter to make sure there's nothing in their way so they can have a pleasant experience.
- Never text or try to operate your phone while driving.** Everyone's expecting you to offer a safe ride. Please don't text while driving. If using a navigation system, ask the rider to update the navigation system, if needed.
- Ask before eating or drinking.** Pay attention to the details of the ad. It will generally state if food and drinks are allowed. Drivers should ask their passengers if they are comfortable with you eating your meals while driving. You can also plan short breaks to eat your meals at the rest area.
- Throw away your trash when you take pit stops.** Don't wait until the end of your trip to throw away your trash. Everyone will enjoy less smells and clutter in small spaces.
- Keep your hands to yourself.** When taking rideshare, we can't help but feel familiar to the other person due to the stories and laughter we share that we start throwing our hands in the air or high-fiving in agreement which may not be well-received by others. Remember to respect each other's personal space.
- Keep everyone updated.** Confirm your trip or notify the rider/driver of any change of plans the night before. On the day of the trip, send a text when you're about 30 minutes away to confirm everything's still on schedule.

Looking for good rideshare takes time. The more time you spend screening riders and drivers the better your chances are of finding someone that you can feel safe and enjoy sharing your space with. You've asked all the right questions, but your work isn't done yet! It's not only crucial to ask the tough questions but also to verify your rider or driver's identity and criminal history if possible.

Video Chat & In-Person Meeting



Video Chat

This is the most skipped safety step because it can be time-consuming. Since you pretty much expect that everyone will be on their best behavior during the interview, you will want to have a video chat to try to get a better feel of who the person is when they're in a comfortable environment. It also verifies the identity of the person you see online will be the same person you're meeting in person.



Meet In Person

Government IDs



Drivers License Or Passport

Unfortunately, there are times in which issues can escalate to have the authorities involved. It's very common that people use their nicknames as middle names. Add a layer of security by asking for a government ID just in case you find yourself in the middle of an investigation.

School or Work Email



Email Verification

If you are taking a ride with a student or someone that mentions the company they work for, you can also do email verification for added security. Request that they send you an email from their work or school account.

Check for Criminal History



Background Check

No matter how awesome and trustworthy a person may seem it's still important to learn as much as you can about them before sharing your space. The Census Bureau states that 29.5 percent of adults have a criminal record so be well-informed.



MVR

Going through the process of running a background check and MVR report every time you take rideshare is costly and time-consuming. It will also be very hard to find candidates willing to go through the process and that's where Haydash.com comes in. **Haydash memberships already include background and MVR checks** - which is cost effective and designed to save you time. We work hard to maintain a database full of quality rideshares.

Start your [search here](#) to find rideshares for your next road trip.