All of us love to criticize the traffic cop. He is usually depicted as a corrupt, will-get-you-no-matter-what cop. Here are some rules and general guidelines to ensure you stay on the right side of the law.

The most common grouse amongst citizens is the stopping of vehicles to demand papers.

**Q. Which police officers can ask for my documents?**There are two agencies in Delhi that enforce, monitor and regulate the various provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act. These are:

- Enforcement wing of the Transport Department

- Traffic Police

**Q. What documents should I carry when I drive my car?**

DO NOT DRIVE without the following documents:  
- Valid driving license

- Vehicle registration certificate (Form 23)

- Road tax certificate (for commercial vehicles only)

- Valid vehicle insurance certificate

- Valid pollution under control (PUC) certificate

- Permit and vehicle fitness certificate (For transport vehicles only)

A policeman in uniform or official of the transport department may ask these documents to be produced for inspection at any time. If these documents are found wanting or the person is not able to produce the same, he/she may be challaned.

**Q. What details should the challan contain?**

Prosecution slip/challan will be issued to you containing the following details:

1. Name and address of the court where the offence will come up for trial.
2. Details of offence committed.
3. Date of trial
4. Vehicle details
5. Name and address of offender
6. Name and signature of the challaning officer
7. Details of documents retained

**Q. How do I get rid of the challan?**

There are two ways the challan can be disposed of:

1. Compounding

By paying the challaning officer the fine on the spot, the challan may be compounded. This is valid only if the challan is issued by an official of the traffic police.

In case the challan is issued by the transport department, it can be compounded by the duty officer at Room No.G-3 at Transport Deptt. Head Qtr.,5/9, Under Hill Road between 10.00AM to 4.00PM on any working day. (Remember only certain offences can be compounded )

2. Disposal in Court

The offence will be heard in Court at the appointed date and time of trial. If the accused pleads not guilty, the accused will have to furnish proof of innocence.

**Q. How are impounded documents released?**

Impounded documents can be released from the court if it goes to trial or from the transport department.

**Q. What is compounding of challan?**

Compounding refers to the settlement between the law enforcement agency and the offender by deposit of notified fee.

**Q. What are some offences under which a person can be fined?**

For major traffic offences: <http://delhigovt.nic.in/newdelhi/dept/transport/tr4.asp#1>

For major motor vehicle offences: <http://delhigovt.nic.in/newdelhi/dept/transport/tr4.asp#2>

Source: <http://delhigovt.nic.in/newdelhi/dept/transport/tr4.asp>

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