

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRY (MVR)

A guide to the

DRIVING TEST



mvr.nt.gov.au



INTRODUCTION

The driving test is an important step in getting your driver licence. When you pass you will get your licence, and you will no longer need to drive with a supervising driver. You can continue learning and gaining valuable experience while driving on your own.

This guide explains what you need to do before, during, and after the driving test.

Use the information in this handbook as a guide only – it is not a book of road rules. You can learn about the road rules in the Road Users' Handbook or buy a hardcopy of the handbook at a Motor Vehicle Registry (MVR) office.



A Guide to the Driving Test

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THE DRIVING TEST

During the driving test, a driving examiner assesses your driving skills, decision-making, awareness of other road users, and how you share the road.

The examiner will give you directions on where to drive and mark your performance on a test score sheet.

Your score will be based on your driving skills in a range of situations and ability to show low-risk driving behaviours.

During the test, you will be assessed on:

- speed management (S)
- road positioning (P)
- decision making (D)
- responding to hazards (R)
- vehicle control (C).

Assessments							NOTES
S	P	D	Z	H	R	C	
✓	✓	⊙	1	H	R	✓	No hazards present in this zone
✓	✓	✓	2	✓	⊙	✓	Observation error
✓	✓	✓	3	✓	✓	⊙	A tick, requirement demonstrated
				✓	✓	⊙	Signal error
							A circle, requirement not demonstrated

Hazard present in the zone

An explanation of scoring codes is located on the back of the test sheet your driving examiner will give you at the end of your test.

During the test, you must complete 3 mandatory manoeuvres:

- a reverse parallel park
- three-point turn
- kerb side stop/hill start.

To pass the driving test you must get a score of at least 90%.

Some driving behaviours such as breaking a road rule or following other vehicles too closely is 'high-risk'. If you drive this way during the test your actions will be recorded as a fail item. If a fail item is recorded, you will not pass, regardless of your score.

See the test results section of this guide for a complete list of fail items.



In all the diagrams in this guide, you are always the blue vehicle



BEFORE THE TEST

Arrive at the test location early and make sure to bring your driver licence, or licence receipt if you have not yet received your card in the mail.

Remember to ask any questions before you start. During the test, the driving examiner cannot tell you how to drive. The test is an assessment of your ability to drive on your own.

Try to stay calm – you are not expected to drive as skilfully as an experienced driver. Remember, you can try again if you fail. You should wait a few days before you reattempt the driving test to give you time to practice and prepare for your next test.

Your driving test will be cancelled if there is any suspicion that you have recently consumed alcohol or another drug, or you have aggressive behaviour or use abusive language.

Sometimes an MVR Licensing Compliance Officer will sit in on your test. The compliance officer's job is to watch the driving examiner to make sure the test is done properly. Only the driving examiner and the compliance officer are allowed to be in the vehicle with you during the test.

The test will be recorded

All driving tests in the Northern Territory are recorded on video from start to finish. The driving examiner must keep a copy of the video for 6 months.

A Licensing Compliance Officer from the MVR can ask to see the recording at any time.

This is done to help prevent corruption and make sure you get fair and professional service.

Bribery is against the law

It is against the law to offer gifts, money, or other favours to get a licence without passing the driving test. All reports of bribery or corruption will be investigated, and serious action will be taken against anyone involved.

The minimum test fee is set by the MVR, but other costs, like hiring a vehicle for your driving test, may be added by the driving examiner. Don't offer or pay extra money to get your licence.

To avoid confusion, make sure your money and valuables are locked away or out of sight in your vehicle.

If you think someone has tried to bribe a driving examiner or suspect corruption involving an MVR worker, report it to:

Motor Vehicle Registry
1300 654 628
mvr@nt.gov.au



Booking a driving test

When you are ready to take the driving test, you can book directly with a driving examiner. A list of available driving examiners in your area can be found on the nt.gov.au/drivingtest.

If you are not enrolled in DriveSafe NT, you will need to pay the practical driving test fee. Driving examiners may have other fees, such as vehicle hire.



Test vehicle

The testing vehicle must be registered and roadworthy, with L plates correctly displayed (not required for interim licence holders). If you are using your own vehicle for the driving test, the driving examiner will check that it is suitable for use before the test starts.



Check the **NTREGO app** for the registration expiry date.

 **DOWNLOAD FREE APP**



Your vehicle cannot be used for the test, if it has:

- non-operational or missing seat belts – the vehicle must have working seat belts
- broken, incomplete, dirty, or discoloured indicator or brake lights
- cracked or broken windscreen obstructing the driver's vision (minor cracks excepted)
- tyres in poor condition that could compromise safety
- broken or damaged mirrors that distort vision
- missing or inoperative door handles (inside or outside)
- excessively damaged wheel rims or missing wheel nuts
- excessive fluid leaks from the underbody (excluding air-conditioning overflow)
- dual brakes (if fitted) not operational
- sharp edges caused by body damage that may pose a risk
- a convertible roof that cannot be securely covered upon request or during bad weather
- any training aids installed that could assist the test applicant
- prohibited Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) features that cannot be turned off
- loose objects inside the vehicle that may interfere with control or cause injury during hard braking.



Advanced Driver Assistance Systems

Many new vehicles include **Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS)**, such as:

- hazard warning functions (e.g. blind spot warning, parking warning)
- vehicle control functions (e.g. hill start assist, lane centering assistance)
- convenience functions (e.g. cruise control, active parking assistance).

These features are designed to help vehicle and road safety, so most of the ADAS features do not need to be turned off for your test.

However, during your driving test, you still need to demonstrate you can safely operate the vehicle independent of any ADAS technologies. For example, during the reverse parallel parking manoeuvre, you can check the reversing camera and use other warning functions, but you still need to check your surrounding using your mirrors and head check.

There are some ADAS features that cannot be used during the test. You will fail the test if you use any of the below features during the driving test.

Prohibited ADAS feature	What it does
Lane Centering Assistance	Helps keep a vehicle centred in the middle of the lane of travel
Intelligent Speed Assistance – Adaptive	Alerts the driver to the speed limit and restricts vehicle speed
Cruise Control and Adaptive Cruise Control	Maintain speed at a maximum level set by the driver
Active Parking Assistance	Guides the vehicle into a parking space
Active Driving Assistance	Takes control of driving for short periods, also known as 'autopilot'.

LOW-RISK DRIVING

Driving is never risk free, but you should aim to drive 'low-risk'. You will be assessed on your low-risk driving skills in speed management, road positioning, and decision-making. The test also assesses your ability to perceive and respond to hazards.

Observation

Observation is an essential skill for a low-risk driver. The driving examiner will be assessing your observation techniques throughout the test, and you will fail if your techniques are poor.

Scanning


Scanning is keeping your eyes moving, checking in one area for no more than a couple of seconds and then moving your eyes to another area. Low-risk road users constantly scan traffic conditions.

When scanning, look:

- in the distance
- to the left and right
- at the road surface
- in your mirrors
- at the instruments and gauges.

When driving around corners, turn your head and look through the corner to scan the road ahead of your vehicle. Slow down if vision of the road ahead is limited.

YOU MUST:


- Make regular checks in your rear vision mirror, so you know what is behind you. Check your rear vision mirror before you slow down or change direction.
- Turn your head and check for vehicles running the red light, or pedestrians crossing against the "don't walk" sign, before proceeding through a green traffic light.
- Also turn your head and check to ensure it is safe before crossing a railway level crossing. 

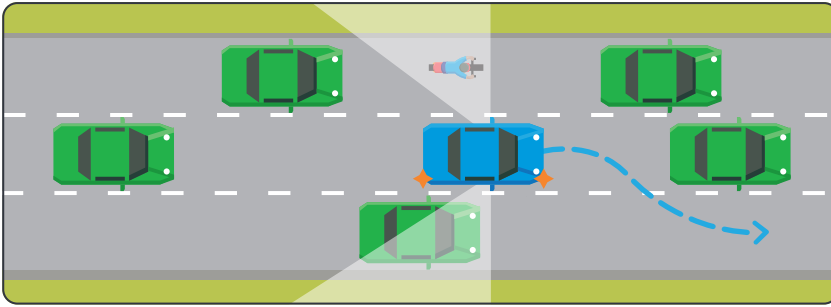
Checking blind spots

A vehicle, motorcycle, or bicycle next to you can be hidden from your mirrors in a blind spot area. Checking your blind spots by turning your head to look over your shoulder is very important. Many crashes happen because road users don't do this before turning or changing lanes.

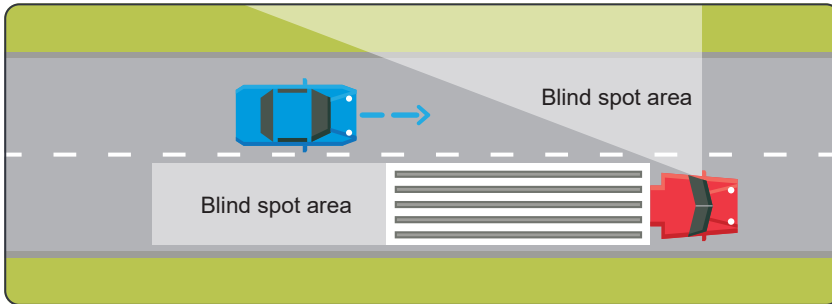
When reversing, turn your head and look over your shoulder to check for vehicles and pedestrians that may not be visible in your mirror.

YOU MUST turn your head and check your blind spots before:

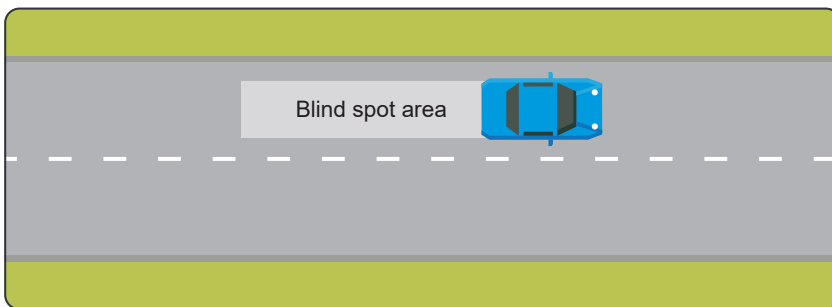
- changing lanes
- leaving or returning to the kerb
- merging or diverging
- reversing
- turning left – looking for pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists who could be beside you in your blind spot
- turning right – looking for vehicles that may be overtaking you
- joining the traffic stream leaving the inside lane of a multilane roundabout. 



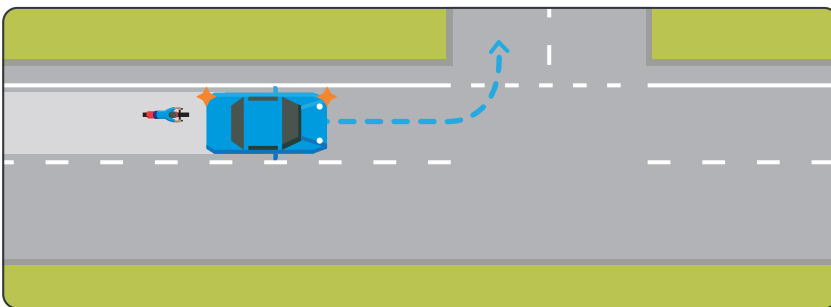
CHECK blind spots before changing your road position.



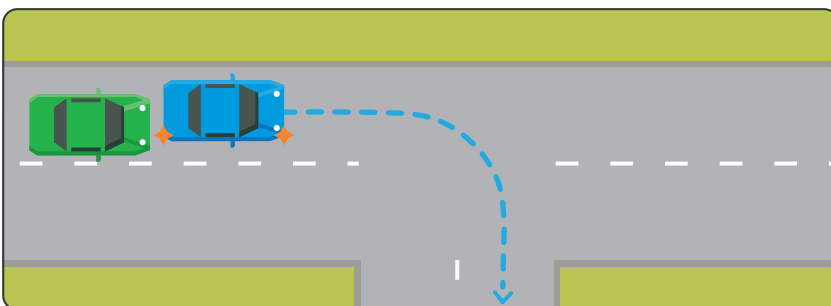
DO NOT drive in the blind spot of other vehicles.



ALL VEHICLES have a large blind spot behind them. Because of this blind spot, extra care must be taken when reversing as small children can be out of view.



Before turning left, **YOU MUST** check for bicycles and other vehicles that could be in your blind spots.



YOU MUST do a head check before turning into a street or driveway to check for vehicles that may be overtaking you.

Speed management

You must drive at a safe and legal speed that suits traffic, weather, and road conditions.

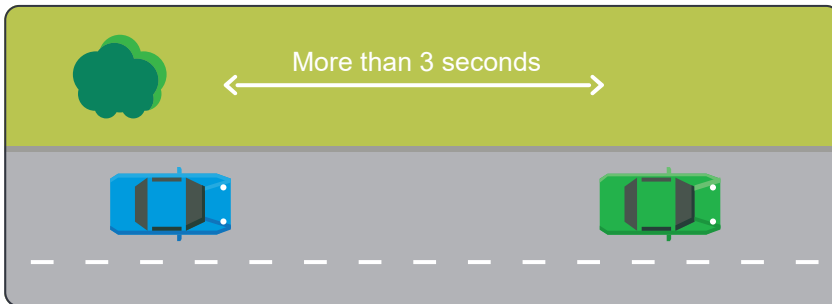
Maintain space to the front

You must adjust your speed to maintain crash avoidance space to the front of your vehicle. To keep a safe distance from the vehicle in front of you, use the three-second rule. Here's how:

1. As the vehicle in front passes a fixed object (like a power pole, tree, or road sign), start counting: 'one thousand and one, one thousand and two, one thousand and three.'
2. If you reach the object before you finish counting, you're too close – slow down and increase your following distance.

The following distance must be increased in poor conditions, or when you are being followed too close by another vehicle.

When you change lanes or if another vehicle moves into your three-second gap, you will need to create a bigger gap by slowing down.



YOU MUST stay at least 3 seconds behind the vehicle ahead.

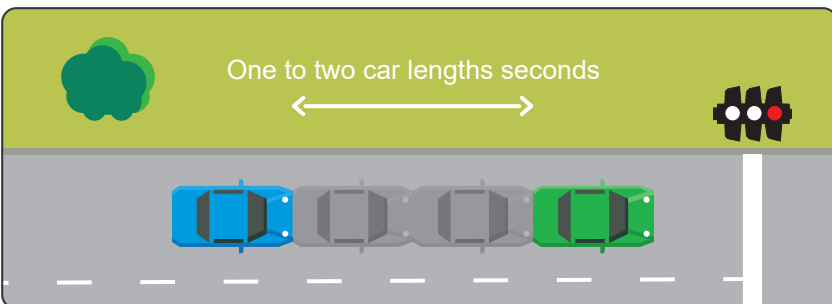


YOU MUST increase this distance in poor conditions, for example in heavy rain.

Maintain space when stopped

When you're stopped in traffic, keep a gap of about 2 vehicle lengths between you and the vehicle in front. This space helps reduce the chance of crashing into the vehicle in front if someone hits you from behind.

If there are vehicles stopped behind you and the risk of being hit from behind is low, you can move closer – up to about 1 metre from the vehicle in front.



YOU MUST come to a complete stop as close as possible to the stop line before entering an intersection with a stop sign.



Leave one to two vehicle lengths in front when stopped.

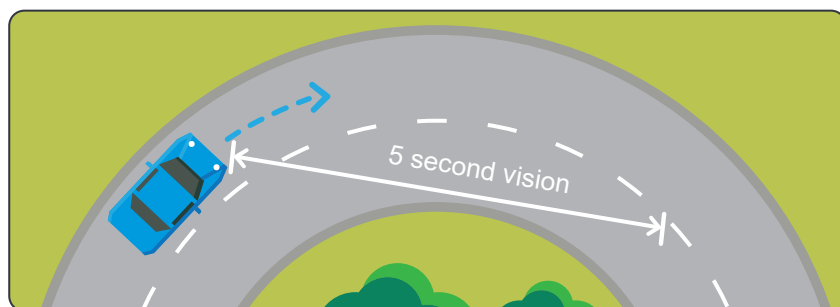
Reduce speed

You must slow down with no clear view of the road ahead. Situations where your vision may be reduced include:

- blind corners
- blocked intersections
- crests
- poor weather conditions.

Slow down if you cannot see 5 seconds ahead.

To calculate 5 second vision in a curve, pick a fixed point in the oncoming lane that has just come into view and start to count 'one thousand and one, one thousand and two ... one thousand and five'. If you reach the point before 5 seconds, you are driving too fast for the available vision.



SLOW DOWN if you cannot see 5 seconds ahead.

YOU MUST slow down in situations where space to the side of your vehicle is limited.



Road positioning

During the test you will be expected to maintain a safe, legal position on the road. This includes during manoeuvres such as a three-point turn and reverse parking.

Buffering

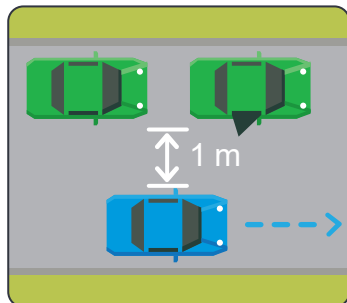
Buffering is keeping as much space to the sides of your vehicle as practical in any situation. You should have at least 1 metre from other vehicles and hazards.

You must slow down if you can't keep space from other vehicles and hazards. You are also expected to change your position on the road to create space from hazards.

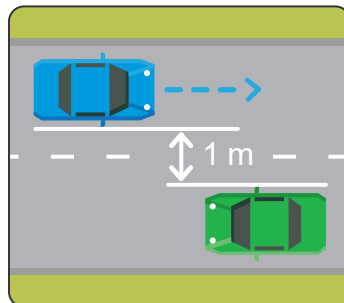
On crests and curves, slow down and move away from oncoming traffic. When possible, you should be at least 1 metre from the centreline on blind crests and curves.

In multi-lane traffic, avoid driving in the blind spot of other road users and in the high-risk area beside other vehicles.

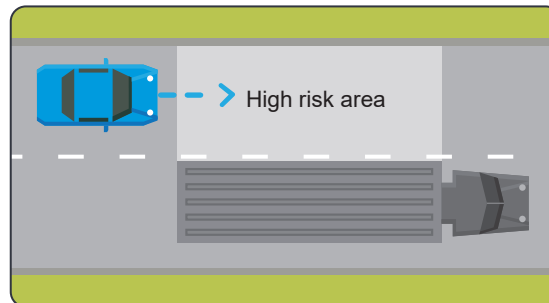
If you unnecessarily drive on the wrong side of the road, or unnecessarily cross any edge lines or lane markings, you will fail.



YOU MUST allow space for parked vehicles to open doors.



YOU MUST allow clearance from oncoming traffic.



AVOID driving in the high-risk area beside other vehicles.

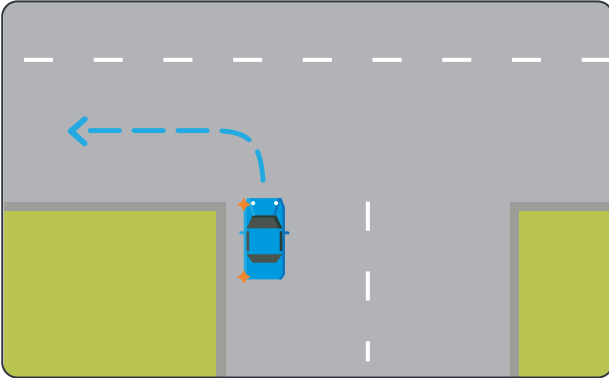
To reduce the risk of head-on crashes on multi-lane roads, only drive in the right lane when overtaking or planning to turn right.



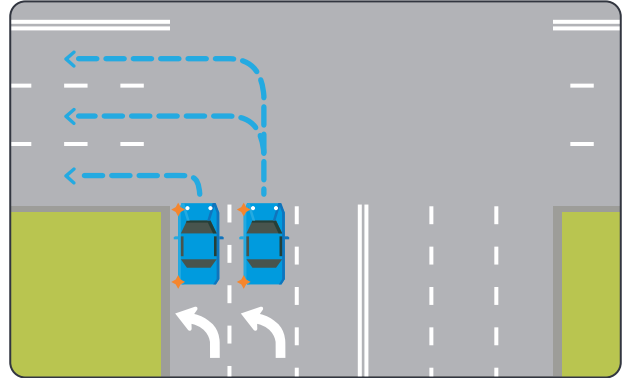
Turns at intersections

Your position when making turns is important to ensure a smooth and safe flow of traffic.

When turning left on unmarked roads, you must approach as far left as practical. When turning left on multi-lane roads, you must approach in the left lane, or any marked left turn lane.



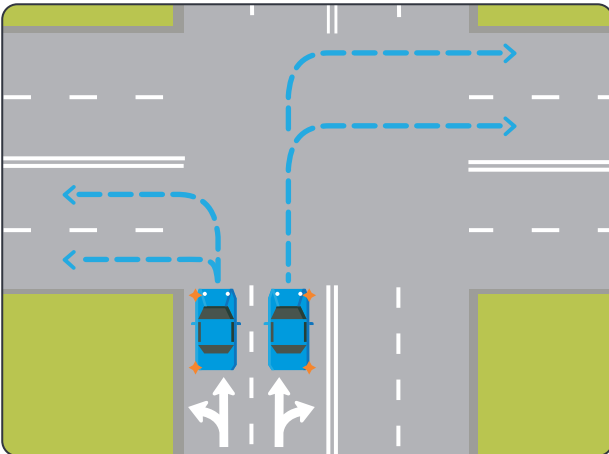
APPROACH left turns as far left as you can.



When there are multiple turning lanes, YOU MUST finish in a lane that you are allowed to turn into, according to the road markings.

As you finish a left turn, exit into the lane or part of the road that is best for the traffic conditions. Your choice will depend on where you are going next, whether vehicles are parked in the left lane, or whether outside lanes must be left clear for overtaking.

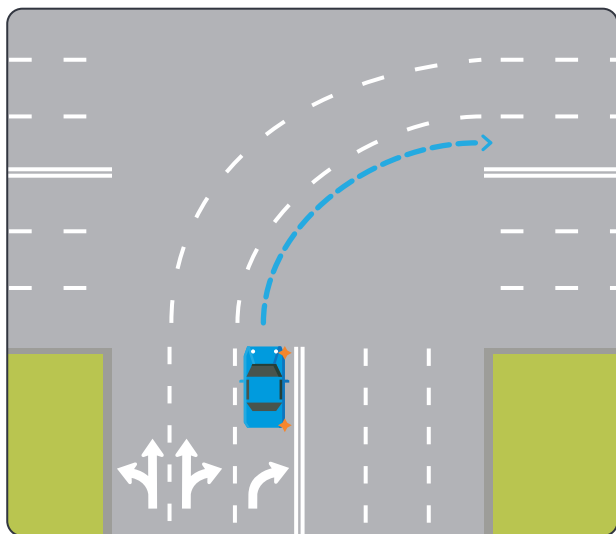
However, when there are multiple turning lanes **you must** finish in a lane that you are allowed to turn into, according to the road markings.



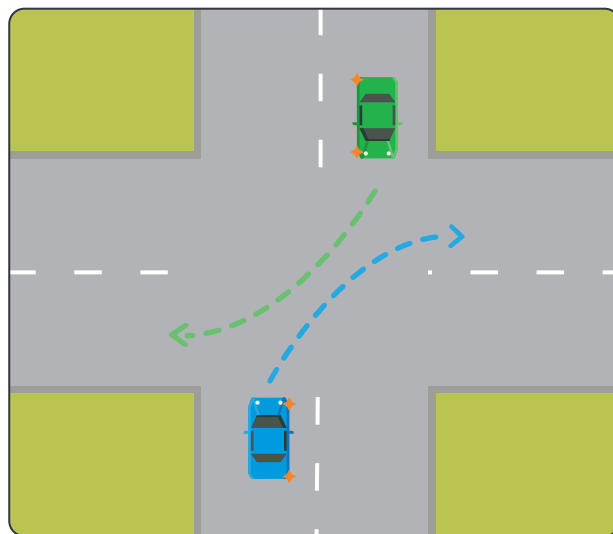
You can exit into either lane, depending on traffic.

YOU MUST keep your steering straight while waiting to turn right, to protect you from being pushed into the oncoming traffic if hit from behind.

When turning right on unmarked roads **you must** keep to the left of, but as close as practical to the centre of the road. When turning right on multi-lane roads you must approach in the right lane, or any marked right turn lanes. In marked lanes you must stay in the same lane as you go from one road to another.

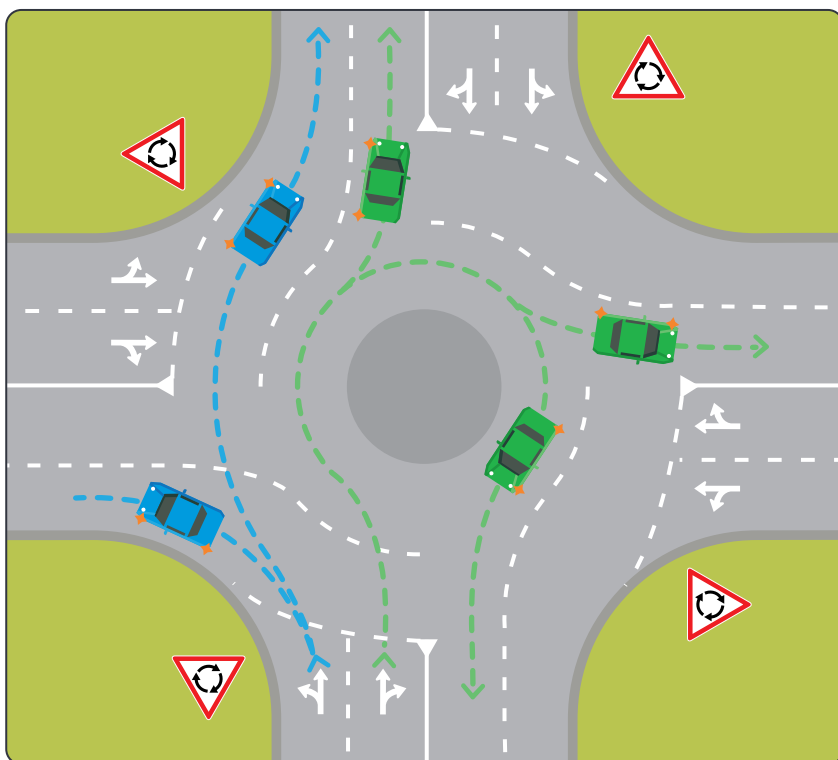


In marked lanes, stay in the same lane.



Turning vehicles pass in front of each other.

When turning right, steer to the right of an imaginary centre of the intersection. This allows vehicles opposite you to also turn right. As you exit, you must keep to the left of the centre of the road.



Indicate left when leaving the roundabout.

On multi-lane roundabouts, make sure you follow the road markings for the direction and exit you intend to take.

Approaching a roundabout

Vehicles entering a roundabout must give way to any vehicle already in the roundabout.

Exiting a roundabout

If practical, you must always signal left when exiting a roundabout.



Decision-making

A critical decision must be made whenever you enter traffic, change lanes, cross, or turn at an intersection. Decision-making includes good observations skills and driving in a way that does not impact the crash avoidance space of other road users.

Making turns

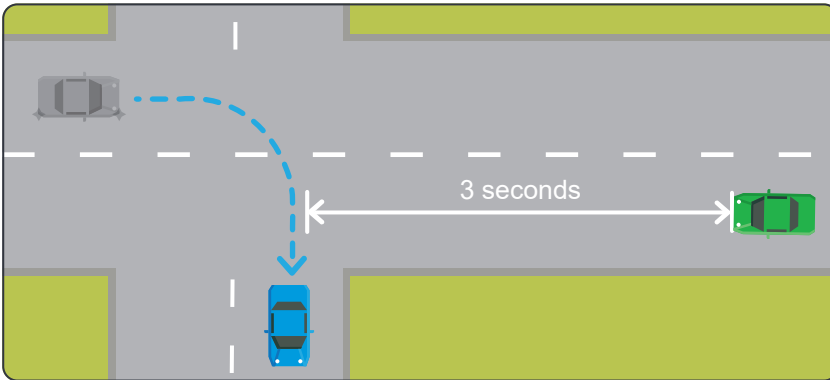
The driving examiner will check that you only make the turn when there is a safe gap in the traffic, and you are not affecting the crash avoidance space of other road users.

When joining a traffic stream, select a gap that allows you to reach the traffic speed before the approaching vehicles are within 3 seconds of your vehicle.



Choose a safe gap so other vehicles are not forced to change their speed or position.

When turning across traffic make sure your vehicle is clear of the intersection by at least 3 seconds before the approaching vehicles reaches you.



Be clear of the intersection for 3 seconds before other vehicles arrive.

During the test you will be expected to demonstrate smooth, flowing decision-making. If you reject safe gaps or stop at intersections when it is clearly safe to proceed, you may fail.

Observation checks

A good observation is a combination of scanning the road ahead, checking the mirrors for other road users, and checking the blind spot before changing direction.

You will not pass the driving test if you miss 3 or more observation checks.

During a blind spot head check, you are not required to fully turn your body to look through the rear window. There is no time requirement on the observation checks as these can be done in less than 1 second.

You will need to do a blind spot head check when:

- leaving or returning to the kerb
- changing lanes, merging, and turning
- reversing
- manoeuvring.

Limited vision

At some intersections your vision may be affected by other vehicles, trees, or buildings. In these situations, you must be cautious when proceeding. If you proceed into an intersection without due care, you may fail.

After stopping correctly at a 'stop line', you may move forward into an intersection to improve your vision, provided you do so safely and do not affect other vehicles or pedestrians.

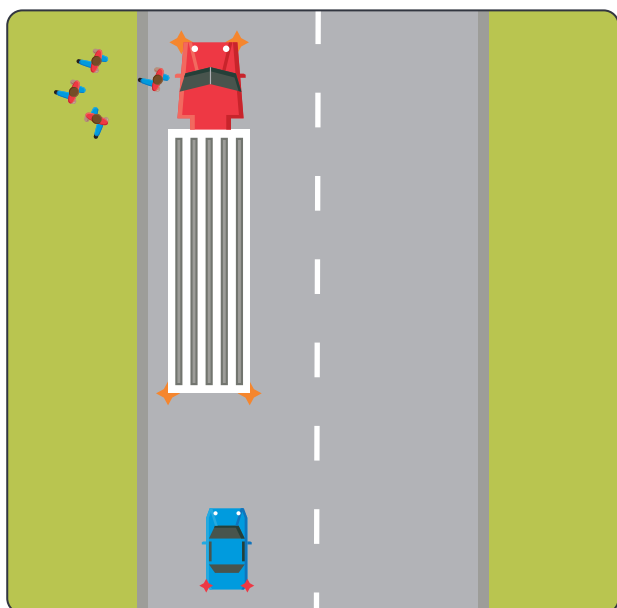
Responding to hazards

Your hazard perception skills are essential to low-risk driving. During the test you will be assessed on your ability to recognise hazards and make an appropriate response.

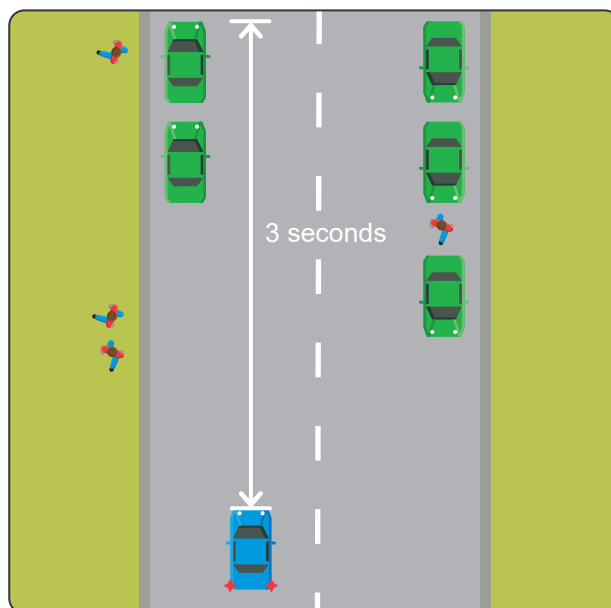
During the test you must respond appropriately to hazards. Look around for other vehicles or pedestrians that could possibly enter your crash avoidance space.

If something could block your path, protect your crash avoidance space by:

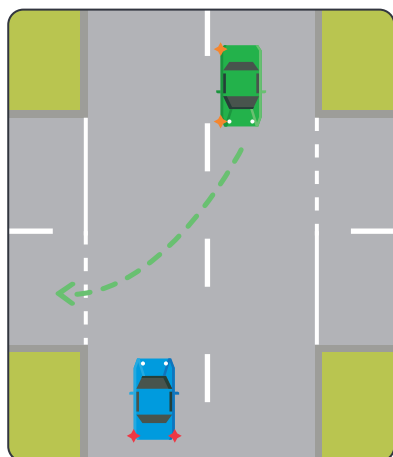
- 'setting up' or covering the brakes
- easing off the accelerator
- reducing speed
- creating a 'buffer' from the hazard by changing your position on the road or changing lanes.



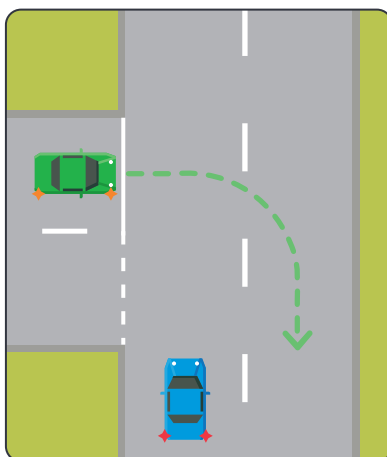
Respond when something can enter your crash avoidance space



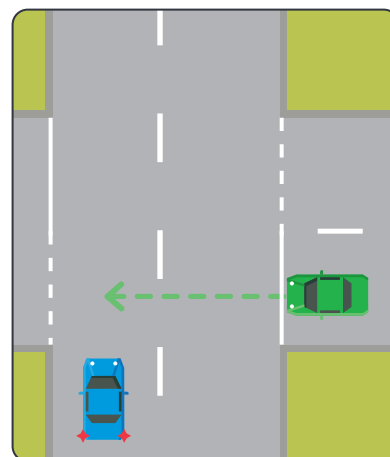
Respond before reaching the hazard.



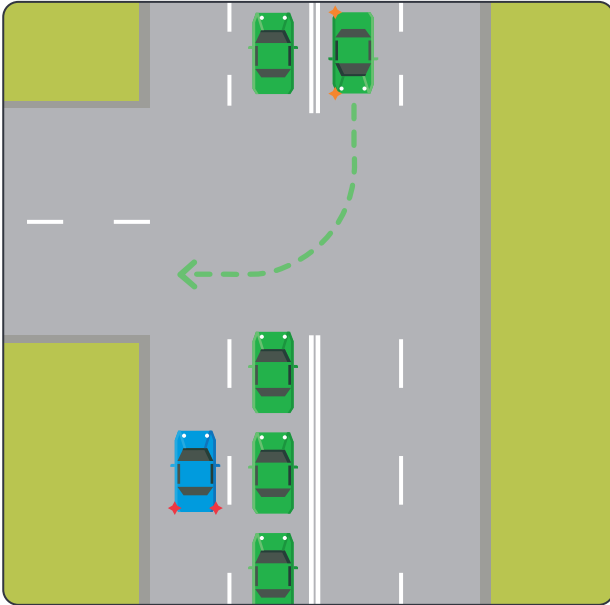
A vehicle waiting to turn in front of your path.



A vehicle waiting to pull out from the left side.



A vehicle waiting to pull out from the right side.



Stopped traffic obscuring vision at an intersection.

Vehicle control

You will be assessed on our ability to control the vehicle during various tasks. Your driving examiner will make sure that you:

- adjust your seat posture and steering column (if adjustable) to ensure you have good control of the vehicle
- operate accelerator smoothly when accelerating and decelerating
- operate brakes smoothly and effectively
- coordinate clutch and gear lever to make smooth gear changes
- select appropriate gear for the situation including when coming to a stop and parking the vehicle
- avoid over-revving on take-off and gear changes
- fit your seat belt correctly (low, flat and firm)
- apply a brake when starting the vehicle
- prevent rolling back when starting on hills
- use the park brake correctly when securing the vehicle and ensure it is fully released when driving
- steer with both hands on the steering wheel (except when using another control), using either 'hand-over-hand' or 'pull-push' method with hands on the outside of the steering wheel
- use other controls such as indicators, windscreen wipers and demisters
- drive vehicle without activating an ADAS warning sensor due to poor vehicle control.

You should be comfortable and confident using all vehicle controls smoothly and safely throughout your drive.

Eco driving

You should apply the eco driving techniques outlined on page 61 of the *Road Users' Handbook*. Harsh acceleration or braking will affect your score.



Signalling

Signalling is an important part of driving; it lets other road users know of your intention to change direction. Giving a change of direction signal (indicating) when needed is assessed under vehicle control.

You must give a change of direction signal when:

- moving away from a parked position at the side of the road
- changing lanes, merging, or diverging
- turning
- moving to the kerb
- manoeuvring.

If you make more than 3 signalling errors during the test, you will not pass

Basic driving techniques

The key to good driving technique is smoothness, and the secret to smoothness is good preparation.

Driving posture



TIP: Brace your body using your left foot.



- 1 Steering wheel:** should be adjusted low, facing the driver's chest rather than the face.
- 2 Head restraint:** adjust for your height. See owner's manual.
- 3 Arms:** keep arms bent; thumbs should be on the rim of the steering wheel.
- 4 Knees:** keep your knees slightly bent.
- 5 Seat position:** have the seat fairly upright to fully support your back and shoulders.
- 6 Seat depth:** sit deep in the seat with your backside against the back of the seat.

Seatbelts

For seatbelts to work effectively they should be adjusted low, flat, and firm.

- **Low** – placed below your hips to fully secure your body weight.
- **Flat** – no twists, turns or folds.
- **Firm** – when you drive, pull the belt firm regularly to remove any slack.

Airbags

Airbags are a supplementary restraining system (SRS) designed to be used in conjunction with seatbelts. To get the most benefit from the driver's airbag, the steering wheel should be adjusted low, facing the driver's chest rather than the face.

Braking technique

Correct braking is done in two stages. First, put light pressure on the brake pedal and pause (set up the brakes), and then progressively apply the necessary braking pressure (squeeze).

Two-stage braking (set up and squeeze) improves braking effectiveness, reduces the likelihood of skidding and provides better control.

Harsh or excessive braking pressure can cause skidding and a loss of control, particularly on wet or gravel roads.

Steering technique

There are two main steering techniques: 'push-pull' and 'hand over hand'.

With the **push-pull technique**, one hand pulls the steering wheel into the other hand. The right hand stays on the right half of the steering wheel; the left hand stays on the left half.

With the **hand-over-hand technique**, the hands are continually crossing over on top of the steering wheel.

Regardless of which steering technique you use, some general rules apply:


- steering must be smooth and progressive
- keep both hands on the outside of the steering wheel and thumbs along the rim
- use your hands to slow down and guide the wheel when it automatically returns to the centre position after a turn
- reduce speed before steering and wait until the vehicle begins to straighten before accelerating.

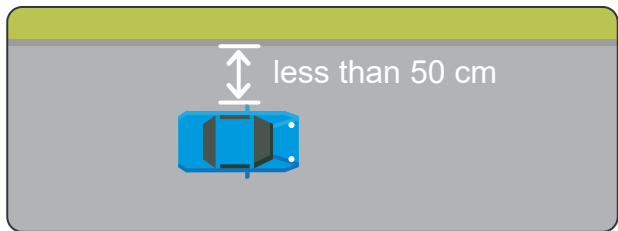
MANOEUVRES

On the driving test you will be asked to complete the following manoeuvres:

- a kerb side stop/hill start
- a three-point turn
- reverse parallel park.

During the manoeuvres you will be assessed on your ability to position your vehicle legally, safely, and accurately.

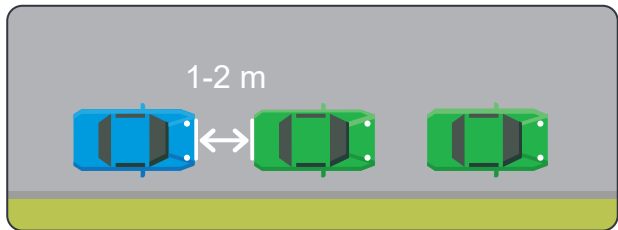
If your vehicle has Active Parking Assistance, this must be switched off for the reversing manoeuvres. 



The vehicle should be parallel and closer than 50 cm to the kerb.

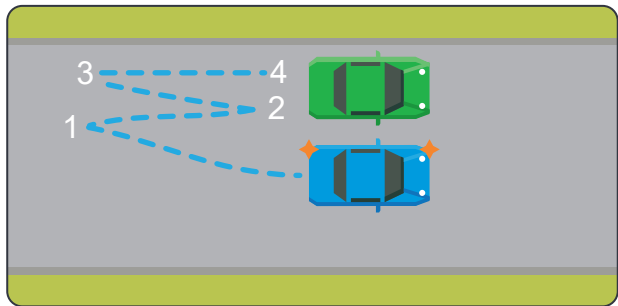
During the reverse parallel park and kerb side stop, park as close to the kerb as practical. The test requires you to be less than 50 cm from the kerb but make sure that the wheels don't hit the kerb.

Your final parked position must be parallel to the kerb, with no more than 10 cm variance between the front and rear wheels.



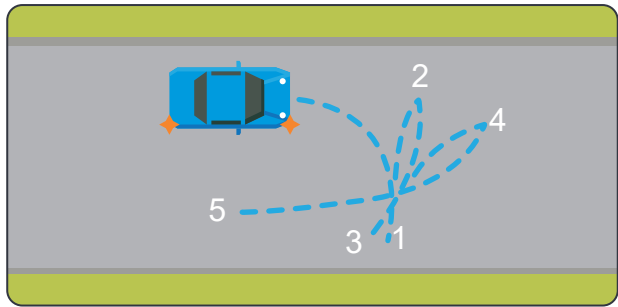
YOU MUST make sure the vehicle is 1-2m from other vehicles.

During the reverse parallel park, reverse only as far as you need. You can't reverse more than 4 metres back from the rear of the vehicle you are parking behind. Your final parked position must be between 1-2 m from the vehicle in front.




Park using a maximum of 4 direction changes.

The test allows a maximum of 4 direction changes for the reverse parallel parking manoeuvre.



Turn around using a maximum of 5 direction changes.

During the three-point turn you must check left and right for traffic before each movement. The test allows a maximum of 5 direction changes during the three-point-turn manoeuvre. If it is possible to complete the manoeuvre in 3 changes of direction, you will be expected to achieve this.

Mounting or hitting the kerb at any time during the test will result in a fail. 

SAFE DRIVING

Be Alert. Be Seen. Be Safe

Motorcyclists are vulnerable road users.

As a driver you share the road, it is vital for you to stay alert and be aware of motorcycles.

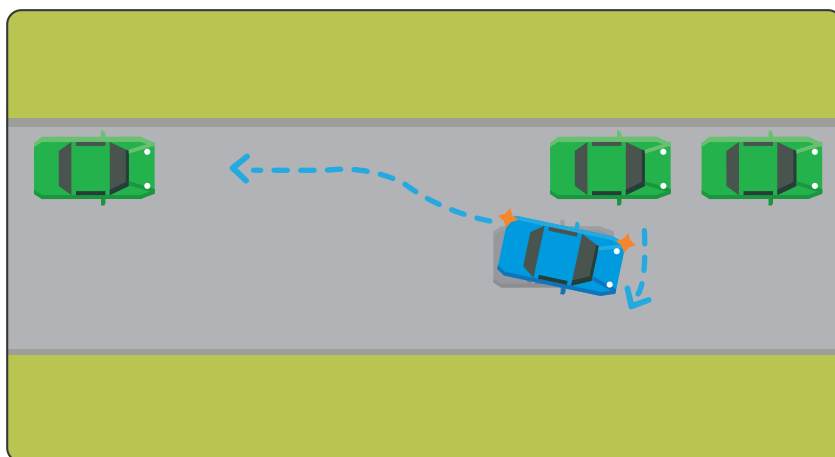


Observation checks during manoeuvres

During manoeuvres you must check for other vehicles, pedestrians, and possible hazards.

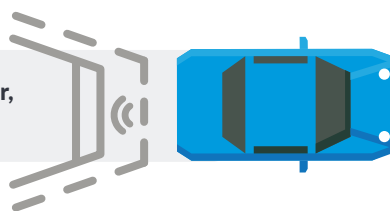
YOU MUST turn your head and check your blind spot before you:

- move to the kerb to commence the manoeuvre
- leave the kerb to re-join the traffic
- steer, if during reversing the front of your vehicle will swing into the lane.



YOU MUST check your blind spot before the front of your vehicle swings into the lane beside you.

You may use reversing cameras and sensors to aid reversing. However, you must also check your mirrors and the area around your vehicle.



WHY YOU MIGHT FAIL

This guide provides examples of what you need to do to drive safely and pass your test. However, certain actions and behaviours are considered fail items. If you make a mistake that results in a fail, your test will continue so the examiner can fully assess your driving skills but you will not pass the test.

Below is a list of all the fail items with examples of how they might happen during your driving test.

Remember that this book is a guide only. You can learn about the road rules in the Road Users' Handbook or buy a hardcopy of the handbook at an MVR office.

Disobeying traffic signs, signals or road markings

You need to have a good understanding of traffic signs, signals, and road markings.



These tell you what road rules apply in any specific situation. Examples of this fail item include:

- not stopping correctly at a stop sign or stop line – your final stopped position must be within 1 metre of the stop line with no part of the vehicle over the line
- not stopping at a red traffic light
- not stopping at a yellow traffic light when it is safe to do so—you must stop at a yellow light unless sudden braking might cause a crash
- crossing a continuous centre line, lane line, or edge line unnecessarily
- disobeying road markings (turn arrows)
- not obeying regulatory signs such as One Way, No Entry, No U-Turn, Keep Clear and Keep Left
- parking on a yellow edge line or in an Accessible Parking Bay without a permit.

Failing to give way when necessary

You may fail your driving test if you do not give way to:



- any vehicle that has priority over you at an intersection
- pedestrians at marked crossings and intersections
- other vehicles when entering a traffic stream, merging, or lane changing when required
- an emergency vehicle
- a bus with a Give Way sign, that is indicating right to enter the left lane from a bus stop.

Colliding with a vehicle, pedestrian or object

This includes mounting or straddling (one wheel either side of) a traffic dome and mounting the kerb or roundabout.



Performing an illegal act or manoeuvre

An illegal act or manoeuvre is any action that breaks the road rules. Examples of this fail item include:



- unnecessarily driving on the wrong side of the road on unmarked roads
- starting a left turn from the right lane
- not following the turn line
- stopping on a pedestrian crossing or stop line when giving way to pedestrians
- not driving in the left lane when required to do so
- making an unlawful U-turn
- not using the correct lane to turn at a roundabout
- overtaking or passing a stationary vehicle at a pedestrian crossing
- entering a railway level crossing when unsafe to do so
- not wearing a seatbelt
- answering or using a mobile phone or smart watch.

Exceeding the speed limit

The speed limit is the maximum allowable speed for that section of road under normal conditions. Exceeding the speed limit is dangerous and illegal. You will fail if you exceed the speed limit at any time including:



- the 40 km/h limit at school zones during the hours of operation
- the 40 km/h limit when passing a bus with flashing lights
- the learner driver speed limit
- speed limits at road works.

Action requiring driving examiner intervention

To pass the driving test, you must drive without any help from the driving examiner.



You will fail if the examiner must give you verbal or physical assistance. For example, if they need to use the dual controls, grab the steering wheel, or tell you to release the handbrake.

Causing a potentially dangerous situation

This fail item covers any unsafe act or behaviour that could put you or others at risk, such as:



- overtaking in an unsafe manner
- giving way unnecessarily when travelling on priority road
- not following direction from police, emergency services, or traffic controllers.

Failing to maintain proper control of the vehicle

This fail item applies to anything that could, or does, result in you losing control of the vehicle such as:



- allowing the vehicle to roll back more than 50 cm when moving off
- skidding or spinning the wheels
- clutch coasting (allowing the vehicle to roll along with your foot on the clutch) or coasting in neutral
- not maintaining effective control of the steering wheel
- using an ADAS feature that removes your ability to demonstrate you can drive the vehicle independently, such as cruise control, parking or lane centering assistance.

Failing to select appropriate speed

This fail item may be recorded if you fail to choose an appropriate speed when considering other road users, pedestrians, hazards, and weather conditions during the test.



For example:

- approaching pedestrian crossing or Give Way sign too quickly to stop safely
- driving too fast or too slow for the conditions
- following too closely to the vehicle ahead.

Frequently making a signalling error

You will fail if you make 3 or more signal errors during your driving test. You must signal:



- to give sufficient warning to other road users of your intentions when turning left or right
- for at least 5 seconds before leaving the kerb or a parking space
- when changing lanes, diverging, or pulling over to the kerb
- when turning right or left at a roundabout
- when exiting a roundabout if practicable.

Unreasonably obstructing other vehicles or pedestrians

You will fail if you unreasonably obstruct other vehicles or pedestrians during the test.



For example, you must not enter an intersection if the road ahead is blocked by traffic.

Manoeuvre not completed to the required standard

During the test, you must complete 3 mandatory manoeuvres.



You will not pass if you:

Reverse parallel park

- do not complete the manoeuvre in 4 moves
- park more than 1 metre from the kerb or your vehicle obstructs traffic
- park more than 2 metres from the vehicle in front
- rely only on parking assistant or reverse camera and sensors without checking mirrors
- use Active Parking Assistant
- park with wheels on or over marked parking lines
- reverse more than 4 metres from the vehicle in front
- park with front and rear wheels parallel to the kerb (10 cm variance allowed)
- hit the tyres against the kerb face.

Three-point turn

- do not complete the three-point turn manoeuvre in 5 moves
- hit tyres against the kerb face.

Kerbside stop or hill start

- do not park with front and rear wheels parallel to the kerb (10 cm variance allowed)
- hit tyres against the kerb face
- park more than 1 metre from the kerb or your vehicle obstructs traffic
- park with wheels on or over marked parking lines
- rely only on parking assistant or reverse camera and sensors without checking mirrors.

Frequently not making required observation checks

You will fail if you repeatedly miss observation checks when required. Specifically, this fail item applies to checking your blind spots when you:



You will not pass if you do not check when you:

- leave or return to the kerb
- merge, diverge, or change lanes
- are about to reverse, such as in a reverse parallel park and three-point turn
- turn at intersections, leave, or join the road
- cross lanes within a roundabout on exiting.

You must turn your head and check it is safe to proceed when moving off after being stopped at traffic lights and railway level crossings.

Immediate fail

In most cases, even if your driving examiner has marked a fail item, your test will continue, and you will be given a full assessment of your performance.

In some situations, the driving examiner may record an immediate fail and stop the test. The driving examiner may drive you back to the test starting location.



An immediate fail may be recorded if:

- you do anything that is unsafe or dangerous and there is a danger to the public.
- you refuse to co-operate with the driving examiner and so cannot be given a proper test.

Test termination

A driving test may be terminated for reasons other than your driving skills. Your test will be terminated if any of the following issues cannot be resolved at the time of the test:



- you are, or suspected to be, under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- you engage in unacceptable, inappropriate, or unlawful behaviour, including:
 - offering a bribe or inducement, or suggesting any form of corrupt conduct
 - making extreme emotional pleas, threats, or sexual advances to influence the result (a warning may be given)
 - repeated and persistent requests to ignore an error (a warning may be given)
 - displaying threatening, abusive, aggressive, or violent behaviour
- there is a crash during the test, regardless of who is at fault
- the testing vehicle is unsuitable for the class of licence, licence condition, or type of disability
- you refuse to allow the test to be recorded on an appropriate device, or the device is not functioning
- you refuse to attempt any part of the test
- you receive external advice or instruction during the test
- you repeatedly or deliberately fail to follow directions during the test
- you are too unwell to drive safely
- the testing vehicle breaks down during the test, or more than 3 complete zones of assessment are missed while off course
- extreme weather stops you from safely completing the test.

After the test

After the test, the driving examiner will tell you the test result and provide you feedback on your performance. These will be general comments rather than discussing specific situations or events.

You will also get a driving test sheet that has information on the second page that shows the areas where you need to improve.

Driving examiners need to make sure that your test is conducted fairly and courteously. If you are not satisfied with the way the test was done, please contact the MVR. The Licensing Compliance Unit will investigate your complaint and discuss the matter with you.

If you passed your test, you need to attend an MVR office with your test sheet and pay a licence fee to get your provisional licence.

Your provisional licence has driving conditions, which include the following:



- having a zero blood alcohol concentration
- not exceeding 100 km/h
- displaying your P plates at the front and rear of the vehicle.

You must upgrade your licence before it expires, otherwise you will need to sit another theory test to get a learner licence and wait 6 months before you can apply to upgrade your licence.

If your test was completed in an automatic vehicle then your provisional licence will be issued with an Automatic (A) condition, and you will be restricted to only driving an automatic vehicle for the first 12 months of your provisional licence.

If you did not pass, you cannot try again until the next day and should only try again when you are ready.

Regardless of whether you pass or fail the driving test, **it is best to let your supervising driver take over** the driving when you leave the test location. Many learner drivers find it hard to concentrate after the test because they may be excited or disappointed by the result.



