



**NORTHERN  
TERRITORY**  
GOVERNMENT



# **A guide to the Driving Test**

## Extra information for DRV4LYF students

**Statistics: 80% of our students who do NOT have a lesson before they take a driving test will FAIL. MVR have set high standards and Learner drivers are expected to meet these standards. Your instructor will check that you are doing the right thing.**

### Things you must do to meet the MVR standards:

HEADCHECKS = Look over your shoulder to see what is behind you

- when reversing out from an angle park (eg at MVR), look all around you and do a headcheck (right shoulder) before driving off
- every time you change a lane, do a headcheck (L or R) the way that you are turning the steering wheel
- every time you move off from a stationary position, do a headcheck (right shoulder) before driving off
- approaching roundabouts - look left and right
- indicate right before you move off from a 3 point turn. Do a headcheck (right shoulder) before driving off
- use your indicator every time you change lanes, stop, move off, turn left or right

### YOU WILL FAIL THE TEST IF YOU

- fail to give way to oncoming traffic
- miss more than THREE HEADCHECKS
- miss THREE INDICATORS
- drive more than 20kph below the speed
- exceed the speed limit
- hit anything - even the kerb
- drive dangerously
- crash the gears and jerk the car unnecessarily

# Introduction

The driving test is an important step in gaining your driver licence. When you pass you will be issued with your provisional licence and will no longer need to have a supervising driver in the car with you. You will be free to continue learning and gaining valuable experience through driving on your own.



This booklet is not a book of road rules. For information on road rules refer to the *Road User's Handbook* which is also available for free from [www.nt.gov.au/driving/licences/get-your-driver-licence/sit-a-driving-test](http://www.nt.gov.au/driving/licences/get-your-driver-licence/sit-a-driving-test)

or the handbook can be purchased for a fee at a Motor Vehicle Registry office in your area.

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# The driving test

This guide explains what you need to do before taking a test, what you will be tested on, and what happens afterwards.

## THE WAY THE TEST WORKS

The driving test follows a set course comprising 25 zones. During the test a driving examiner will be in the car with you directing you where to drive, and recording your performance on a score sheet. Your score will be based on your driving performance in a range of situations and your ability to demonstrate low risk behaviours. You are assessed against five key performance areas: speed management (S); road positioning (P); decision making (D); responding to hazards (H) and vehicle control (C).

Assessments							NOTES
S	P	D	Z	H	R	C	
✓	✓	○		—	—	✓	H
✓	✓	✓		✓	○	✓	
✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	○	S

No hazards present in the zone  
 Observation error  
 A tick, requirement demonstrated  
 Signal error  
 Hazard present in the zone  
 A circle, requirement not demonstrated

Some driving behaviour such as breaking a road rule or following other vehicles too closely is considered to be 'high risk'. If you behave this way during the test your actions will be recorded as a FAIL item and you will not pass, regardless of your score.

An explanation of scoring codes is located on the back of the driving test score sheet.

See the Test Results section of this guide for a complete list of fail items. To pass the driving test you must achieve a score of at least 90 per cent with no fail items.



In all the diagrams in this guide, you are always the blue car, marked A.



# Before you start

## BRIBING PEOPLE IS AGAINST THE LAW

It is illegal to offer, request or accept gifts, rewards, money or other favours in order to get a licence without passing the required tests. All cases of alleged corruption will be investigated and strong action will be taken against all those involved.

Driver licence fees are Regulated fees that you have to pay. Other fees associated with your driving test, such as vehicle hire, may be levied by Authorised Class C Driving Examiners (driving examiners). Do not pay any more or offer to pay more to get your licence.

If you know or believe that someone has got or is about to get a NT licence by offering or responding to a request for a bribe – or if you suspect or know of any other corruption involving a Motor Vehicle Registry employee or driving examiner – telephone Motor Vehicle Registry on 1300 654 628, or the Ombudsman NT on 08 8999 1818 or 1800 806 380 (not a free service from mobile phones).



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

## THE TEST WILL BE RECORDED

The applicant is reminded that the entire test will be recorded with a camera, for images and sound, inclusive of the pre and post-test discussion. The driving examiner is obliged to hold a copy of that recording for six months and a MVR Licence Compliance Officer can obtain access to that recording at any time. This step is taken to guard against corruption and to ensure that applicants receive the highest standards of service.

## BOOKING A DRIVING TEST

When you are ready to take the practical driving test, you can book with a driving examiner. A list of available driving examiners in your area can be found on the [NT.GOV.AU](https://nt.gov.au) website or via the following link; <https://nt.gov.au/driving/licences/get-your-driver-licence/sit-a-driving-test>

Note that Katherine has two driving schools that offer driving tests: DRV4LYF Driving School charges \$100, Florina Driving and Licensing \$180.

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 car hire, and bookings made with authorised driving examiners will be required to abide by their business rules.

## TAKING THE TEST DRV4LYF will pick you up if you live in Katherine

Plan to arrive at the testing location in good time for your appointment. The driving examiner will ask you to sign the score sheet. Remember to ask any questions before you start. The driving examiner cannot tell you how to drive or coach you during the test as it is an assessment of your ability to drive on your own.



A Licensing Compliance Officer (LCO) may sit in on your test. The LCO's job is to watch the driving examiner and make sure that the test is conducted properly. Nobody other than the driving examiner and LCO is allowed to be in the vehicle with you during the test.

Text

Try to relax. You will not be expected to drive as skilfully as an experienced driver. Remember, you can try again if you fail. However, it is recommended you wait a minimum of seven days before you reattempt the driving test.

After the test, the driving examiner will review your performance if you wish. Driving examiners will provide general comments rather than discuss specific situations or events.

If you fail you will receive a driving test record that shows the areas where you need to improve.

#### YOUR CAR MUST BE SUITABLE FOR SAFE USE AND READY TO DRIVE

Before the test starts the driving examiner will check to make sure that your car is suitable for safe use (see Test Termination Criteria and Vehicle Circle check - pages 33 & 34).

**Note that DRV4LYF Driving School only tests students in DRV4LYF cars.**

#### WHY A TEST CAN BE CANCELLED

If there is any suspicion that you have recently taken alcohol or another drug, the test will be cancelled. If you offer money, some other bribe, or try to influence the driving examiner, the test will be stopped. Remember that the test will be recorded and any attempt to influence the test outcome will be investigated.

## 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. You will fail if your observation techniques are poor. So **look over your shoulder** when changing lanes, look left and right at all junctions, look over your shoulder when leaving a parked position.

### 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 drivers constantly scan traffic conditions.

**When driving around corners turn your head and look through the corner** scanning the road ahead of your vehicle.

Slow down if vision of the road ahead is limited.

You will be expected to make **regular checks in your rear vision mirrors** so you know what is happening behind you. You must check your rear vision mirror before you slow down or change direction.



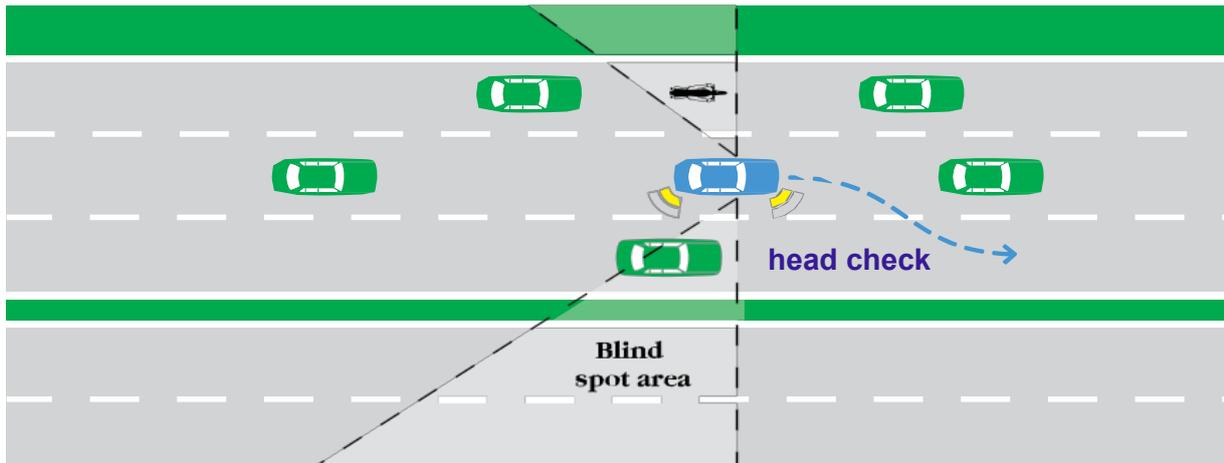
When scanning look:

- In the distance
- To the left and right
- At the road surface
- In your mirrors
- At the instruments and gauges

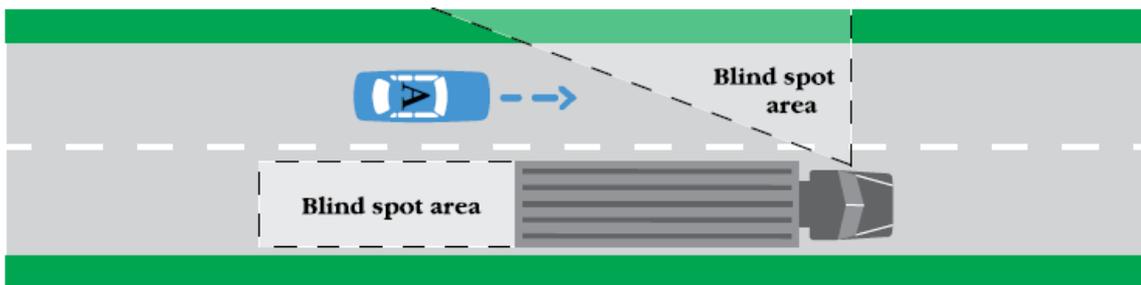
Before proceeding through traffic lights, you must turn your head and check to ensure there are no vehicles that may be 'running' the red light, or pedestrians crossing against the 'don't walk' sign. You must also turn your head and check to ensure it is safe before proceeding across a railway level crossing.

### CHECKING BLIND SPOTS

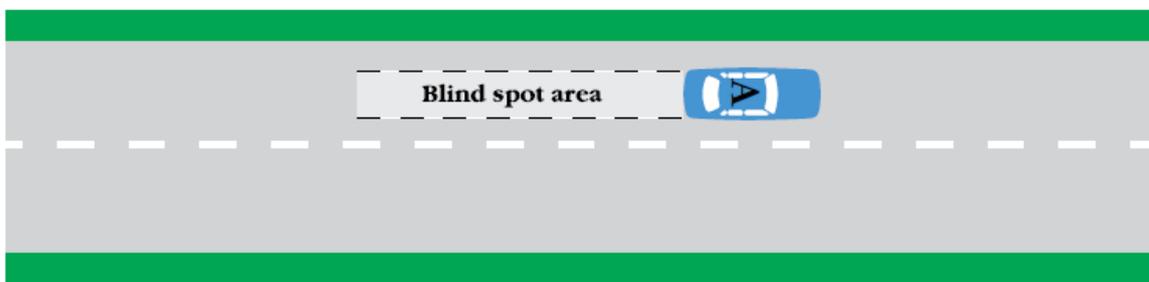
A car, motorcycle or bicycle in an adjacent lane can easily be positioned beyond the area visible in the mirrors. Checking your blind spots is an essential observation skill as many crashes occur because drivers do not turn their head and look over their shoulder before steering. **Frequently not performing observation checks will result in a fail. Look over the shoulder of the lane that you are turning into.**



Check blind spots before changing your road position.



Do not drive in the blind spot of other vehicles.

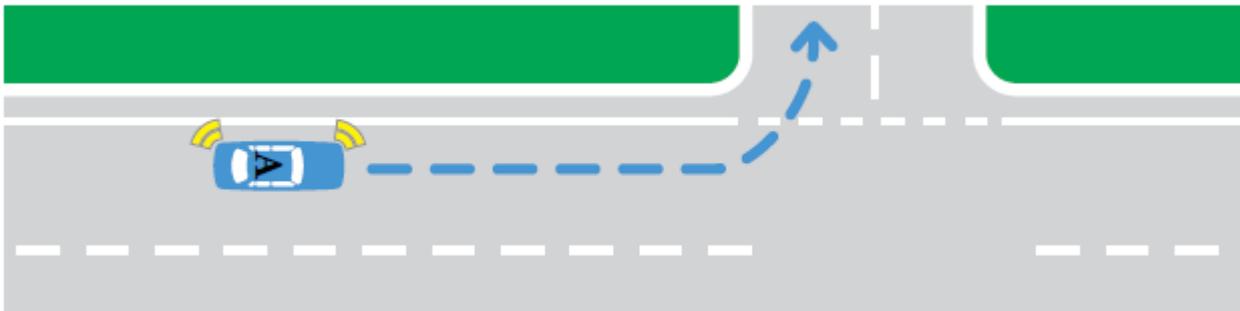


All vehicles have a large blind spot behind them. Because of this blind spot, extra care must be taken when reversing as small children can be out of view.

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, bicycles and motorcycles that 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 multi-lane roundabout.

When reversing you must turn your head and look over your shoulder to check through the rear window for vehicles and pedestrians that may not be visible in your mirror. All vehicles have blind spots behind.



**Before turning left you must check for bicycles and other vehicles that could be in your blind spots.**



**Before turning into a street or driveway you must have a head check for vehicles that may be overtaking you.**

**You will fail your driving test if you miss 3 head checks.**



Observation errors are recorded on the Driving Test score sheet as a circle around 'D' (decision) and an 'H' in the notes column.

# Speed management

You must drive at a safe and legal speed, managing your speed to suit 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 car.

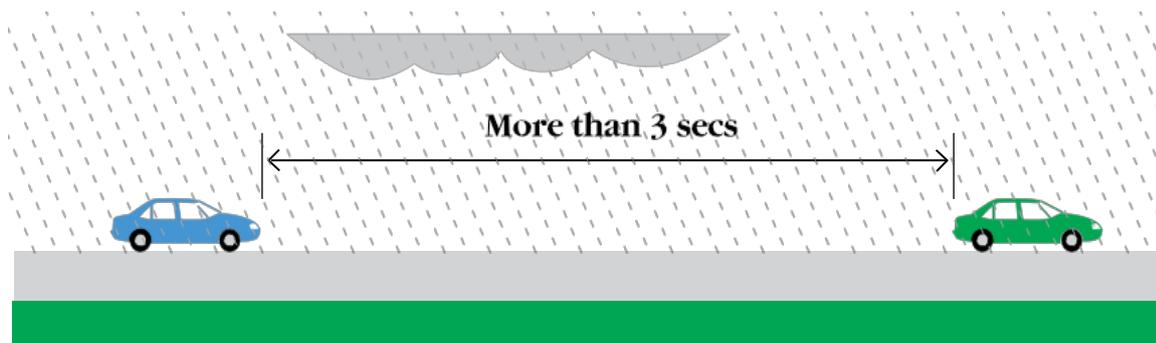
The minimum safe distance needed in front is three seconds. This must be increased in poor conditions, or when you are being followed too close by another vehicle.

When you change lanes or if another vehicle moves into your three-second gap, you will be expected to create a new gap by gradually dropping back.

To calculate a three-second crash avoidance space when following another vehicle use this basic technique: as the rear of the vehicle in front of you passes a stationary object at the side of the road such as a power pole, tree or sign, start a three-second count 'one thousand and one, one thousand and two, one thousand and three'.



**You must stay at least 3 seconds behind the vehicle ahead.**

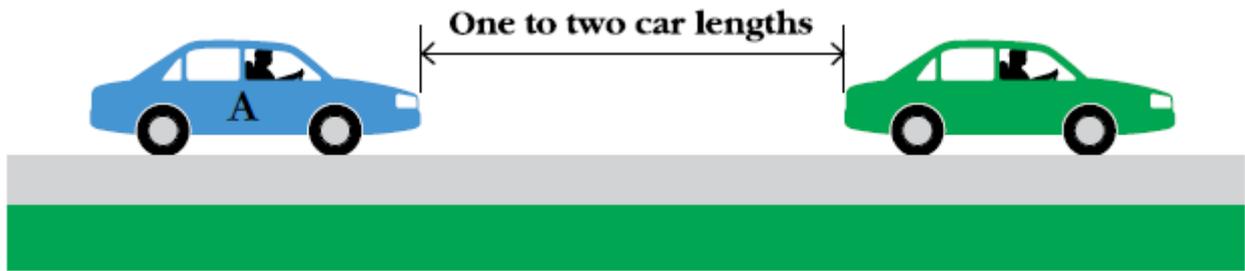


**You must increase this distance in poor conditions (rain etc).**

If your car passes the object you picked before you finish the three-second count, you are following too closely. Your crash avoidance space is not large enough. Slow down, and repeat the count again until the three-second crash avoidance space is achieved.

## MAINTAIN SPACE WHEN STOPPED

When you are stopped in traffic you must keep one to two car lengths from the vehicle in front to reduce the risk of colliding with it if you are hit from behind. You may move forward to within one metre once other vehicles are stopped behind you and the risk of being hit from behind is reduced.



**Leave one to two car lengths in front when stopped.**



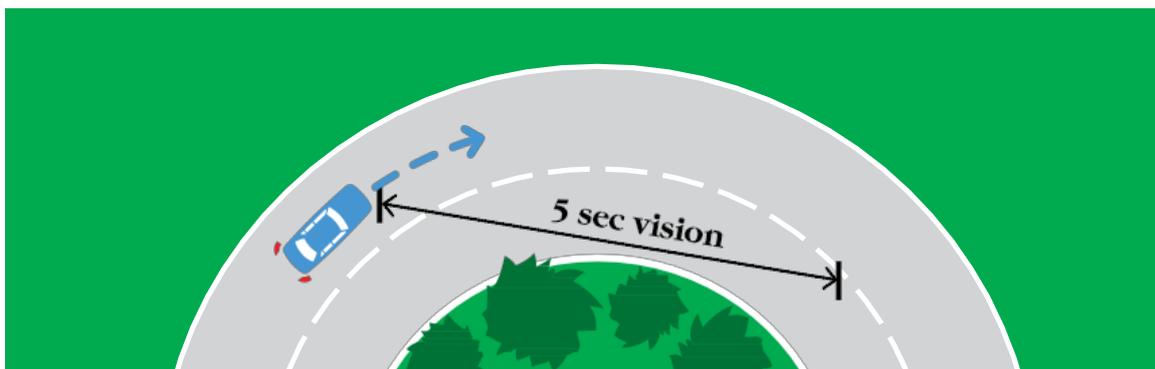
When you come to a stop sign you must stop completely before reaching the stop line, and as close as possible to the line.

## REDUCE SPEED

You must slow down if you do not have a clear view of the road ahead. Situations where your vision may be reduced include: blind corners; blocked intersections; crests and poor weather conditions.

Slow down if you cannot see five seconds ahead.

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



**Slow down if you cannot see 5 seconds ahead.**



You must also slowdown in situations where space to the side of your vehicle is limited.

For traffic calming devices, such as speed humps or chicanes, slow down enough to ensure there is no undue jolt or sideways roll of your vehicle.

## 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

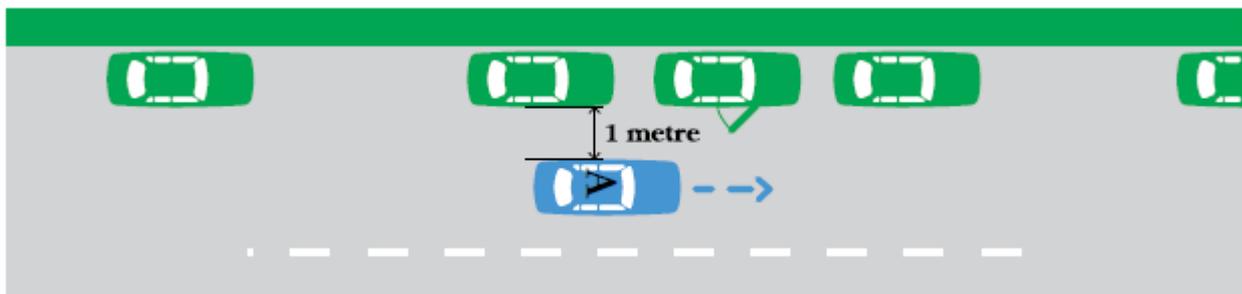
Buffering is keeping as much space to the sides of your vehicle as practical in any situation. **You should have at least one metre from other vehicles and hazards.**

Where you are not able to keep space from other vehicles and hazards you must slow down.

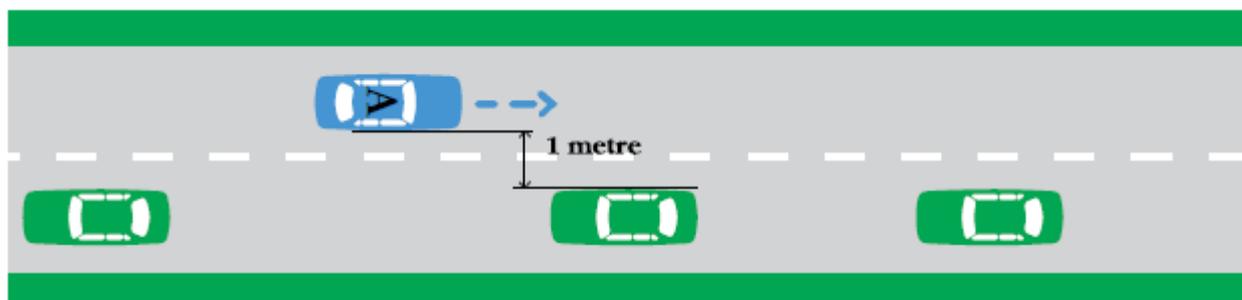
You are also expected to change your position on the road to create space from hazards. On crests and curves, slow down and move away from oncoming traffic. When possible, you should be at least one metre from the centreline on blind crests and curves.

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

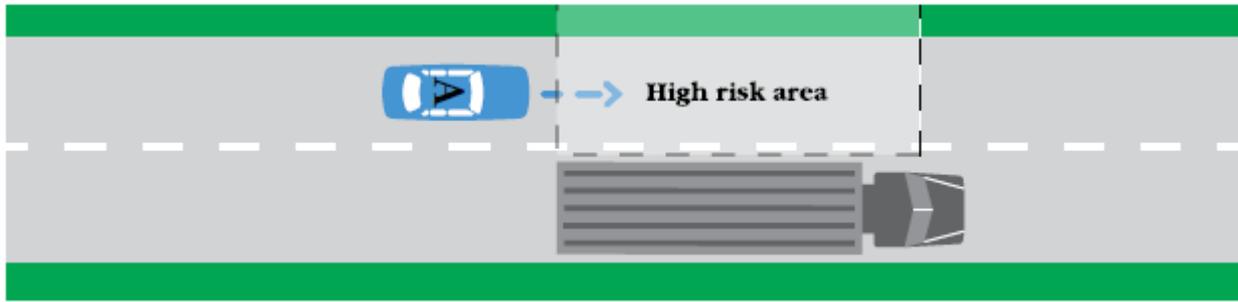
If you unnecessarily drive on the wrong side of the road, or unnecessarily cross any edge lines or lane markings, you will fail.



**You must allow space for parked cars to open doors.**



**You must allow clearance from oncoming traffic.**



**Avoid driving in the high risk area beside other vehicles.**

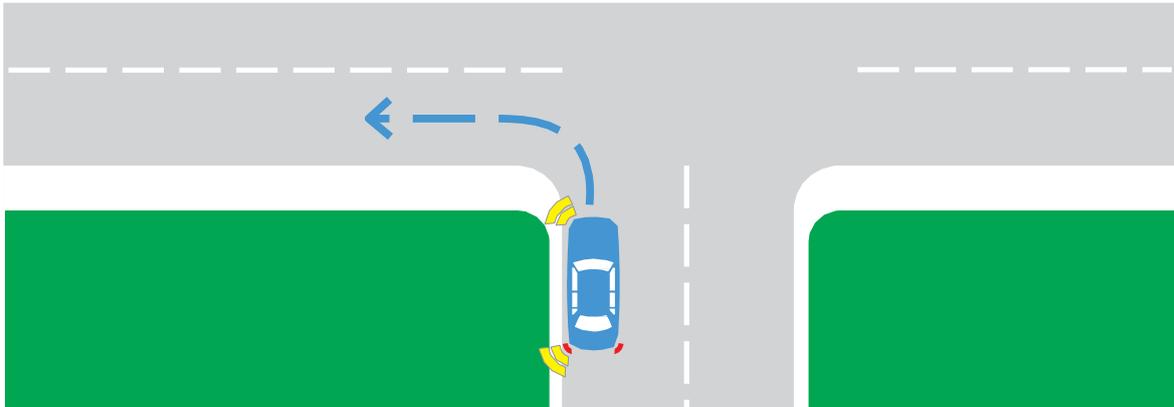


To reduce the risk of head-on crashes on multi-lane roads, only drive in the right lane when overtaking or planning to turn right.

## URNS AT INTERSECTIONS

Your position in 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.



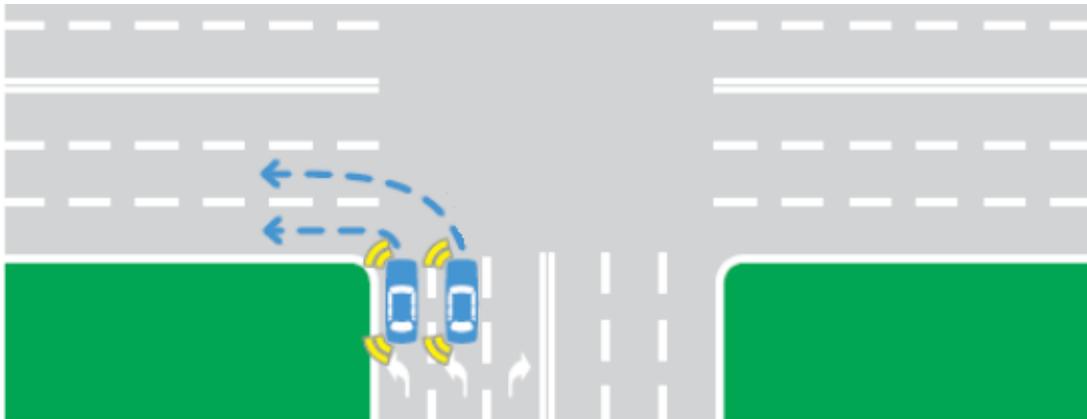
**Approach left turns as far left as you can.**

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 cars are parked in the left lane, or whether outside lanes must be left clear for overtaking.

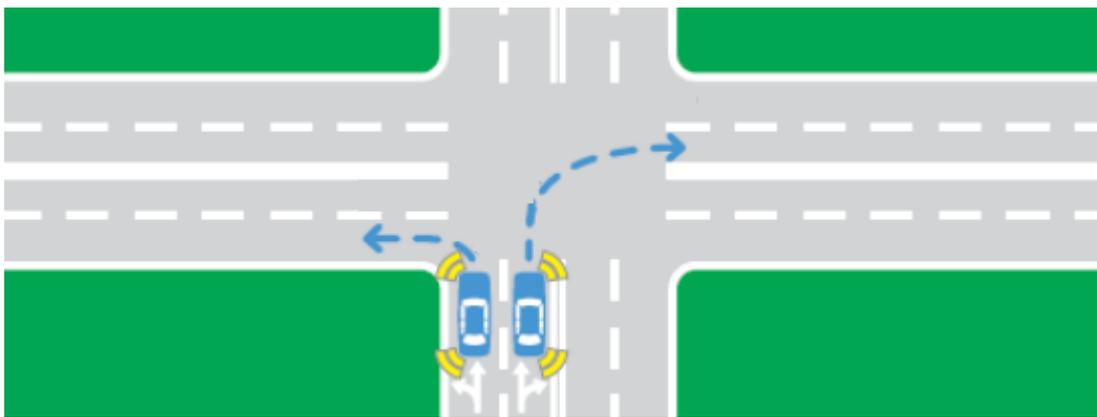
When turning left or right on to a multi lane road you should end up in the first available lane, unless road markings require you to enter another lane, or you signal appropriately for the lane you need to be in.

However, when there are multiple turning lanes, you must finish in a permissible lane.

You will fail if you exit in an incorrect lane.



**When there are multiple turning lanes, you must finish in a permissible lane.**

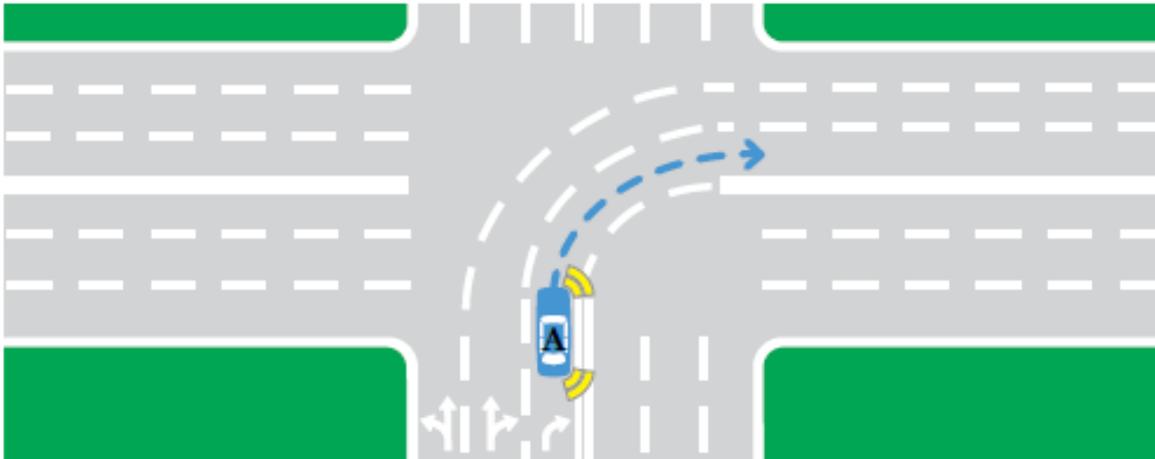


**You should turn in to the nearest permissible lane, depending on traffic.**



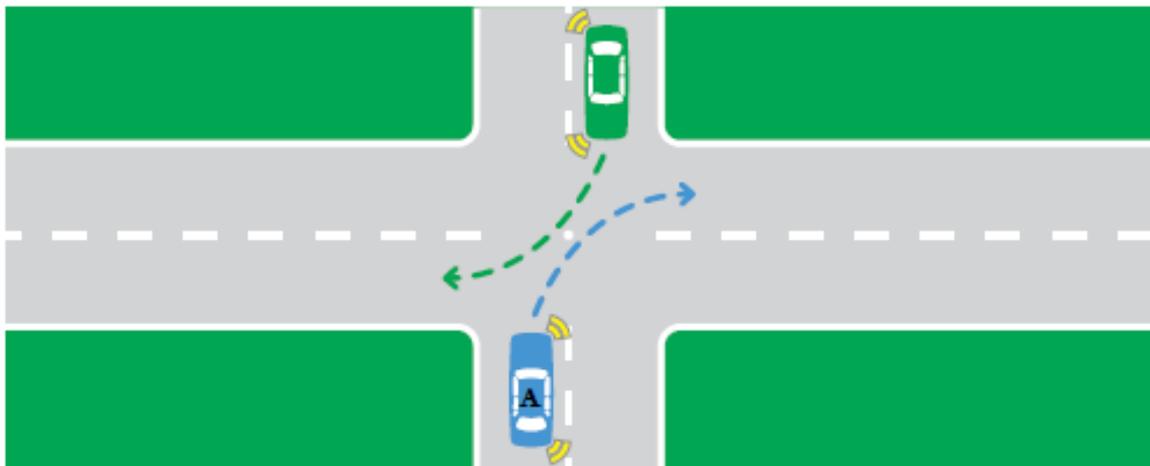
You must keep your steering straight while waiting to turn right, to protect you from being pushed into the oncoming traffic if hit from behind.

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 stay in the same lane.**

In marked lanes you must stay in the same lane as you go from one road to another.



**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 position your vehicle in accordance with the road markings for the direction you intend to travel. You must exit in a permissible lane.

**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.



You must check your blind spot before crossing lanes within a roundabout when exiting.

## MANOEUVRES

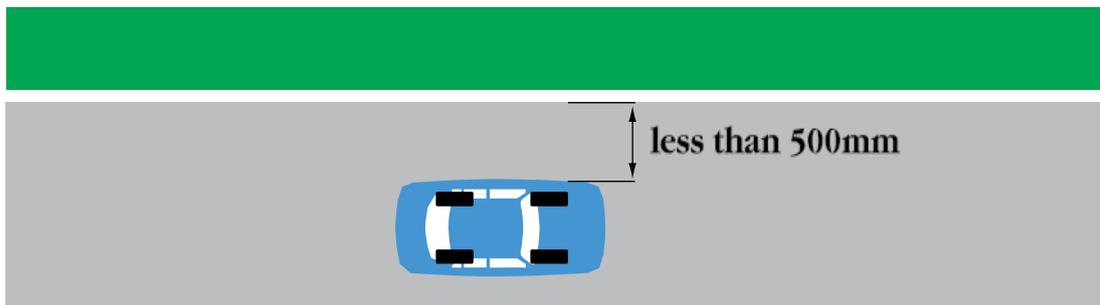
On the driving test you will be asked to complete the following manoeuvres:

- 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:

You must:

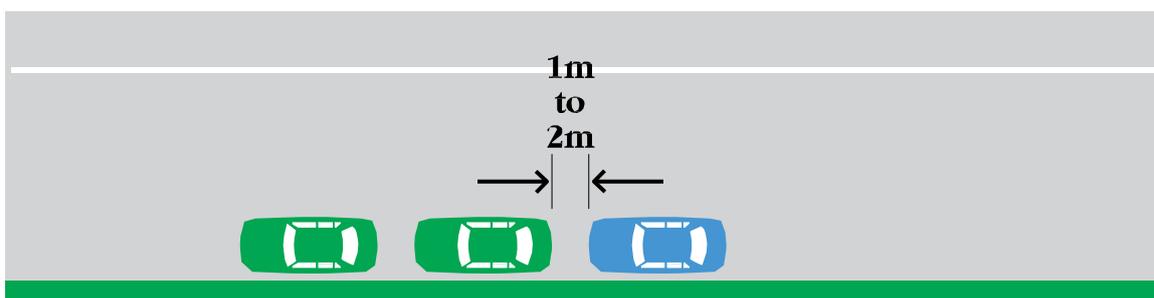
- Park close and as near as practical to the kerb.  
(The test requires you to be less than 500 millimetres from the kerb)



**The vehicle should be parallel and closer than 500mm to the kerb.**

**The wheels must not touch the kerb.**

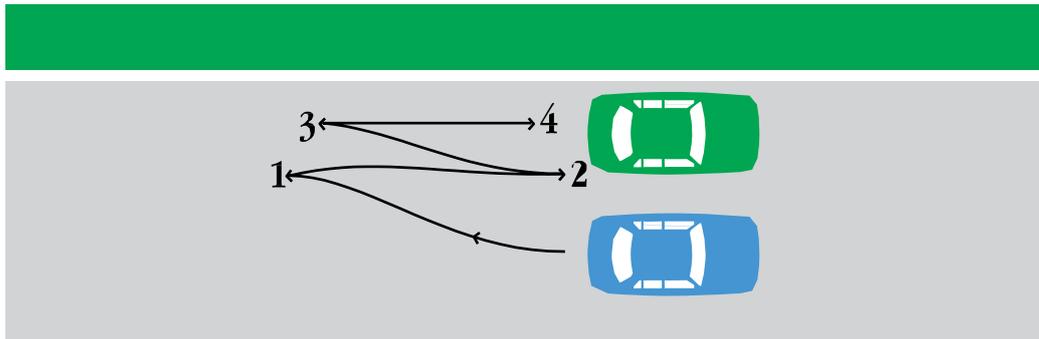
- Stay at least one metre away from other vehicles.  
(The test requires you to be no more than two metres from other vehicles when you park.)



**You must make sure the vehicle is at least 1m from other vehicles.**

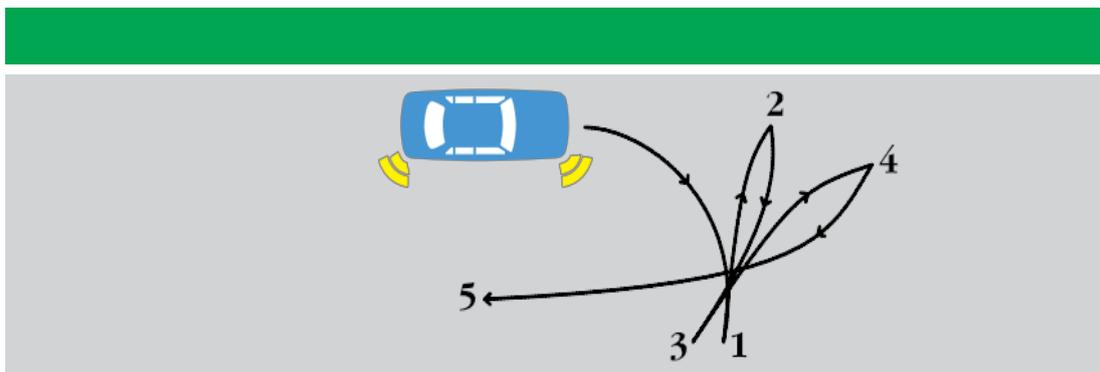
- Reverse only as far as you need (if you reverse more than seven metres back from the rear of the vehicle you are parking behind, you will fail).

- Use effective steering. (The test allows a maximum of four direction changes for the reverse parallel parking manoeuvre.)



**Park using a maximum of 4 direction changes.**

- During the three-point turn you must check left and right for traffic before each movement.



**Turn around using a maximum of 5 direction changes. If it is possible to complete the manoeuvre in three changes of direction you will be expected to achieve this.**



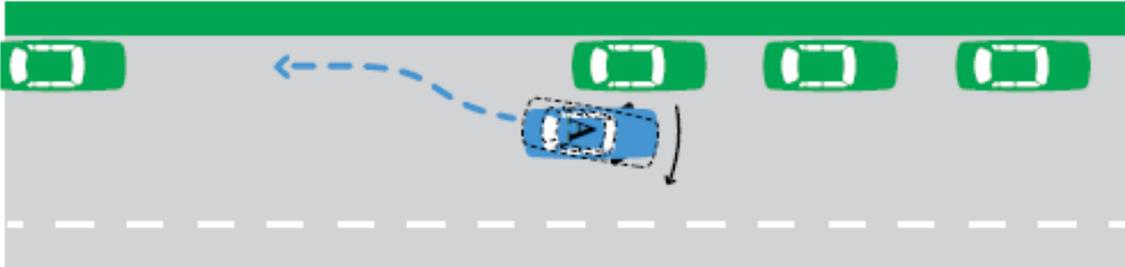
Mounting the kerb at any time during the test will result in a fail.

## 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.**

**While reversing you must check in the direction of travel.** This includes checking the mirrors and through the rear and side windows.



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



If your vehicle has a park assist device, this must be switched off for the reversing manoeuvres.

## Decision making

A critical decision must be made whenever you enter traffic, change lanes, cross or turn at an intersection.

### AFFECTING THE CRASH AVOIDANCE SPACE OF OTHERS

The driving examiner will be checking that you go only when there is a safe gap in the traffic and that you are not affecting the crash avoidance space of other drivers.



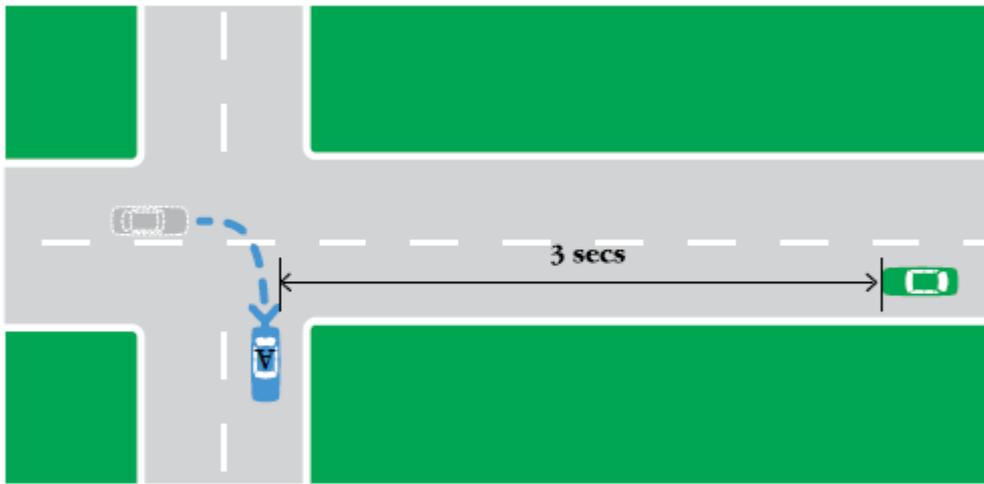
**Choose a safe gap so other vehicles are not forced to change speed.**

A safe gap ensures that other vehicles do not need to change their speed or position. When turning across traffic make sure your vehicle is clear of the intersection by at least three seconds before the approaching vehicles arrive. When joining a traffic stream select a gap that allows you to reach the traffic speed before the approaching vehicles are within three seconds of your car.



You must signal for at least five seconds before leaving the kerb or parked position.

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



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

When approaching traffic lights that are green, check your mirrors and be prepared to stop.



You must stop at a yellow light, unless sudden braking might cause a crash.

## **SITUATIONS WITH LIMITED VISION**

At some intersections your vision may be affected by other vehicles, trees or buildings. In these situations you must demonstrate caution 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.

## HAZARD AND RESPONSE

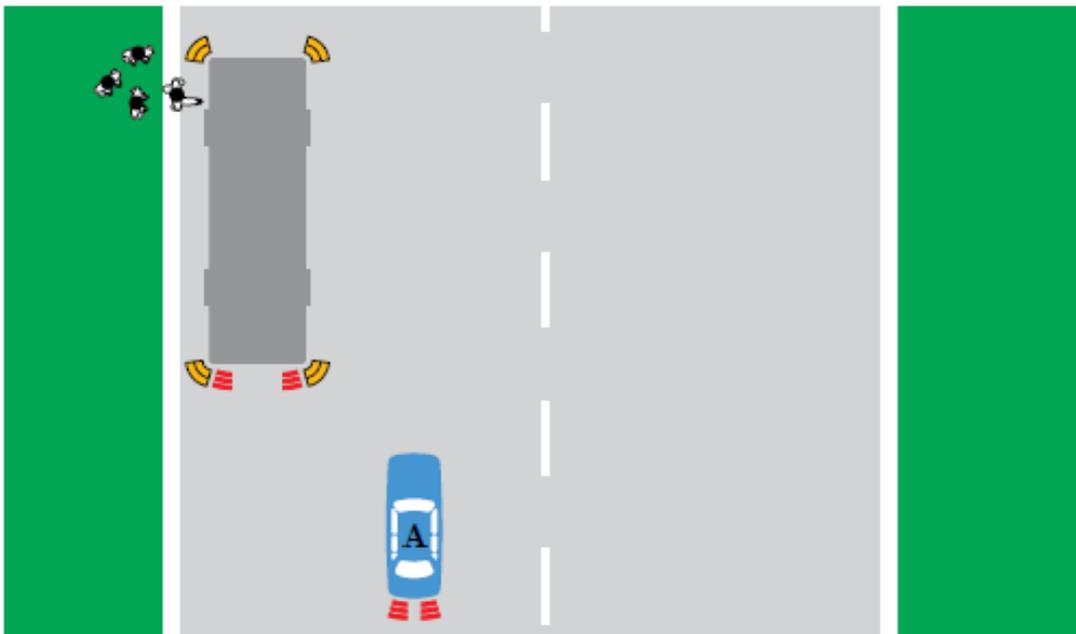
During your test you must respond appropriately to hazards.

As you scan the traffic environment you should be asking yourself whether the things you see could possibly enter your crash avoidance space.

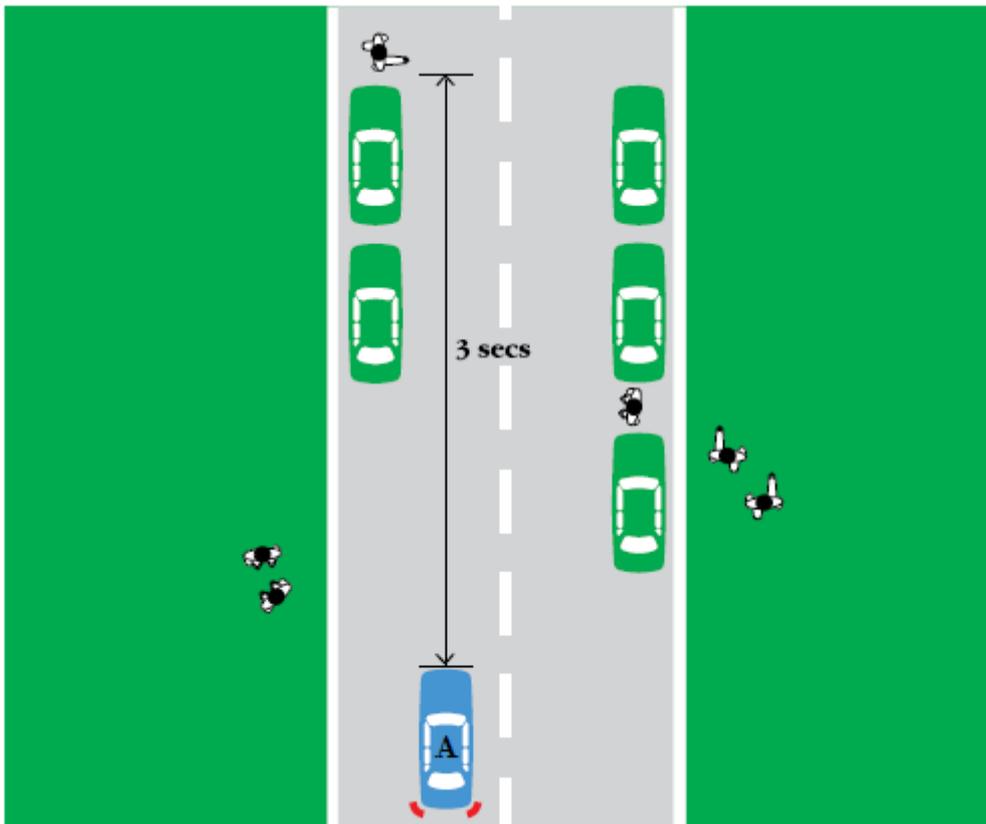
If the answer is yes and something could block your path, your response should be to protect your crash avoidance space by:

- '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.

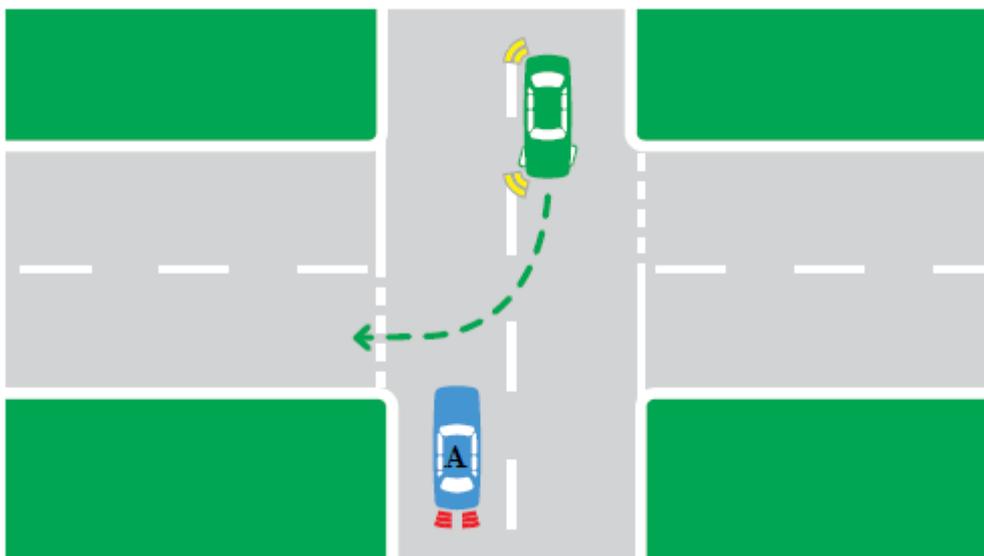
Your ability to respond means that you are better able to deal with any dangerous situation that might occur.



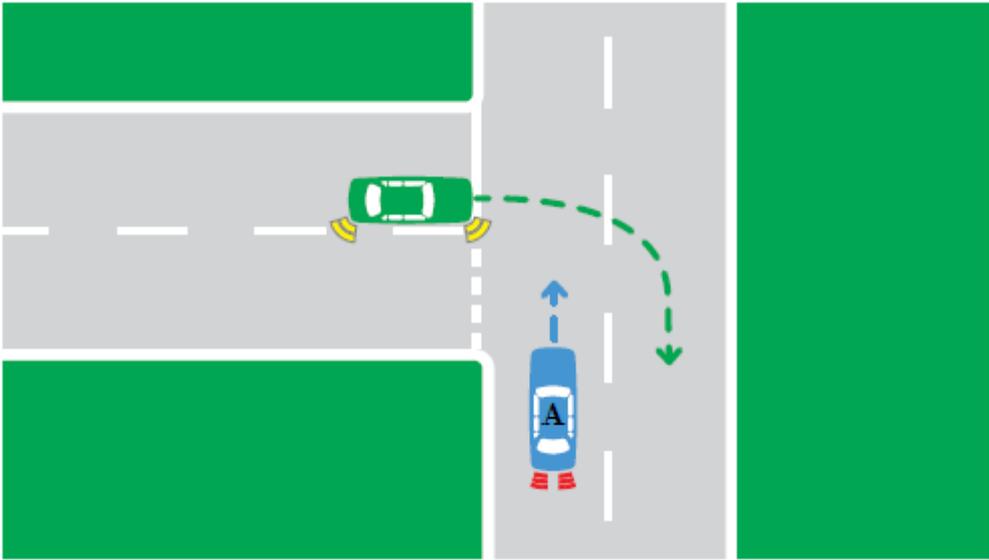
**Respond when something can enter your crash avoidance space.**



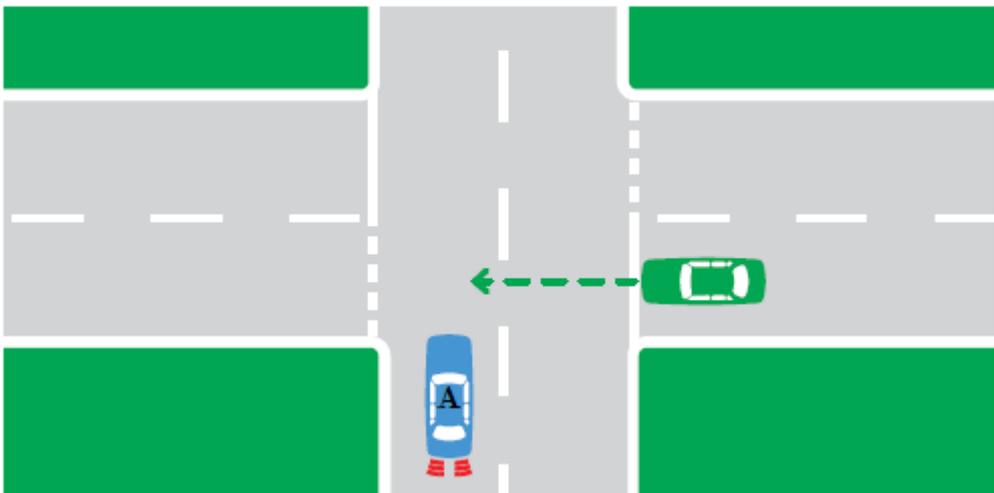
**Respond before reaching the hazard.**



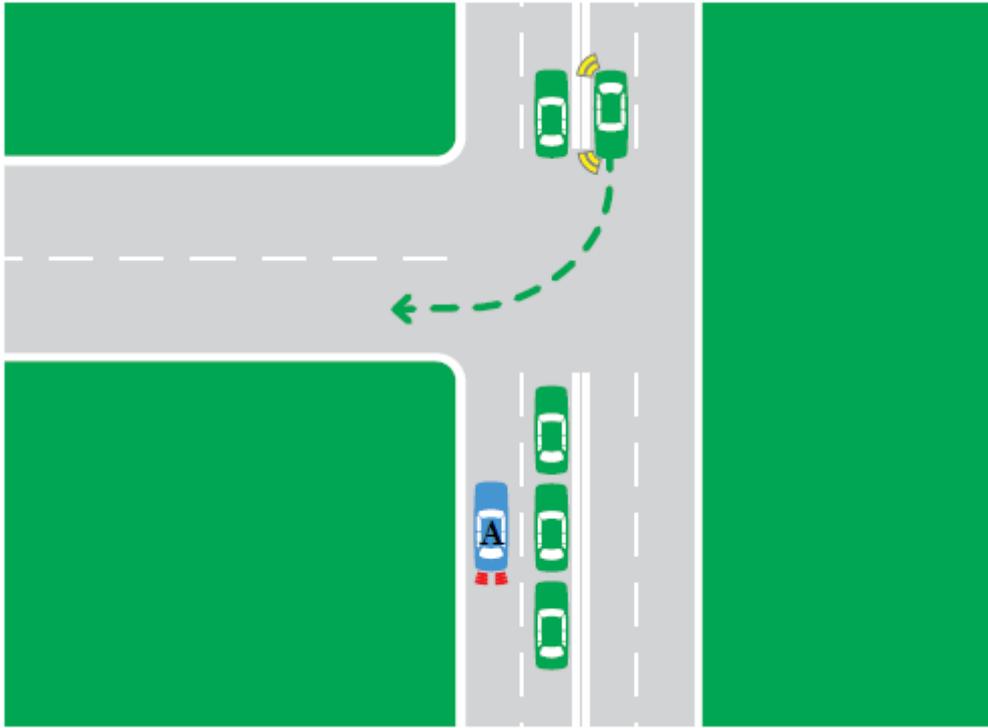
**A vehicle waiting to turn in front of your path.**



**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

Your ability to control the vehicle is assessed by the way you handle the tasks involved.

## OPERATING THE CONTROLS

Some of the driving tasks that the driving examiner will observe and record are listed here:

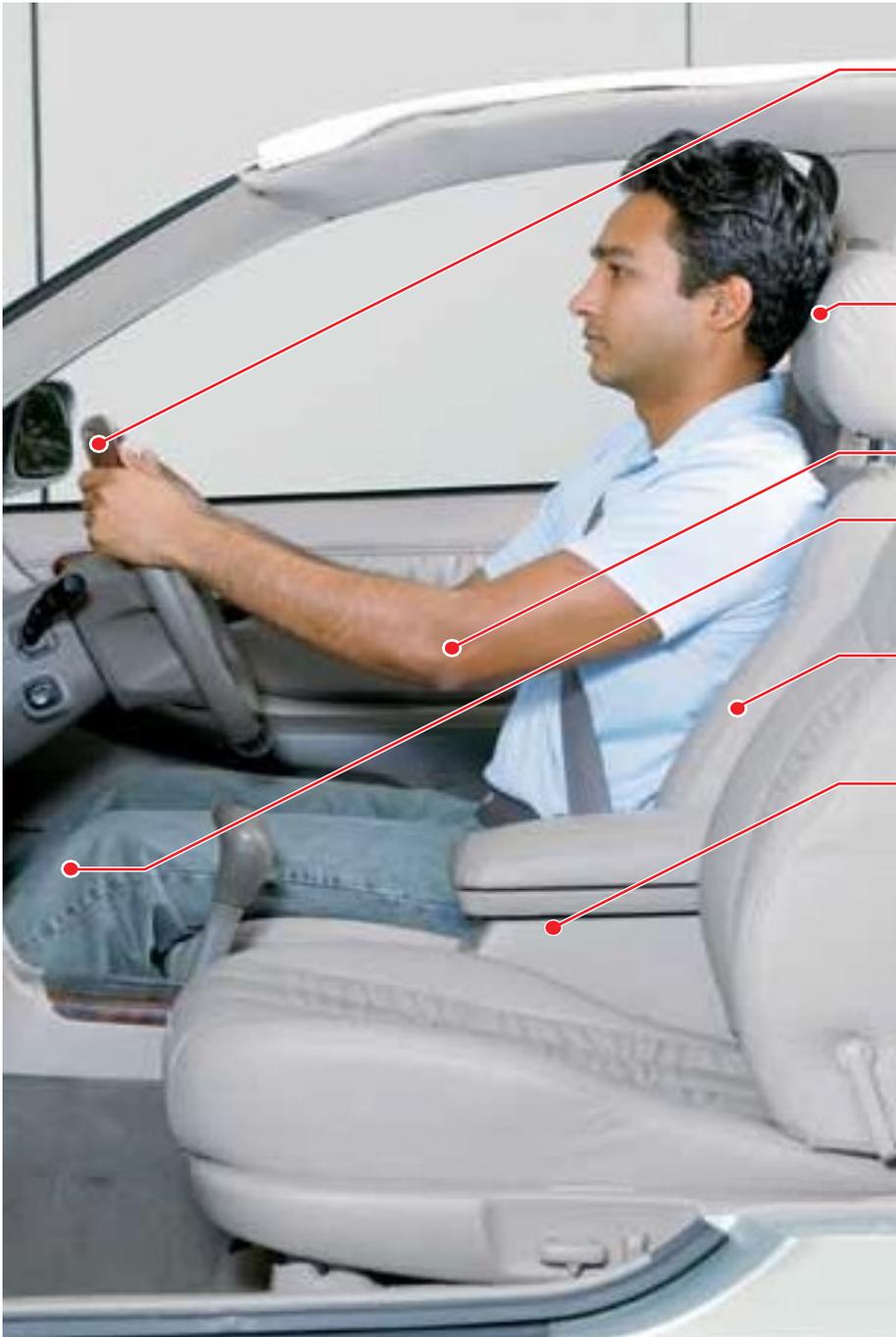
- Adjust driver's seat posture and steering column (if adjustable) to ensure you have good control of the vehicle.
- Operate accelerator smoothly when accelerating and decelerating.
- Operate brakes smoothly and effectively.
- Coordinate clutch and gear lever to make smooth gear changes.
- Select appropriate gear for the situation including when coming to a stop and parking the car.
- Avoid over-revving on take-off and gear changes.
- Driver's seat belt is correctly fastened, fitted and adjusted (low, flat and firm).
- Apply a brake when starting the vehicle.
- Preventing rolling back when starting on hills.
- Use park brake correctly when preparing to secure 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.

You must be confident in your use of all controls and be able to operate them without being distracted.



You should apply the eco driving techniques that are outlined in the Road Users' Handbook. Any harsh accelerating or braking will affect your score.

## DRIVING POSTURE



The steering wheel should be adjusted low, facing the driver's chest rather than the face.

Adjust the head restraint for your height. See owner's manual.

Keep your arms bent; thumbs should be on the rim of the steering wheel.

Keep your knees slightly bent.

Have the seat fairly upright to fully support your back and shoulders.

Sit deep in the seat.

Brace your body using your left foot.



# Test results

## WHY YOU MIGHT FAIL

This guide shows examples of what you must do to drive safely and pass the test. However, some actions and behaviours are classed as fail items. If you do something that gets a fail, your test will continue so that you can be given a full assessment of your driving ability but you will not pass the test.

Here is a list of all the fail items along with some examples of how they may happen on a driving test.

Remember that this is only a guide and if you have any more questions you should consult the *Road Users' Handbook* available from your local Motor Vehicle Registry office. Alternatively, the *Road Users' Handbook* can be downloaded for free from [NT.GOV.AU](https://nt.gov.au) website or via the following link <https://nt.gov.au/driving/licences/get-your-driver-licence/sit-a-driving-test>

### 1. DISOBEYING TRAFFIC SIGNS, SIGNALS OR ROAD MARKINGS

Be sure you have a thorough understanding of the meaning of regulatory signs, traffic signals and road markings. They tell you what road rules apply in any specific situation. Examples of this fail item include:

- Not stopping at a red traffic light.  
This means that all of your vehicle must be behind the stop line.
- 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.
- Not stopping correctly at a stop line.  
Your final stopped position must be within one metre of the stop line and with no part of your car over the line.
- Crossing a continuous centre line, lane line or edge line unnecessarily.
- Disobeying lane markings (turn arrows).
- Not obeying regulatory signs such as One Way, No Entry, No U-Turn, Keep Clear and Keep Left.

### 2. FAILING TO GIVE WAY WHEN NECESSARY

Examples of this fail item include:

- Not giving way to any vehicle that has priority over you at an intersection.
- Not giving way to pedestrians at marked crossings and intersections.
- Not giving way if required when entering a traffic stream, merging or lane changing.

### 3. 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.



#### FINAL POSITION AT A STOP LINE

If initially you stop more than one metre from the line you must move up and stop within one metre of the stop line, with no part of the vehicle over the line.

#### **4. PERFORMING AN ILLEGAL ACT OR MANOEUVRE**

An illegal act or manoeuvre is anything contrary to the Road Rules where a regulatory traffic sign, signal or road marking is not present. Examples of this fail item include:

- Unnecessarily driving on the wrong side of the road on unmarked roads.
- Turning from the incorrect position. For example, starting a left turn from the right lane, or when turning left or right from an arrowed lane, you do not exit to a permissible lane.
- 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 level crossing when unsafe to do so.
- Not wearing a seatbelt.
- Answering or using a mobile phone.

#### **5. 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 kilometre per hour limit at school zones during the hours of operation.
- The 40 kilometre per hour limit when passing a bus with flashing lights.
- The learner driver speed limit.
- Speed limits at road works.

#### **6. ACTION REQUIRING DRIVING EXAMINER INTERVENTION**

At this stage of your driving experience you should be able to drive without any help. If the driving examiner has to give you verbal or physical assistance, including using the dual controls in an instructor's vehicle, you will fail.

#### **7. CAUSING A DANGEROUS SITUATION**

This fail item covers any unsafe act or behaviour that puts you or others at risk, such as overtaking in an unsafe manner, or giving way unnecessarily.

#### **8. 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 500mm when moving off.
- Skidding or spinning the drive 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.

## **9. FAILING TO EXERCISE DUE CARE TO AVOID AN ACCIDENT**

You must be ready at all times to respond to hazards. If a situation occurs requiring your response and you are not prepared, you will fail.

## **10. FAILING TO GIVE WAY TO AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE**

You will fail if you do not move out of the way of an emergency vehicle.

## **11. DISOBEYING DIRECTIONS FROM A PERSON CONTROLLING TRAFFIC**

This item includes failure to obey police, emergency services or armed forces personnel, traffic controllers (for example: flag persons at road works) and pilot vehicles.

## **12. FREQUENTLY NOT SIGNALLING INTENTION**

You will fail if you repeatedly do not signal when legally required to do so. You must signal:

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

**You will fail if you miss 3 or more signals**

## **13. REFUSING TO ATTEMPT ANY PART OF THE TEST**

You are required to complete the whole test to get a pass. You can be failed for refusing to do any part of the test.

## **14. REPEATED OR DELIBERATE FAILURE TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS**

You must follow all reasonable directions given to you by the driving examiner during the test.

## **15. UNREASONABLY OBSTRUCTING OTHER VEHICLES OR PEDESTRIANS**

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

- Enter an intersection without enough space on the other side due to traffic, blocking the intersection as a result.
- Drive significantly below the speed limit when prevailing conditions do not require it.

## **16. RECEIVING EXTERNAL ADVICE OR INSTRUCTION DURING THE TEST**

You will fail if you receive any external advice from a third party at any time during the test. This includes the time from when you sign the score sheet, to getting into your vehicle.

## 17. NOT PARKING TO THE REQUIRED STANDARD

During the manoeuvres you will fail if:

- The final position of your car is more than one metre from the kerb or obstructing traffic.
- Your wheels are on or over marked parking lines.
- You reverse more than seven metres from the vehicle in front during the reverse park section of the test.

## 18. FAILING TO MAINTAIN A SAFE FOLLOWING DISTANCE

You will fail if you follow too closely to the vehicle in front.

## 19. FREQUENTLY NOT PERFORMING OBSERVATION CHECKS

You will incur this fail item if you repeatedly miss observation checks when required. Specifically this fail item applies to checking your blind spots 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 3 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. **You will fail if you miss 3 or more head checks**

## IMMEDIATE FAIL

In most circumstances, even if you commit a fail item, your test will continue and you will be given a full assessment of your performance. In some circumstances the driving examiner may record an IMMEDIATE FAIL. You will not be permitted to finish the test and the driving examiner may drive you back to the test commencement point.

An immediate fail may occur if:

- You do anything which is unsafe or dangerous and there is an obvious danger to the public.
- You refuse to cooperate with the driving examiner and so cannot be given a proper test.

## TEST TERMINATION

While IMMEDIATE FAIL criteria applies to issues concerning driving ability, Termination criteria applies to situations not concerned with the applicant's driving performance.

Your test will be terminated if any of the unsatisfactory items below cannot be rectified at the time of the test:

1. The testing vehicle is not roadworthy (see Circle Check)
2. The testing vehicle is unsuitable for the class of licence test

NOTE: This includes a vehicle which does not contain equipment (a camera) that can record all aspects of the driving test including visual images, sounds and the vehicle position.

3. You refuse to allow the test to be recorded on an appropriate device.
4. The testing vehicle is not suitable for the licence condition or type of disability
5. If the testing vehicle breaks down during the test, or more than three complete zones of assessment are missed whilst off course
6. The applicant demonstrates unacceptable, inappropriate or unlawful behaviours. Including:
  - a. A bribe or inducement is offered, or any other form of corrupt conduct is suggested
  - b. Extreme emotional pleas, threats or sexual advances in an attempt to influence a test result (a warning may be given if required)
  - c. Repeated and persistent requests to ignore an error. (A warning may be given if required.)
  - d. Threatening, abusive, aggressive or violent behaviours.
7. The driver is, or is suspected to be, under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. A crash occurs during the test, regardless of who is at fault.
9. The applicant is ill, to the extent that they may not be able to drive safely.
10. Adverse weather conditions where the driving is made significantly more demanding or prevent the safe performance of all of the required testing criteria, including the three manoeuvres.

## CIRCLE CHECK

The test will be terminated (not commence) if the vehicle:

- Indicator lights (including side repeaters) or brake lights do not operate, are incomplete, dirty or discoloured;
- Tyres are not in a satisfactory condition;
- Is not registered (check the NTREGO phone app);
- Does not have approved L Plates correctly displayed;
- Windscreen is cracked or broken so as to obscure driver's and/or driving examiner's vision, (not including minor cracks);
- Does not have a complying (approved and in working condition) lap/sash seat belt fitted for the driving examiner;
- Is not suitable for class of licence;
- Has sharp edges caused by body damage;
- Has any mirror broken or damaged to the extent that it distorts vision;
- Has any wheel rim excessively damaged;
- Has any visible wheel nuts missing;
- Has any excessive under body fluid leaks (does not include air-conditioning overflow);
- Dual brake (if fitted) IS NOT operational;
- Front passenger door handle (either inside or outside), or window handle, is missing or inoperative;
- Does not have solid front doors (cloth or fabric doors are not acceptable);
- Is a convertible or Targa top and the roof is not capable of being covered in, at the request of the driving examiner or in the event of bad weather:
- Has any training aids fitted to the vehicle that may provide assistance to the test applicant.



The vehicle must have an operating in-vehicle recording device (camera). If the vehicle does not have an operating camera the test cannot proceed.



You must secure any loose objects in the vehicle that may interfere with vehicle control or cause injury during hard braking.



For more information on how to book a licence test,  
visit <https://nt.gov.au/driving/licences/get-your-driver-licence>

## WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE TEST?

When you return to the starting point of the test, the driving examiner will ask you to wait while your result is calculated. Your driving examiner will then tell you the result.

If you do not pass you will be given a test report that shows your score and where you need to improve. Your driving examiner will discuss this briefly with you. Driving examiners will only provide general comments and are not required to discuss specific situations or events. Remember, the role of the driving examiner is not to give you a driving lesson.

Driving examiners try to make sure that your test will be conducted fairly and courteously. If you are genuinely not satisfied with the way the test was conducted after you get the results, please contact the Licensing Compliance Unit at Motor Vehicle Registry. The Licensing Compliance Unit will look into your complaint and discuss the matter with you.

So if you passed, you will need to attend a Motor Vehicle Registry office with your test paper and pay to a licence fee to upgrade your licence. Congratulations and safe driving!

**NOTE: Please be aware that the upgrade of licence must happen before your learners licence expires, otherwise you will need to sit another theory test for your Learner licence and wait a continuous 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 '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 allow your supervising driver to take over the driving when you leave the test location. This is because after taking the test many learners find it hard to concentrate on driving because they are either elated or disappointed by the result.

# TEST SCORE SHEET



## CLASS C CAR DRIVING TEST

### Motor Vehicle Registry

#### COURSE DETAILS

Given Name(s)  Surname

Driver Licence #  Expiry Date  Main Source of Instruction:  
 Private  Driving School  
 DriveSafe NT

Test Date  Test Start Time  Last Driving Instructors Name

Have you held your licence for a continuous period of 6 months? Yes  No   
 Is this your first driving test today? Yes  No

Applicant's Signature

Test Vehicle Plate #  Plate Expiry Date  Manual  Other vehicle   
 Automatic  Instructor's vehicle

Driving Examiner #  Driving Examiner's name

Termination  
 1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Test not conducted / terminated / immediate fail because:

**F IF Fail and Immediate Fail items**

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Disobeying traffic signs, signals or road markings.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Failing to give way when necessary.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Colliding with a vehicle, pedestrian or object.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Performing an illegal act or manoeuvre.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Exceeding the speed limit.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Action requiring driving examiner intervention.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Causing a dangerous situation.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Failing to maintain proper control of the vehicle.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Failing to exercise due care to avoid a crash.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Failing to give way to an emergency vehicle.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Disobeying directions from a person controlling traffic.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. Frequently not signalling intention. Total	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13. Refusing to attempt any part of the test.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14. Repeated or deliberate failure to follow directions.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	15. Unreasonably obstructing other vehicles or pedestrians.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	16. Receiving external advice or instruction during the test.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	17. Not parking to the required standard.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	18. Failing to maintain a safe following distance.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	19. Frequently not making required observation checks. Total	<input type="text"/>

My result has been explained to me  
 Applicant's Signature  Date   
 day / month / year

Course Number:

Start Zone:

S	P	D	Z	H	R	C	NOTES
S	P	D	1	H	R	C	
S	P	D	2	H	R	C	
S	P	D	3	H	R	C	
S	P	D	4	H	R	C	
S	P	D	5	H	R	C	
S	P	D	6	H	R	C	
S	P	D	7	H	R	C	
S	P	D	8	H	R	C	
S	P	D	9	H	R	C	
S	P	D	10	H	R	C	
S	P	D	11	H	R	C	
S	P	D	12	H	R	C	
S	P	D	13	H	R	C	
S	P	D	14	H	R	C	
S	P	D	15	H	R	C	
S	P	D	16	H	R	C	
S	P	D	17	H	R	C	
S	P	D	18	H	R	C	
S	P	D	19	H	R	C	
S	P	D	20	H	R	C	
S	P	D	21	H	R	C	
S	P	D	22	H	R	C	
S	P	D	23	H	R	C	
S	P	D	24	H	R	C	
S	P	D	25	H	R	C	
			YES				
			NO				
25	25	25				25	
<b>TOTALS</b>							

**Results**  
 PASS  FAIL  Number of FAIL Items

Test Finished  24 hour time   
 As an authorised Class C driving examiner I certify that the information contained on this page is true and accurate and that I have tested the applicant in accordance with the guidelines for authorised Class C driving examiners.  
 Examiner's Signature  Percentage Range

## TEST FEEDBACK (REVERSE OF SCORE SHEET)

A "CIRCLE" in the assessment column indicates that further practice is necessary

### Speed management (S)

The driver demonstrates their ability to manage speed and maintain a crash avoidance space.

- Maintains space to the front:
  - with a gap of at least 3 seconds when following another vehicle and increases the gap in poor conditions.
  - when stationary behind another vehicle.
- Reduces speed:
  - when vision is limited (eg. blind crests and curves).
  - when space to the side is limited.
- Maintains traffic flow:
  - when traffic, weather and road conditions allow.

### Road Positioning (P)

The driver demonstrates their ability to position the vehicle by selecting a safe and legal path of travel.

- Buffering by:
  - maintaining space from parked and oncoming vehicles.
  - moving left on crests and curves.
  - avoiding driving in the blind spots of other vehicles.
- Intersections:
  - are approached and exited in a safe and legal manner.
- Manoeuvres:
  - parks at required angle, close to the kerb (including start of three-point turn).
  - maintains sufficient distance (between one and two metres) from other vehicles.

### Decision making (D)

The driver demonstrates the ability to select a safe and legal gap:

- When joining the traffic flow, lane changing, merging, diverging and manoeuvring.
  - chooses a safe and legal gap at intersections, leaving the kerb, changing lanes and merging.
- When crossing the traffic flow:
  - clears the intersection 3 seconds before another vehicle arrives.

The driver performs the necessary observation checks.

- When joining the traffic flow, lane changing, merging, diverging, manoeuvring and proceeding through traffic lights.

### Hazards (H)

Hazards were present and capable of moving into the path of the applicant's vehicle.

### Responding to Hazards (R)

The driver demonstrates their ability to protect their crash avoidance space by responding to hazards with one, or a combination of, the following actions:

- Responds by managing speed, 'sets up' or 'covers' brakes, slowing down.
- Responds by managing position, buffers away from hazard.

### Vehicle Control (C)

The driver demonstrates the ability to maintain smooth and efficient control of the vehicle by correct seat adjustment, use of the accelerator, brakes, clutch, gears, steering, auxiliary controls and signals.

#### Codes in 'NOTES' column:

- (K) Kerb side stop
- (M) Manoeuvre
- (H) Observation error (Fail Item 19)
- (F) Fail Items
- (T) Termination

#### Control Errors:

- (A) Applicant posture, seat belt
- (B) Brake, clutch, gears
- (C) Course, steering
- (D) Dashboard controls, instruments, gauges, etc
- (E) Eco driving
- (S) Signal error (Fail Item 12)

## **Motor Vehicle Registry**

<https://nt.gov.au/driving/licences/get-your-driver-licence>

1300 654 628

The information in this handbook is intended as a guide only and is subject to change at any time without notice. It does not replace the law.

1 November 2017