

Learning to drive record



Pupil name

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Use this key to track your pupils progress.										
Level 1. Introduced Level 2. Helped Level 3. Prompted Level 4. Independent Level 5. Reflection										
Date of lesson										
Basics										
1. Legal responsibilities										
2. Safety checks										
3. Cockpit checks										
4. Security										
Control and positioning										
5. Controls and instruments										
6. Moving away and stopping										
7. Safe positioning										
Observations, signalling and planning										
8. Mirrors – vision and use										
9. Signals										
10. Anticipation and planning										
11. Use of speed										
12. Other traffic										
13. Fuel-efficient driving										
Junctions, roundabouts and crossings										
14. Junctions										
15. Roundabouts										
16. Pedestrian crossings										

Date of lesson										
Manoeuvres										
17. Reversing										
18. Turning the car around										
19. Parking										
20. Emergency stop										
Road types										
21. Country roads										
22. Dual carriageways										
23. Motorways										
Driving conditions										
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27. Independent driving and using a sat nav										
28. Show Me / Tell Me										
Comments										

The basics

Skill 1: Legal responsibilities

As a driver, it's your responsibility to know how the law relates to both yourself and your vehicle, so make sure that you're up to date with the rules and regulations.

Skill 2: Safety checks

It's important that your car is in good working order before you start the engine. You need to be aware of what to check, how to do it and how often to do it.

Skill 3: Cockpit checks

These checks may be simple, but they're essential. The car you're using needs to be comfortable and ready for you to drive before you start the engine.

Skill 4: Security

This covers not only the security of your vehicle but also its contents and your personal security. You need to be aware of the ways that you can reduce the risks.

Control and positioning

Skill 5: Controls and instruments

You need to concentrate on what's happening around you when you're driving, so operating the vehicle's controls should become second nature.

Skill 6: Moving away and stopping

You have to move away and stop every time you drive and that's why it's so important to make sure that you know how to move away and stop safely.

Skill 7: Safe positioning

Make sure that you drive in the correct position for the road on which you're travelling. It's important not only for your safety but also for the safety of other road users.

Observations, signalling and planning

Skill 8: Mirrors – vision and use

You must know what's happening around you at all times and act safely on what you see.

Skill 9: Signals

You need to understand, and respond safely to, signals given by other motorists and give clear, well-timed signals to other road users so that they know what you're planning to do.

Skill 10: Anticipation and planning

These skills are found in all areas of driving. You should always be aware of what's going on around you while planning what you need to do in response. Planning ahead can also save you fuel, because easing off the accelerator earlier means you may not need to use the brakes as often or as heavily.

Skill 11: Use of speed

Your speed should be based on various factors, including the condition of the road, weather and traffic, and the presence of pedestrians. Always drive within the speed limit.

Skill 12: Other traffic

In most cases when you're driving, there will be other traffic on the road. You need to be able to deal safely and confidently when meeting, crossing and overtaking other vehicles.

Skill 13: Fuel-efficient driving

Everything from the type of car and its fuel consumption to the way in which you drive influences the environment. You need to understand how to minimise the negative effects and how to contribute to keeping the air we breathe cleaner.

Junctions, roundabouts and crossings

Skill 14: Junctions

There are many different types of junction. You need to be able to negotiate any junction on any type of road safely, without holding up other traffic unnecessarily.

Skill 15: Roundabouts

To deal with roundabouts safely and confidently, you should have a thorough understanding of the rules that apply when approaching and negotiating them.

Skill 16: Pedestrian crossings

You should be aware of the basic rules that apply to all pedestrian crossings but you also need to know the differences between each type of crossing.

Manoeuvres

Skill 17: Reversing

You should be able to reverse smoothly and safely while under complete control. This includes reversing to the left and right around sweeping curves and sharp corners.

Skill 18: Turning the car around

To turn your vehicle around, it's often easiest and safest to use a roundabout or reverse into a side street. However, if these options are not available, you may need to turn your vehicle around in the road.

Skill 19: Parking

Whether you're parking at the side of the road or using a bay in a car park, you need to gain the skills to do this safely before you drive on your own.

Skill 20: Emergency stop

Effective scanning and reading of the road ahead will cut down the risk of having to make an emergency stop. If it's unavoidable, brake as quickly as possible while keeping the car under full control.

Road types

Skill 21: Country roads

Country roads can be trunk roads carrying heavy traffic or narrow lanes where there's single-file traffic. You must be able to judge the safe speed to drive at, while taking account of the visibility, signs, hazards and other traffic, as well as road and weather conditions.

Skill 22: Dual carriageways

Some dual carriageways are similar to motorways, with the same speed limit and slip roads to join and leave. Unlike motorways, dual carriageways can have junctions and roundabouts where traffic can join, leave, cross and turn right from the carriageway.

Skill 23: Motorways

Learner drivers can only drive on motorways with an approved driving instructor (ADI) and in a car fitted with dual controls that's clearly displaying L plates. Your ADI will be able to tell you when you're ready to take lessons on the motorway. However, motorway driving is not part of the driving test.

Driving conditions

Skill 24: Driving in the dark

There are many factors that make driving in the dark more hazardous. Judging speed at night can be difficult, so be particularly careful at junctions.

Skill 25: Weather conditions

You need to be aware of the effect some weather conditions, such as fog and low sun, can have on visibility. Other conditions, such as ice, snow and rain, can affect the way that your vehicle handles.

Skill 26: Passengers and loads

As a driver, you need to understand the responsibilities that you have to any passengers, whether they're adults or children, and also how to secure any items that you're transporting.

Following routes

Skill 27: Independent driving and using a sat nav

You need to be able to drive and keep full controls when following directions from a sat nav or a series of traffic signs.

Making progress in each skill

You'll move through 5 levels of progress in each of the 27 skills you need to be a safe driver.

Level 1: Introduced

The subject is introduced and you're able to follow the instructions you're given.

Level 2: Helped

You're improving with the skill, but still need a bit of help.

Level 3: Prompted

Sometimes you need prompting with the skill, especially if it's a new or unusual situation.

Level 4: Independent

You're dealing with the skill consistently, confidently and independently.

Level 5: Reflection

When you talk to your instructor, you show that you understand how things would have been different if you had done something differently. You can adapt to situations and see why perfecting the skill makes you safer and more fuel-efficient.