

On the Road - Part Two

Parking

Follow the checklist that matches your vehicle to learn how to park.

Manual vehicle

- Check your rear mirror to see what's behind your vehicle.
- Indicate your intention to move to the left using your left indicator.
- Check your blind spot over your left shoulder.
- Gently lift your right foot off the accelerator and apply firm even pressure to the brake pedal.
- Gently increase pressure on the brake, slowing down the vehicle's speed.
- Steer the vehicle toward the kerb, so you are parallel to it.
- When your vehicle has almost stopped, release the brake slightly then gently reapply pressure.
- Press in the clutch.
- Bring the vehicle to a complete stop and apply the handbrake.
- Cancel the indicator.
- Select first gear.
- Switch off the ignition.
- Gently release the brake and, the clutch pedal.
- Remove the key from the ignition and make sure the steering wheel is locked.
- If you are leaving the vehicle, make sure all doors and windows are locked and valuables are out of sight.

Automatic vehicle

- Select 'park' instead of first gear.

Quick checklist:

- ✓ Do not jerk the vehicle or strain the mechanical parts when stopping.
- ✓ Stop within one metre of required point.
- ✓ Give correct indication if required.
- ✓ Select the correct gear to ensure the vehicle is parked safely.
- ✓ Turn the wheels to the correct position to suit parking conditions.

Reverse Parallel Park

The following information is a guide and can generally be applied to most vehicles. Different vehicle designs may require more or less room and some vehicles such as vans may not have rear or rear side windows.

Before you get into a vehicle that needs to be reversed, check around the outside of the vehicle for any obstacles. Before you reverse into a parking area be sure you have enough room and there are no obstructions.



When you are reversing a vehicle, you have no right of way. If another vehicle approaches while your vehicle is in reverse, you should stop and give way.

Look over your shoulder through the rear window as you reverse and constantly check through the side and front windows that you still have enough room.

When reversing, you should keep the vehicle under control and move as slowly as possible. As you turn, the front of the vehicle will swing out.

Move slowly and constantly check where the front of the vehicle going.

Make sure it is obvious to your instructor or supervisor that you have looked over your shoulder and out of the rear window.

Do not reverse or reverse park using only your mirrors unless you are in a commercial vehicle without rear windows.

- Check mirrors and indicate your intention to pull over.
- Stop next to, and approximately one metre out from, the parked vehicle in front of the bay you are to reverse into.
- Leave indicator on and select reverse gear.
- Look over your shoulder, reverse back slowly.
- As you begin to clear the parked car turn the steering wheel to the left to direct your vehicle into the parking bay.
(Note; the point you begin to turn will depend on your vehicle.)
- Keep speed as slow as possible.
- When your vehicle is at about 45 degrees to the kerb, straighten the steering wheel.
- Keep checking the front of your vehicle, to make sure it clears the parked car.
- Reverse until the rear of your vehicle is about one metre from the kerb, then turn the steering wheel to the right and keep reversing until your vehicle is straight.
- Select first gear or 'drive' and drive forward - straighten vehicle if necessary. Don't get too close to the vehicle in front.
- Park the vehicle. Ensure you apply the hand or park brake.
- Automatics should be put in 'Park'.
- Manual vehicle should be put in neutral and your foot should be taken off the clutch while you wait for the next instruction. If you are going to leave the vehicle select appropriate gear and switch off the ignition.

Quick checklist:

- ✓ Complete the manoeuvre legally, safely and in good time.
- ✓ Give correct indication if required.
- ✓ Select correct gear prior to moving off.
- ✓ Look over shoulder when reversing.
- ✓ Position the vehicle accurately at the end of the manoeuvre.

Three point turn – Turning using a driveway

The three point turn is a manoeuvre that can be used various situations. Turning around using a driveway is likely to be one of tasks you will be assessed on during your practical driving assessment.

- *Here are some things to remember when doing a 3 point turn using a driveway:*
- When you pull into a driveway, do not go past the letterbox. This usually marks the property boundary.
- Learn to reverse without taking your seat belt off.
- Make sure you are checking the rear and side windows as you move.
- Do not reverse using only your mirrors unless you are in a commercial vehicle without rear windows.
- When you're back on the road, indicate, check mirrors and right side blind spot before moving off.

