



Driver & Vehicle
Standards
Agency

National standard for driving cars and light vans (category B)



Introducing the ‘National standard for driving cars and light vans (category B)’

This national standard describes the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to be a safe and responsible driver of a category B vehicle (car or light van). It contributes to the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency’s (DVSA’s) main objective of reducing the number of people who are killed and seriously injured on our roads by describing good practice in the field of driving.

It could be used by:

- individuals
- trainers
- driving schools
- employers
- standards setting bodies
- education and training providers
- producers of learning materials

Based on extensive research and consultation, the standard provides a firm foundation on which to build improvements in the way that we test and assess people’s ability to drive. DVSA recognises that this national standard will evolve and develop over time. We welcome comments and inputs from all our stakeholders to make sure that it remains up to date and a statement of good practice for drivers.

Scope

The content of this standard applies to driving:

- all types of vehicle covered by category B
- manual and automatic vehicles
- on any class of road
- at any time
- in any weather conditions
- with any number of passengers (subject to legal requirements and the manufacturer’s specification)
- with any load (subject to legal requirements and the manufacturer’s specification)
- for private use and for commercial purposes (subject to legislation)

The standard includes the requirements of the category B licence acquisition process.

Note: This standard makes frequent reference to the use of a ‘safe, systematic routine’. In all cases this should be taken to mean the use of routines such as ‘Mirrors – Signal – Manoeuvre – Position – Speed – Look’ or ‘Information – Position – Speed – Gear – Acceleration’.

Role 1 Prepare vehicle and its occupants for a journey

Unit 1.1 Prepare occupants of vehicle for a journey

Element 1.1.1 Choose a suitable mode of transport

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. assess your own physical, emotional and other needs and those of any others who intend to make the journey with you2. assess the environmental and economic implications of other modes of transport3. decide whether it is suitable to use a vehicle for the journey	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. the pros and cons and environmental impact of different modes of transportb. the environmental implications of using a car for very short journeysc. the environmental impact of vehicle exhaust gases, such as carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide and leadd. the environmental implications of different<ul style="list-style-type: none">• types of power unit• fuel types• tyrese. the full-life costs of owning and running different types of vehiclef. the potential impact of vehicle noise on the environment

Role 1 Prepare vehicle and its occupants for a journey

Unit 1.1 Prepare occupants of vehicle for a journey

Element 1.1.2 Make sure you are fit to drive

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. assess whether your ability to drive safely and legally is affected or likely to be affected by the use of<ul style="list-style-type: none">• over-the-counter medicines• prescription medicines• illegal or controlled substances• alcohol2. assess whether your ability to drive safely and legally is affected by<ul style="list-style-type: none">• your emotional state• a short or long-term physical condition• tiredness3. make other travel arrangements when your ability to drive safely or legally is affected4. seek support to make any changes necessary for you to drive safely and responsibly if you have a long-term physical condition	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. what the law says about driving while you have illegal or controlled substances or alcohol in your systemb. how illegal or controlled substances or alcohol affect your ability to drive safely, and<ul style="list-style-type: none">• that, regardless of any legal limits, the desirable level of alcohol to have in your system is zero• how the strength of alcohol varies in different types of drink• what a 'unit' of alcohol is equivalent to in different types of drink• how the body processes drugs and alcohol and the rate at which they are removed from your system• that any alcohol may make you more likely to fall asleep even if the levels in your blood are below the legal limitc. how over-the-counter or prescription medicines can affect your ability to drive safelyd. the risks linked to any combination of<ul style="list-style-type: none">• over-the-counter medicines• prescription medicines• illegal or controlled substances• alcohole. that any remedy or medicine with instructions that state 'may cause drowsiness' is highly likely to cause drowsinessf. the range of possible solutions that exist to help those with long-term physical conditions drive safely and responsibly

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">g. how being tired, before or during your journey, affects your ability to drive safely, and<ul style="list-style-type: none">• how a poor seating position and bad posture can make you tired• that a poor diet, or eating food at the wrong time, may make you more likely to fall asleep• that there are times of the day when we are all likely to feel more sleepyh. how emotional states such as anger, grief, sadness and joy can affect your ability to drive safelyi. that being careless, thoughtless and/or reckless are frequent causes of crashesj. how a short-term injury, such as a sprained ankle, can affect your ability to drive safelyk. that eyesight deteriorates and failure to recognise and respond to that deterioration may have an effect on your ability to drive safely and legallyl. the need to have an eyesight test every two years as a minimumm. that if you need to wear glasses or contact lenses to meet the licence requirements you must wear them all the time when drivingn. how different sorts of tinted and light-sensitive lenses or visors react in different driving conditionso. the effect that changes to your physical and mental abilities, particularly as you get older, can have on your ability to drive safely, such as slower reaction times and reduced muscle strengthp. how to make other arrangements when your ability to drive safely or legally is affected
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Role 1 Prepare vehicle and its occupants for a journey

Unit 1.1 Prepare occupants of vehicle for a journey

Element 1.1.3 Control the risks associated with carrying passengers, loads and animals

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. manage the effect passengers may have on your ability to drive safely2. make sure passengers are seated legally, correctly and securely3. make sure loads are secure and distributed according to the manufacturer's guidelines4. allow for the effect that extra loads may have on the vehicle's handling characteristics5. make sure animals are secure and correctly restrained within the vehicle	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. current legal requirements for the fitting and use of seatbeltsb. current legal requirements for the fitting and use of baby seats, child seats, booster seats and booster cushionsc. the importance of using head-restraints, where fitted, and of adjusting them correctlyd. the correct use of air-bags, for example when using a baby seate. the law on the carriage of loads on the outside of the vehiclef. how to use the vehicle handbook to identify how best to safely load the vehicleg. what types of load-carrying and securing equipment are available for use with the vehicle and how to fit and use themh. how to restrain animals safelyi. how to make sure that you can still see clearly if windows or mirrors are blocked by passengers or by a loadj. how to adjust the vehicle to allow for extra weight and changed weight distributionk. how to adjust your driving behaviour to allow for extra weight or changed weight distributionl. how to deal with social pressure and distractions caused by passengers

Role 1 Prepare vehicle and its occupants for a journey

Unit 1.2 Make sure the vehicle is roadworthy

Element 1.2.1 Make routine checks of vehicle roadworthiness

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. check all fluid levels, including windscreen washer reservoir(s)2. check that the horn is working correctly3. check that all lights and reflectors are<ul style="list-style-type: none">• legal• clean• in good working order4. check electrical equipment is in good working order5. check there is no damage that would<ul style="list-style-type: none">• affect your ability to drive the vehicle safely• make the vehicle illegal• have an adverse environmental impact6. check all tyres, including any spare, are<ul style="list-style-type: none">• legally compliant• correctly inflated7. check any equipment, such as the car jack, is in good working order8. check all controls¹ are in good working order9. check windscreen, mirrors and other viewing devices are clear and adjusted to give the best view10. check registration plates are<ul style="list-style-type: none">• fitted• visible• legally compliant	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. that different vehicles may permit different levels of access to check and maintain fluid levels, check electric systems etc, and some checks or maintenance on some vehicles should only be carried out by qualified mechanicsb. that the vehicle handbook identifies which checks can be carried out by the owner or user and explains how and when to carry them out, either directly or using the vehicle's instrumentationc. that overfilling with engine oil can<ul style="list-style-type: none">• damage your engine• increase the amount of environmental pollution the vehicle createsand that using oil that is not to the manufacturer's specification<ul style="list-style-type: none">• can increase fuel consumption• may cause damage• could affect the vehicle warrantyd. what fluids to add to the vehicle coolant system and the need to maintain the level of coolant additivee. how to check that tyres<ul style="list-style-type: none">• are correctly fitted and inflated• meet legal requirements for tread depth• are free from defects that would make them unsafe or illegal to usef. the rules that apply to the fitting of different types of tyresg. that tyres specially adapted for different weather conditions are available (such as

¹ This covers all controls that may be used, including the wide range of vehicle adaptations that may be made to enable a disabled driver to use the vehicle.

<p>11. check that any ancillary equipment (such as after-market satellite navigation systems² or 'head-up' displays) is legal to use in the vehicle and securely fitted in a position that minimises distraction to the driver</p> <p>12. make sure checks are carried out by a competent person where you are unable or unwilling to carry them out yourself</p>	<p>winter tyres or all-season tyres)</p> <p>h. that the operation of any equipment which results in the driver taking their eyes off the road</p> <p>i. how to spot signs of abnormal tyre wear and the need to have the vehicle checked if abnormal wear is found</p> <p>j. that the windscreen and other windows should be clean and free from obstructions and that there are legal limits to the amount and location of damage to windscreens, beyond which they must be replaced</p> <p>k. that lights, indicators, reflectors and number plates must be clean at all times</p> <p>l. any rules that apply to the fitting and use of ancillary equipment and how to make sure it can be used safely and with the minimum of distraction</p> <p>m. what electrical equipment to check</p> <p>n. what controls to check</p> <p>o. the legal requirement to dispose of or recycle oil, batteries and tyres correctly</p>
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² The DVSA is aware that satellite navigation systems can take a variety of forms; integrated, free-standing/post-market or smartphone app. The technology is also evolving rapidly. The use of the phrase 'satellite navigation system' in this standard is taken to mean any electronic device, of whatever format, that is used as an aid to navigation.

Role 1 Prepare vehicle and its occupants for a journey

Unit 1. 2 Make sure the vehicle is roadworthy

Element 1.2.2 Check the vehicle is fit for the journey

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. familiarise yourself with the vehicle if it is the first time you have driven it2. conduct pre-journey checks and configure the vehicle correctly3. make changes to your driving position so that you<ul style="list-style-type: none">• are safely and comfortably seated• have good all-round visibility• have control of the vehicle• minimise tiredness4. check there is enough fuel of the right type	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. what pre-journey checks are needed and what adjustments to makeb. the effect of filling a vehicle with the wrong sort of fuelc. how to check what sort of fuel your vehicle usesd. the operation of low-fuel, mpg or range indicators and how much fuel is left in the tank when low-fuel indicators operate

Role 1 Prepare vehicle and its occupants for a journey

Unit 1. 2 Make sure the vehicle is roadworthy

Element 1.2.3 Make sure vehicle documentation meets legal requirements

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. make sure your driving licence is valid for the category of vehicle being driven2. make sure the vehicle is registered and taxed3. make sure you have valid insurance for the use you intend to make of the vehicle4. make sure that the vehicle has a current MOT certificate (where applicable)5. display red L plates (or if you wish, red D plates in Wales) if you are a provisional licence holder6. make sure that the correct documentation is in place even if you do not own the vehicle7. where your journey will take you into an area where different rules apply, make sure that you follow those rules	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. that you must<ul style="list-style-type: none">• have a valid driving licence for the vehicle you drive• meet any restrictions on your licenceb. that learner drivers, holding a provisional licence, must be supervised by somebody who<ul style="list-style-type: none">• is at least 21 years old, and• has held a licence to drive the category of vehicle for at least three yearsc. that any vehicle driven by a learner must clearly display legally compliant, red L plates (or in Wales either red L or red D plates, or both)d. that L (D) plates should be removed when a vehicle is not being driven by a learnere. that the vehicle must be registered with the DVLAf. the law on the taxation of vehicles and the requirement to make a statutory declaration (SORN) if you take the vehicle off the road and stop taxing it for any period of timeg. that you must notify the DVLA if you<ul style="list-style-type: none">• change your name or address• have or develop a medical condition that will affect your ability to drive• buy or sell a vehicle• make any substantive changes to your vehicleh. that you must have a minimum of third party insurance covering you for the intended use of the vehicle, and what insurance companies require you to do to meet your obligations under that insurancei. that you must hold a valid MOT test certificate for the vehicle if it is more than three years old

	<p>j. that, if required by an authorised person, you must be able to produce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• your driving licence• a valid insurance certificate• a current MOT certificate <p>either immediately or within seven days to a police station</p> <p>k. that if you borrow or rent a vehicle you still need to make sure that the correct documentation is in place</p> <p>l. that if you lend somebody your vehicle you still need to make sure that they have the correct documentation</p> <p>m. that if you drive outside Great Britain there may be different documentation rules, such as a need to have your documents with you at all times</p>
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Role 1 Prepare vehicle and its occupants for a journey

Unit 1.3 Plan a journey

Performance Standards

You must be able to

1. plan a suitable route taking into account
 - road conditions
 - weather conditions
 - traffic
 - driving experience
 - the vehicle you are using
2. work out the time needed to complete your journey safely and legally, including rest breaks and refuelling stops
3. decide whether it is safe to make a journey in adverse weather conditions
4. consider other routes if your planned route is blocked, or if weather conditions make it unsafe to continue
5. program any satellite navigation systems before you start your journey so that you are not distracted while driving
6. be prepared for the possibility that your journey may be delayed or affected by adverse weather conditions, for example by taking suitable clothing, equipment or food and drink

Knowledge & Understanding Requirements

You must know and understand

- a. the principles of mapping, the technologies available for route planning and for monitoring road traffic conditions, and the limitations of these technologies
- b. the need to build in extra time to allow for unforeseen delays
- c. how congestion charges and road and bridge tolls may affect your choice of route
- d. how the risks involved in travelling on some routes can change at different times, such as
 - heavier traffic at rush hour or in the holiday season
 - lower stability on exposed routes in windy conditions
- e. the link between your level of skill and experience and whether you should choose a particular route
- f. how to get information on likely weather conditions and how they might affect your journey
- g. when using satellite navigation systems,
 - how to program them
 - the information they can provide
 - that they can sometimes fail, and how to prepare for that happening
- h. the importance of minimising distractions while driving

Role 2 Guide and control the vehicle

Unit 2.1 Start, move off, stop and leave the vehicle safely and responsibly

Element 2.1.1 Start the vehicle

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. carry out pre-start checks on<ul style="list-style-type: none">• doors• parking brake• seat• steering• seatbelt• mirrors2. disengage anti-theft devices3. make sure the gear lever is in neutral (or 'P' or 'N' if driving an automatic vehicle)4. consider the effect of starting the engine on other road users, particularly vulnerable road users such as passing cyclists, pedestrians or horse riders5. monitor vehicle instrumentation and gauges during engine start up6. respond correctly to information given by instrumentation and gauges during engine start up7. start the engine correctly	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. how to read and respond correctly to instrumentation such as<ul style="list-style-type: none">• gauges• indicators• warning lights• on-board diagnostic systems and other aids fitted to the vehicle to allow you to monitor its operation and performanceb. that different vehicles may have different starting mechanisms, types of instrumentation, parking brakes and other aids, and that it is vital to use the vehicle handbook to find out how they workc. how to start the engine when it is coldd. the benefits of using anti-theft devices, and how to apply and disengage them

Role 2 Guide and control the vehicle

Unit 2.1 Start, move off, stop and leave the vehicle safely and responsibly

Element 2.1.2 Move off safely and smoothly

Performance Standards

You must be able to

1. carry out all-round visual checks, including blind spots, to make sure that it is safe to move-off
2. signal your intention to move off to other road users, where needed
3. move off straight-ahead, on the level and on slopes, safely and smoothly, keeping control of the vehicle at all times
4. move off at an angle from behind a parked vehicle or obstruction, safely and smoothly, keeping control of the vehicle at all times
5. check that controls are operating correctly
6. restart quickly and safely if the vehicle stalls

Knowledge & Understanding Requirements

You must know and understand

- a. the importance of carrying out all-round, effective observation of the road and other road users before moving off
- b. the importance and location of blind spots and how to carry out blind spot checks before moving away
- c. the importance of using a safe, systematic routine to help you to move off safely and smoothly
- d. the importance of applying the footbrake before selecting drive on an automatic vehicle
- e. where applicable, the relevance of the 'biting point', that is the point at which the clutch plate and the flywheel come into firm contact and start to transmit drive
- f. the operation of the parking brake release mechanism
- g. the limitations of hill assist systems, where fitted
- h. the effects of 'dry steering', that is turning the wheels when the vehicle is not moving, on tyres etc.
- i. how to check controls, such as steering and brakes, are operating correctly

Role 2 Guide and control the vehicle	
Unit 2.1 Start, move off, stop and leave the vehicle safely and responsibly	
Element 2.1.3 Decelerate and bring the vehicle to a stop safely	
<p>Performance Standards</p> <p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. use the accelerator and brakes correctly to regulate speed and bring the vehicle to a stop safely 2. stop the vehicle safely and under control in an emergency 3. use the parking brake when stationary, where needed 	<p>Knowledge & Understanding Requirements</p> <p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. how to apply a safe, systematic approach when stopping b. the distance a vehicle requires to stop from different speeds and in different road and weather conditions c. that a vehicle's overall stopping distance consists of two parts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thinking distance - which is the distance travelled from the point where you decide to brake to the point where you start braking • braking distance - which is the distance travelled from the point where you start to brake to the point where you stop d. the importance of anticipation and judgement to allow for progressive use of the brakes e. how aids such as ABS can help in safe and effective braking

Role 2 Guide and control the vehicle

Unit 2.1 Start, move off, stop and leave the vehicle safely and responsibly

Element 2.1.4 Park the vehicle safely and responsibly

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. select a safe, legal and convenient place to stop and park and, once stationary, secure the vehicle on slopes, facing both up and down, as well as on the level2. make sure the parking brake is applied effectively3. select a gear to hold the vehicle safely when parked4. switch the engine off5. make sure that vehicles fitted with automatic transmission are left with the lever in the Park position6. make sure lights are left on where required7. check for oncoming cyclists, pedestrians and other traffic before opening your door	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. what factors to take into consideration when looking for a safe, legal and convenient place to stop or parkb. the pros and cons of reversing or 'pulling through' into a parking space rather than reversing outc. that you must switch off the headlights, fog lights if fitted and engine when parkedd. the rules in the Highway Code that apply when leaving your vehicle on different roads and in different lighting and weather conditionse. how and when to set the position of the steering wheels of the vehicle to prevent it rolling awayf. how to ensure that the parking brake is applied effectivelyg. that, when parking a vehicle with manual transmission, selecting a gear will help to hold the vehicle if the parking brake should failh. the possible outcomes of opening a door, particularly on the offside of the vehicle, when not safe to do so

Role 2 Guide and control the vehicle

Unit 2.2 Drive the vehicle safely and responsibly

Element 2.2.1 Monitor and respond to information from instrumentation, driving aids and the environment

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. monitor and respond correctly to gauges, warning lights and other aids when driving2. monitor and respond appropriately to instructions provided by satellite navigation systems without being distracted from the driving task3. respond to the actual situation on the road ahead4. make effective use of mirrors and other aids to vision to identify and monitor other road users and hazards5. judge speed and distance correctly and effectively6. signal your intentions correctly to other road users within a safe, systematic routine7. use the vehicle's lights, indicators and horn correctly8. use the windows, wipers, demisters and climate and ventilation controls so that you can see clearly	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. the purpose and meaning of dashboard warning lightsb. the location of switches and controls and how to use them without being distracted or losing control of the vehicle while on the movec. that you must always act on the basis of what is in front of you and not just rely on the information provided by satellite navigation systems or other aidsd. when and how to use dipped headlightse. the rules that apply to the use of fog lightsf. how different types of mirror can make other road users appear to be nearer or further away than they actually areg. how to identify and respond to changes in road surfaces and weather conditions

Role 2 Guide and control the vehicle

Unit 2.2 Drive the vehicle safely and responsibly

Element 2.2.2 Control the acceleration of the vehicle effectively

Performance Standards

You must be able to

1. use the accelerator smoothly to achieve and maintain a suitable speed

Knowledge & Understanding Requirements

You must know and understand

- a. that correct use of the accelerator will have positive effects on
 - vehicle performance
 - safety
 - the environment
- b. the disadvantages of over-revving when moving away and while stationary
- c. how to operate cruise control systems safely, if fitted
- d. the importance of using a driving position that allows you to use the accelerator smoothly

Role 2 Guide and control the vehicle

Unit 2.2 Drive the vehicle safely and responsibly

Element 2.2.3 Use gears correctly

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. change gear smoothly and in good time2. select the most suitable gear for the speed of the vehicle, given road and traffic conditions3. coordinate the use of gears with braking and acceleration4. use an automatic or automated gear box effectively, when fitted	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. that different vehicles may have different numbers of gears and those gears may be configured differentlyb. the effect that unsuitable gear selection can have on<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the performance of the vehicle• the driver's ability to drive safely and responsibly• the environmentc. the use of selective gear changing (sometimes known as block changing)d. the benefits of timely gear selection when ascending and descending slopes, particularly when loadede. the use of 'kick down' and 'lock up' when using an automatic vehiclef. how to use gears to assist safe parkingg. the difference between automatic and automated gearboxes

Role 2 Guide and control the vehicle

Unit 2.2 Drive the vehicle safely and responsibly

Element 2.2.4 Steer the vehicle safely

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. steer the vehicle safely and responsibly in all road and traffic conditions2. hold and control the steering wheel to steer the vehicle accurately and safely3. continue to steer the vehicle safely and responsibly while operating other controls	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. how to keep safe control of the steering wheelb. the effect that the vehicle's turning circle has on steering the vehicle

Role 2 Guide and control the vehicle

Unit 2.2 Drive the vehicle safely and responsibly

Element 2.2.5 Manoeuvre the vehicle

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. coordinate the operation of all controls to manoeuvre the vehicle safely and responsibly in<ul style="list-style-type: none">• all road and weather conditions• forward and reverse gear2. continue to make effective observations, including checks of blind spots, while manoeuvring3. position the vehicle correctly to carry out manoeuvres safely4. use a safe, systematic approach throughout, such as 'mirrors, signal, manoeuvre, position, speed, look', to maintain the safety of yourself and other road users5. use reversing camera systems or proximity sensors effectively, where fitted	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. how the use of safe, systematic routines will contribute to safe and responsible manoeuvringb. the blind spots for the vehicle and how to check themc. the correct procedure<ul style="list-style-type: none">• for reversing into a side road on the left• for reversing into a side road on the right• to carry out a turn-in-the-road or U-turn manoeuvre• for carrying out any reverse parking exercise on and off roadd. the rules about when and where you cannot make U-turnse. the effects of sudden or harsh use of the accelerator, brakes or steering whilst manoeuvringf. that different vehicles will react differently in a possible skid situation depending on their configuration (such as front-wheel or rear-wheel drive) and on the technologies fitted (such as ABS or ESP)g. why a skid may occur, how to avoid skids and how to correct them if they do occurh. how to allow for vulnerable road users when carrying out a manoeuvrei. the benefits of engine braking and when it should be usedj. the risks linked to reversing a vehicle further than necessaryk. the risks linked to 'coasting' (allowing the vehicle to move without having a gear selected, either with the clutch depressed or when in neutral)l. how to identify a suitable place for manoeuvringm. that use of reversing aids, such as camera systems and proximity sensors, does not replace the need to practise good, all-round, effective observation

Role 2 Guide and control the vehicle

Unit 2.3 Drive the vehicle while towing a trailer or caravan

Performance Standards

You must be able to

1. make sure you have the correct licence to drive the combination of vehicle and trailer or caravan
2. make sure that the trailer or caravan is suitable and legal for use on the road
3. make sure that you are insured to drive the combination of vehicle and trailer or caravan
4. make sure that your vehicle is capable of towing the trailer or caravan
5. make sure that the trailer or caravan is safely and correctly coupled to the vehicle
6. carry out correct safety checks
7. make sure that any load is evenly distributed and secure
8. allow more time and brake earlier when slowing down or stopping
9. allow more distance and time to overtake safely
10. make allowances for the extra length of the vehicle with the trailer or caravan, particularly when turning or emerging at junctions
11. safely and correctly uncouple the trailer or caravan from the vehicle when it is no longer needed
12. reverse the vehicle with the trailer or caravan attached

Knowledge & Understanding Requirements

You must know and understand

- a. the driving licence regulations on towing trailers or caravans
- b. that not all insurance policies cover towing a trailer or caravan
- c. that most manufacturers make recommendation for the maximum size of trailer or caravan that can be safely towed by each type of vehicle, and for how they should be attached, and that these recommendations must be followed
- d. how to find the trailer or caravan's 'nose weight' and how to check that this does not exceed the limits of the vehicle's tow bar
- e. how to couple and uncouple a trailer or caravan safely
- f. that towing a trailer or caravan may increase the number of blind spots
- g. how and when to use aids to observation, such as extra mirrors
- h. what safety checks should be made on a trailer or caravan
- i. the speed limits when towing a trailer or caravan
- j. that vehicles towing trailers on motorways are not allowed in the outside lane where there are three or more lanes
- k. that towing a trailer or caravan will change the way a vehicle handles, and how to deal with those changes
- l. that it may be necessary to take up a different position on the road when dealing with junctions or roundabouts
- m. what "snaking" is and how to correct it
- n. that strong winds pose a particular hazard for caravans or high-sided trailers
- o. how to steer correctly when reversing a vehicle with a trailer or caravan attached

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">p. the effect that towing a trailer or caravan may have on braking, the concept of brake fade and what to do when descending slopes to make sure you keep in controlq. that you may have to check height or width restrictions on your route when you tow a trailer or caravanr. that rescue services may not include recovery of a trailer or caravans. the benefits of carrying a spare wheel and any other equipment for the trailer or caravan
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Role 3 Use the road in accordance with the Highway Code

Unit 3.1 Negotiate the road correctly

Element 3.1.1 Maintain a suitable position on the road

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. select and maintain a suitable position on the road2. change lanes safely and responsibly3. overtake other road users legally, safely and responsibly	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. how to select a suitable position on the roadb. where you may not drive, for example on the pavement, hard shoulder or in cycle lanesc. what lane discipline is and why it is importantd. that your position on the road may be affected by a range of factors including weather, road and traffic conditionse. the importance of<ul style="list-style-type: none">• scanning the road ahead for reasons to change your position, such as roadworks• taking timely action to reposition yourselff. how to use a safe, systematic routine in time to change position safely and responsiblyg. how the performance and handling of your vehicle will affect your ability to overtake safely and responsiblyh. where you may and may not overtake

Role 3 Use the road in accordance with the Highway Code

Unit 3.1 Negotiate the road correctly

Element 3.1.2 Negotiate bends

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. assess bends correctly on approach2. select a safe position and speed to enter a bend3. maintain safe speed and control throughout a bend4. exit bends safely	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. how to use various methods such as 'limit point analysis' to judge the severity of a bendb. that when deciding on the line to take and the speed at which it is possible to negotiate a bend safely you should take into account factors such as<ul style="list-style-type: none">• adverse camber• banking• uneven or slippery surfaces• weather conditions• visibility• road junctions• other road users• that different vehicles will perform and handle differently through bendsc. the importance of coordinating the use of gears, accelerator, brakes and steering to negotiate a bend safely and responsiblyd. how the use of a safe, systematic routine will support the safe negotiation of bendse. the effect that loads and passengers may have on the handling of the vehicle through bends

Role 3 Use the road in accordance with the Highway Code

Unit 3.1 Negotiate the road correctly

Element 3.1.3 Negotiate all types of junctions, including roundabouts, and all types of crossings

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. apply a safe, systematic routine to negotiate all types of junctions, roundabouts and crossings safely and responsibly2. actively scan for more vulnerable road users at junctions, roundabouts and crossings – for example cyclists and motorcyclists3. turn left and right and go ahead safely and responsibly4. emerge safely and responsibly into streams of traffic5. cross the path of traffic safely when turning right	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. the rules that apply to particular junctions and roundabouts, such as priority rulesb. how to turn left and right safely and responsiblyc. the issues that apply to turning right at crossroadsd. the rules that apply to<ul style="list-style-type: none">• merging into a stream of traffic• crossing the path of an approaching stream of traffic• all types of pedestrian crossing• train and tram crossingse. the meaning of warning lights used at pedestrian and train and tram crossings and how to respond correctlyf. how the use of a safe, systematic routine, including effective observations, will support the safe negotiation of junctions, roundabouts and crossingsg. the rules that apply to other road users, particularly drivers of large vehicles or vulnerable road users such as cyclists and motorcyclists, and the position that they may select on the road as a result

Role 3 Use the road in accordance with the Highway Code

Unit 3.1 Negotiate the road correctly

Element 3.1.4 Drive on motorways and dual carriageways

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. join a motorway or dual carriageway safely and responsibly from the left or the right2. leave a motorway or dual carriageway safely and responsibly to the left or the right3. drive in the most suitable lane4. allow for other road users joining or leaving the motorway or dual carriageway5. change lanes safely and responsibly	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. how to join a motorway or dual carriageway, safely and responsibly, from traffic light controlled or uncontrolled slip roadsb. how to leave a motorway or dual carriageway safely and responsibly, including the need to position yourself well in advance to allow other road users enough time to reactc. how the use of a safe, systematic routine will help you to join or leave a motorway or dual carriageway safelyd. that you may not stop on a motorway except in an emergencye. when and for what purposes you are allowed to use the hard-shoulderf. that you must not pick up or set down anybody, or walk on a motorway, except in an emergencyg. that you must not cross the central reservation, or drive against the traffic flow on a motorway or dual carriageway, unless directed to do so by an authorised person or traffic signsh. the rules that apply when using a motorway or dual carriagewayi. that some stretches of motorway may have local, active traffic management (or managed motorways) control systems installed, which will change speed limits or the direction of flow in particular lanes, and that it is vital to obey the instructions given by such systemsj. the need to scan well ahead on the approach to junctions to make sure you are aware of<ul style="list-style-type: none">• other road users joining or leaving• queuing traffick. the correct use of hazard warning lightsl. the risks posed by drivers of left-hand-drive vehicles, in particular large goods vehicles

Role 3 Use the road in accordance with the Highway Code

Unit 3.2 Comply with signals, signs and road markings

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. respond correctly to all permanent and temporary traffic signals, signs and road markings2. respond correctly to signals given by authorised persons3. respond safely and responsibly to signals given by other road users.	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. the meaning of, and how to respond to<ul style="list-style-type: none">• mandatory traffic signs• warning signs• road markingsb. how to work out the speed limit when you cannot see speed limit signsc. the meaning of, and how to respond correctly to, signals given by<ul style="list-style-type: none">• police officers• crossing patrols• others authorised to control trafficd. who is authorised to control traffice. signals that other road users are likely to use and how to respond safely and responsibly to them

Role 4 Drive safely and responsibly in the traffic system

Unit 4.1 Interact correctly with other road users

Element 4.1.1 Communicate intentions to other road users

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. use indicators and arm signals to signal intentions correctly2. support the use of any signals given by positioning the vehicle correctly and safely3. use horn and lights to communicate with other road users where necessary	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. the arm signals shown in the Highway Code and when they may need to be givenb. when and how to use indicatorsc. why you should make sure signals are given in good time and cancelled as soon as possibled. how to employ a safe, systematic routine to make the best use of signalse. when signals must be given and when it is acceptable not to use themf. the law on the use of the horng. when the flashing of headlights may be used as a warning of approach or instead of the hornh. the risks linked to incorrect use of headlights or the horn as a signali. how and when to use hazard warning lightsj. how and when to use road positioning to confirm your intentions

Role 4 Drive safely and responsibly in the traffic system

Unit 4.1 Interact correctly with other road users

Element 4.1.2 Cooperate with other road users

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. be aware of and predict the likely actions of other road users2. give other road users enough time and space to perform manoeuvres3. monitor and manage your own reaction to other road users4. respond to emergency vehicles correctly5. make progress in the traffic stream and overtake with consideration for other road users	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. how to scan the road ahead to gather useful informationb. the rules that apply to other road users, particularly drivers of large vehicles or vulnerable road users such as cyclists and motorcyclists, and the position that they may select on the road as a resultc. the importance of predicting the likely actions of other road users, especially vulnerable road users such as cyclists, motorcyclists, children and the elderlyd. the importance of always keeping a safe stopping distance between the vehicle and other road userse. how traffic and weather conditions may affect other road users, such as by reducing visibility, and how to allow for thisf. how to act safely and responsibly when emergency vehicles are responding to incidentsg. how to make safe progress in the traffic streamh. the rules that apply to overtaking on the lefti. that driving without due care and attention and reasonable consideration for other road users is an offence

Role 4 Drive safely and responsibly in the traffic system

Unit 4.2 Minimise risk when driving

Element 4.2.1 Identify and respond to hazards

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. continually scan the driving space close to the vehicle and into the distance2. use visual clues to predict possible hazards and prepare for situations that may arise3. judge the significance of possible hazards and prioritise your responses4. respond to hazards safely5. keep focused when faced with distractions	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. methods you can use to scan your driving space effectively, both close to and into the distanceb. what can affect your field of vision, such as parked vehicles, and how to allow for thisc. how the construction of your vehicle may affect your field of vision, and how to overcome thisd. what aquaplaning is and when it might happene. factors that might cause you to skid, such as oil or gravel on the roadf. how to read the road ahead and prepare for the unexpectedg. which kinds of hazard to particularly look for in different environments, such as tractors on rural roads, deer on forest roads or flooding in heavy rainh. that many tunnels are equipped with radio transmitters so that drivers can tune in to be warned of any incidents, congestion or roadworksi. that if you come across congestion in a tunnel that causes you to stop you should leave at least a five metre gap between you and the vehicle in frontj. when other road users are vulnerable and how to allow for themk. factors that can distract the driver (such as talking to passengers or using a satellite navigation system) and how to manage them so that you are aware of the driving space and possible hazardsl. the law on the use of mobile phones whilst driving

Role 4 Drive safely and responsibly in the traffic system

Unit 4.2 Minimise risk when driving

Element 4.2.2 Drive Defensively

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. create and maintain a safe driving space2. scan and check your surroundings, especially blind spots3. position your vehicle to maximise visibility to other road users4. use dipped headlights when necessary during daylight hours5. manage your own physical and emotional state to make sure you can manage risks to your safety6. drive at such a speed that you can always stop safely in the distance you can see to be clear7. assess your own driving behaviour and identify areas needing work	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. the importance of using a safe, systematic routine to make sure you are always in control of your vehicle and travelling at the right speed, in the right gear and in the correct position on the road for the conditionsb. the importance of keeping a safe separation distance in all weather and traffic conditionsc. how to assess your own ability to drive safely and responsibly against best practice

Role 4 Drive safely and responsibly in the traffic system

Unit 4.2 Minimise risk when driving

Element 4.2.3 Drive in an ecologically responsible (Eco-safe) way

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. accelerate and decelerate smoothly and progressively2. foresee the need to stop, and use timely and smooth deceleration to reduce fuel consumption and general vehicle wear and tear3. drive in the highest responsive gear to keep full control and avoid labouring the engine4. remove extra load from the vehicle when not needed5. turn off the engine when you are likely to be stationary for some time	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. what affects a vehicle's fuel consumptionb. how effective scanning and planning can help you to use smooth acceleration or deceleration to keep momentumc. how fuel consumption is increased by<ul style="list-style-type: none">• extra load• incorrectly inflated tyres• wind resistance, for example from carrying luggage on roof racksd. that selecting the most suitable gear will avoid engine labour and maximise the effects of engine brakinge. the use of technologies to reduce exhaust pollutionf. under which circumstances it is appropriate to turn off the engine when stationary, rather than leave it idlingg. that you should never reduce safety to improve economy

Role 4 Drive safely and responsibly in the traffic system

Unit 4.3 Manage incidents effectively

Element 4.3.1 Take suitable action if your vehicle breaks down

Performance Standards

You must be able to

1. stop, in a safe place if possible, and switch off the engine
2. make sure passengers, animals and loads are managed safely
3. where suitable, give warning to other road users
4. seek appropriate help

Knowledge & Understanding Requirements

You must know and understand

- a. where possible, how to keep control of the vehicle if it breaks down
- b. the law on using the hard-shoulder on motorways and the guidance on waiting for breakdown services
- c. how to identify your precise location on motorways, to allow breakdown services to reach you quickly
- d. that it is better to use an emergency roadside telephone than a mobile phone because it allows the operator to find your exact position
- e. how and when to use a warning triangle
- f. how and when to use hazard warning lights

Role 4 Drive safely and responsibly in the traffic system

Unit 4.3 Manage incidents effectively

Element 4.3.2 Take suitable action when involved in, or witness to, a collision

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. where suitable, stop and park your vehicle in a safe place2. make sure passengers, animals and loads are managed safely3. make sure warning is given to other road users4. assess the incident scene and your safety5. note the condition of any casualties6. give clear and accurate information to emergency services7. give suitable help to others at the scene8. where possible, record information about what you saw or the scene as you found it, including taking photographs and drawing sketch plans9. comply with legal requirements accurately and in good time, if required	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. the importance of making sure further injury and damage is not caused, by<ul style="list-style-type: none">• managing uninjured passengers, animals and passers-by• giving warning to other road users as quickly as possibleb. how to contact the emergency services and the vital importance of giving them accurate informationc. the importance of being able to give information about the condition of casualties to the ambulance serviced. the benefits of gathering and recording information as soon as possible after the evente. the law that applies to<ul style="list-style-type: none">• stopping• providing your details• giving statements• producing documentsif you are involved in an incident that causes damage or injury to any other person, vehicle, animal or propertyf. the principles of first aid and the limits of your own first aid skills

Role 5 Review and adjust driving behaviour over lifetime

Unit 5.1 Learn from experience

Performance Standards

You must be able to

1. demonstrate that you have continued to develop and update your driving skills since you took your driving test
2. recognise when your ability to drive safely and responsibly is affected by factors such as
 - changes in your personal circumstances, such as changes in working patterns
 - changes in your state of health and your physical abilities, through illness or age related deterioration
 - a break from driving
 - changing to an unfamiliar vehicle
3. assess the seriousness of the factors identified and
 - change your driving behaviour to reduce the risks
 - make plans for recovering or improving your driving ability
4. seek professional help where needed
5. advise DVLA Swansea if you have a physical or mental impairment

Knowledge & Understanding Requirements

You must know and understand

- a. that you can learn from experience and continue to improve your ability to drive safely and responsibly all through your driving career
- b. how to assess your own ability to drive safely and responsibly against best practice
- c. how to assess and learn from others' driving behaviour
- d. how to use feedback from others to help you be clear about your own ability to drive safely and responsibly
- e. when to seek professional help
- f. the advantages of having regular driver development sessions with a competent instructor to keep up to date and remove bad habits
- g. the advantages of having an initial input from a competent instructor if you return to driving after a break or you change to an unfamiliar vehicle

Role 5 Review and adjust driving behaviour over lifetime

Unit 5.2 Keep up to date with changes

Performance Standards	Knowledge & Understanding Requirements
<p>You must be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. demonstrate that your understanding of the meaning of road signs and markings is current2. demonstrate that your understanding of the law on the use of a vehicle on public roads is current3. keep up to date with changes to vehicle technology especially if you change the vehicle you are using4. respond correctly to any changes in the documentation that is required to use a vehicle on the road5. take all steps needed to maintain your entitlement to a licence for the type of vehicle you are driving	<p>You must know and understand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. where to find information about changes to signs, markings and legislation, for example Highway Code updates, Government websites, Government publications and motoring organisation websitesb. where to find information about changes to vehicle technologies, for example manufacturers' websites and trade magazines and websitesc. where to find information about changes to registration, MOT, or taxation regulations, for example Government websites, Government publications and motoring organisation websites