

HOW TO PASS YOUR DRIVING TEST

Avoid the most common reasons for failing.

Before you take your driving test make sure you read these very common mistakes. Even the most experienced and proficient drivers will make some of these errors below, at some time.

- **Failing to stop at a stop sign.** Drivers must come to a complete stop and wait for 2 seconds before proceeding. Drivers must stop within 1 metre of the stop line. If they stop short of the stop line they must move forward, to the line and stop again.
- **Excessive speeding** - 5 km over the limit.
- Head-checks - not doing head-checks when necessary; before moving away from the curb; lane changing; merging; at any time when deviating from a path and if moving into the path of another vehicle.
- **Candidates vehicle not road-worthy** - check lights and tyres.
- **Candidate causes a potential crisis.**
- **Candidate is unable to perform any part of an exercise** - parallel parking, bay parking or left something behind.
- Failing to give-way at give-way lines.
- Lack of vehicle control. This could be stalling, incorrect selection of gears, rolling back, coasting or riding your clutch, incorrect steering, over revving or not being able to use wipers and demisters if necessary.
- Failing to signal correctly. You must signal for 5 secs before moving away from the kerb. Signal at least 30 metres before turning, if it's practical to do so. Signal correctly at roundabouts and cancel your signal within 3 flashes of completing a manoeuvre.
- **If the assessor needs to intervene to prevent an accident** or potential accident.
- **If the assessor needs to help the pupil.** (Depending on the situation).
- **Not obeying any traffic law, regulatory sign or road marking.**
- **Not able to follow a direction given by the assessor.**

Understanding how the driving assessment is structured.

People generally assume they could fail on manoeuvres above everything else. On a driving test you can attempt a manoeuvre several times before you fail. So getting your general driving skills up to scratch is far more important, unlike manoeuvres, you only get one chance to get your driving right, you generally can't rectify a driving error.

Reasons why an Assessor will not allow you to commence a driving test.

- Insufficient id
- Log book isn't filled out correctly
Vehicle isn't roadworthy - check lights are working and not cracked, check tyres are legal and correctly inflated, check seatbelts work correctly and windscreen is not cracked.
- If the car hasn't got dual controls it must have a centrally mounted handbrake.
Late for the test appointment - make sure you're at least 10 minutes early.