

The Ultimate 101-Point UK Driving Test Checklist

The Complete Roadmap to UK Driving Success - From Beginner to Test Pass

PRE-LEARNING ESSENTIALS (1-10)

Legal Requirements & Documentation

1. ☒ **Provisional driving licence obtained and valid** - Check expiry date and ensure photo is current
2. ☒ **Theory test passed within 2 years** - Certificate must be valid on practical test day
3. ☒ **Suitable identification available** - Passport or other accepted ID for test day
4. ☒ **Understanding of minimum learning requirements** - Know the legal requirements for supervised practice

Personal Preparation

5. ☒ **Appropriate footwear selected** - Thin-soled, secure shoes (no flip-flops, heels, or loose footwear)
6. ☒ **Vision requirements met** - Glasses/contacts if needed, able to read number plate at 20 metres
7. ☒ **Physical fitness assessed** - Ensure you can operate all controls safely and comfortably
8. ☒ **Mental readiness confirmed** - Well-rested, alert, and free from medications affecting driving

Learning Environment Setup

9. ☒ **Qualified instructor selected** - ADI (Approved Driving Instructor) or trainee with valid licence
10. ☒ **Lesson payment method arranged** - Cash, card, or arranged payment plan confirmed

VEHICLE FAMILIARISATION (11-25)

Cockpit Drill & Adjustments

11. ☒ **Seat position adjusted** - Slight bend in knee when clutch fully depressed, comfortable reach to steering wheel
12. ☒ **Seat height optimised** - Clear view over steering wheel and dashboard instruments
13. ☒ **Steering wheel position set** - Comfortable arm position, slight bend in elbows
14. ☒ **Head restraint adjusted** - Top level with ears/eyes, minimal gap between head and restraint
15. ☒ **All mirrors adjusted** - Interior mirror centred on rear window, door mirrors showing small portion of car

Safety Equipment

16. ☒ **Seatbelt fastened correctly** - Across chest and hips, not twisted, proper adjustment for height
17. ☒ **Handbrake operation understood** - Know how to apply, release, and check effectiveness
18. ☒ **All dashboard warning lights understood** - Oil, temperature, battery, fuel, engine management

Control Familiarisation

19. ☒ **Pedal positions memorised** - Clutch (left), brake (middle), accelerator (right) in manual cars
20. ☒ **Gear lever operation mastered** - Smooth selection, understanding of gear pattern
21. ☒ **Indicator controls located** - Left/right operation, hazard lights, self-cancelling feature
22. ☒ **Windscreen wiper controls identified** - Speed settings, washer operation, rear wiper if applicable
23. ☒ **Light controls mastered** - Headlights, side lights, fog lights, interior lights
24. ☒ **Horn location and operation** - Proper use for warning other road users
25. ☒ **Heating/demisting controls understood** - Front and rear screen demisting, air conditioning

FUNDAMENTAL VEHICLE CONTROL (26-40)

Clutch Control Mastery

- 26. ☒ **Bite point identified consistently** - Ability to find and hold the bite point reliably
- 27. ☒ **Smooth moving off achieved** - No stalling, minimal rolling, coordinated clutch and accelerator
- 28. ☒ **Hill starts mastered** - No rolling back, confident starts on various gradients
- 29. ☒ **Clutch control at slow speeds** - Precise control for manoeuvres and traffic situations
- 30. ☒ **Gear changes executed smoothly** - Up and down changes without jerking or grinding

Steering Techniques

- 31. ☒ **Correct hand position maintained** - "Quarter-to-three" or "ten-to-two" positions
- 32. ☒ **Pull-push steering technique** - Smooth steering without hand-over-hand crossing
- 33. ☒ **Accurate straight-line driving** - Maintaining lane position without wandering
- 34. ☒ **Smooth cornering technique** - Progressive steering inputs, maintaining vehicle stability
- 35. ☒ **Effective observation while steering** - Not fixating on road directly ahead

Speed Control & Braking

- 36. ☒ **Progressive braking mastered** - Smooth deceleration without harsh stopping
- 37. ☒ **Coordinated clutch and brake use** - Preventing stalling while braking
- 38. ☒ **Appropriate speed selection** - Matching speed to road conditions and circumstances
- 39. ☒ **Engine braking utilised** - Using gears to help slow the vehicle efficiently
- 40. ☒ **Emergency braking technique** - Firm, controlled braking while maintaining steering control

ESSENTIAL DRIVING PROCEDURES (41-55)

MSM/PSL Routine

- 41. ☒ **Mirrors routine established** - Regular checking of all mirrors, not just before manoeuvres
- 42. ☒ **Signal timing perfected** - Early enough to inform, not so early as to confuse
- 43. ☒ **Manoeuvre planning implemented** - Think-plan-execute approach to all changes
- 44. ☒ **Position selection mastered** - Correct lane positioning for intended route
- 45. ☒ **Speed adjustment coordinated** - Appropriate speed for manoeuvre and conditions

Moving Off & Stopping

- 46. ☒ **Six-point moving off routine** - Preparation, Observation, Signal, Manoeuvre sequence
- 47. ☒ **Blind spot checks incorporated** - Physical checks over shoulder when required
- 48. ☒ **Safe stopping procedure** - MSM routine, gradual deceleration, securing vehicle
- 49. ☒ **Kerb approach technique** - Stopping reasonably close and parallel to kerb
- 50. ☒ **Uphill/downhill stopping** - Appropriate gear selection and handbrake use

Junction Navigation

- 51. ☒ **MSPSL routine automated** - Mirrors, Signal, Position, Speed, Look approach
- 52. ☒ **Junction types recognised** - T-junctions, crossroads, Y-junctions, mini-roundabouts
- 53. ☒ **LADA technique applied** - Look, Assess, Decide, Act systematic approach
- 54. ☒ **Emerging confidence developed** - Safe decision-making when joining traffic
- 55. ☒ **Priority rules understood** - Who has right of way in various junction scenarios

ADVANCED ROAD SKILLS (56-70)

Roundabout Navigation

- 56.  **Roundabout approach perfected** - Correct lane selection based on intended exit
- 57.  **Spiral roundabouts navigated** - Multi-lane roundabout positioning and signalling
- 58.  **Mini-roundabout technique** - Appropriate speed and positioning for small roundabouts
- 59.  **Exit signalling mastered** - Correct timing for indicating when leaving roundabout
- 60.  **Pedestrian priority observed** - Giving way at zebra crossings on roundabout approaches

Traffic Situations

- 61.  **Lane discipline maintained** - Correct lane use, no unnecessary lane changes
- 62.  **Overtaking judgment developed** - Safe assessment of when to overtake
- 63.  **Meeting oncoming traffic** - Priority decisions and safe passing distances
- 64.  **Following distances maintained** - Two-second rule in dry conditions, increased in wet
- 65.  **Traffic light response** - Proper approach to all light sequences including amber

Pedestrian Areas & Crossings

- 66.  **Zebra crossing approach** - Correct speed reduction and stopping procedure
- 67.  **Pelican crossing navigation** - Understanding of light sequences and timing
- 68.  **Puffin crossing awareness** - Recognition of sensor-controlled crossings
- 69.  **School crossing vigilance** - Extra caution around schools and patrol crossings
- 70.  **Pedestrian priority situations** - Understanding when pedestrians have right of way

PARKING & MANOEUVRES (71-80)

Essential Manoeuvres

- 71.  **Reverse bay parking mastered** - Accurate positioning using reference points
- 72.  **Forward bay parking perfected** - Smooth entry and straight positioning
- 73.  **Parallel parking achieved** - Confident reverse parking between two cars
- 74.  **Pull up on right technique** - Safe crossing of traffic and reverse back procedure
- 75.  **Three-point turn executed** - Safe turning in road using forward and reverse gears

Manoeuvre Fundamentals

- 76.  **All-round observation maintained** - Continuous checking during all manoeuvres
- 77.  **Clutch control in manoeuvres** - Slow, precise speed control during reversing
- 78.  **Reference points utilised** - Consistent use of mirrors and car reference points
- 79.  **Safety priorities established** - Stopping for pedestrians and traffic during manoeuvres
- 80.  **Manoeuvre recovery skills** - Ability to correct positioning if manoeuvre goes wrong

CHALLENGING CONDITIONS (81-90)

Weather Adaptations

- 81. ☒ **Wet weather driving** - Increased stopping distances, appropriate speed reduction
- 82. ☒ **Night driving skills** - Proper use of lights, dipped beam courtesy
- 83. ☒ **Fog driving techniques** - Correct use of fog lights, reduced speed
- 84. ☒ **Strong wind adaptation** - Maintaining control and allowing for gusts
- 85. ☒ **Sun glare management** - Use of visors, sunglasses, clean windscreen

Road Type Variations

- 86. ☒ **Dual carriageway confidence** - Safe joining, lane discipline, appropriate speeds
- 87. ☒ **Country road awareness** - Narrow roads, hidden entrances, farm vehicles
- 88. ☒ **Urban driving skills** - Bus lanes, cyclists, pedestrians, complex junctions
- 89. ☒ **Residential area caution** - School zones, parked cars, children playing
- 90. ☒ **Construction zone navigation** - Temporary signs, lane changes, reduced speeds

TEST DAY PREPARATION (91-101)

Documentation & Legal Requirements

- 91. ☒ **All test documentation ready** - Licence, theory pass certificate, eyesight capability
- 92. ☒ **Vehicle legal compliance** - MOT, insurance, tax, L-plates correctly positioned
- 93. ☒ **Vehicle condition checked** - Clean mirrors/windows, adequate fuel, warning lights off

Knowledge Requirements

- 94. ☒ **Show Me questions prepared** - All safety checks while driving practised
- 95. ☒ **Tell Me questions mastered** - Pre-drive safety questions memorised
- 96. ☒ **Independent driving ready** - Following sat nav or road signs for 20 minutes

Test Day Strategy

- 97. ☒ **Mental preparation completed** - Relaxation techniques, positive mindset, adequate sleep
- 98. ☒ **Test route familiarity** - Knowledge of local test area and common routes
- 99. ☒ **Examiner interaction prepared** - Polite communication, listening skills, question asking
- 100. ☒ **Error recovery mindset** - Understanding that minor mistakes don't mean failure
- 101. ☒ **Post-test planning** - Insurance arrangements, further training considerations

BONUS SUCCESS TIPS

Common Test Failure Points to Avoid:

- Insufficient observation at junctions
- Inappropriate speed for conditions
- Poor steering control
- Inadequate mirror use
- Hesitation when safe to proceed

Examiner's Key Assessment Areas:

- **Safety:** Always the top priority
- **Control:** Smooth, confident vehicle handling
- **Observation:** Continuous awareness of surroundings
- **Planning:** Thinking ahead and positioning appropriately
- **Compliance:** Following all road rules and signs

Final Success Formula:

Practice + Preparation + Confidence = Pass

Remember: The examiner wants you to pass. They're looking for a safe, competent driver who can handle real-world driving situations. Focus on safety over perfection!

This checklist represents the comprehensive skills and knowledge required for UK driving test success. Regular practice of each element will build the competence and confidence needed to pass your test and become a safe, skilled driver for life.