



The following covers the facts and figures required for the theory test. To be used in conjunction with the theory test advice on www.passwithcbs.co.uk and a good helping of practice and common sense.

Safety

MSM – Mirror, Signal, Manoeuvre

At all times - Stay calm, Be patient, Be considerate, Courteous and Safe

Three main risks from parked cars:

- Doors opening
- Cars pulling away
- Pedestrians stepping out.

If (a badly animated) ball appears in the road ahead slow down and prepare to stop.

Do NOT stop on the hard shoulder unless an Emergency

Warning Triangle (used when broken down – see Signs)= 45m (147 feet) from obstruction (N.B. Think Snooker triangle! Maximum break!?)

You can park on the right-hand side of the road at night in a one-way street.

Cars parked on roads at night must use sidelights/parking lights if the speed limit exceeds 30mph.

You must not reverse for longer than necessary. When reversing, if in doubt – Get out and check. Be aware that children may not be seen behind the car.

The Rear view mirror has an Anti-dazzle setting to protect against lights from behind.

Convex (curved) mirrors (used in Door Mirrors) give a wider field of vision.

When tackling a limited visibility junction, Peep and Creep. Use reflections to help you see.

Never wave other road users across the road, let them make their own mind up. Slow down or stop to signal your intention.

Pedestrians should approach on YOUR SIDE of a country road

Keep back from large vehicles, let them get on with it.

Be aware of Motorcyclists when turning Right and Cyclists when turning Left

Motorcycles are smaller and hard to see. This means they are most vulnerable at junctions. They use bright clothing & dipped headlights during the day to be seen more easily.

When carrying a baby in a rear facing baby seat you must deactivate any passenger airbags.

Personal Health & Safety

If taking medication seek medical advice before driving.

If you feel drowsy when driving you should stop and rest as soon as safe and legal, and ensure you have a good supply of fresh air.

You should not use any phone when driving, stop in a safe, convenient and legal position.

Plan and make regular stops during your journey.

Plan your route using the internet, a map or by contacting a motoring organisation. Planning your journey at busy times helps ease congestion.

Control & Skidding

Following distances - 2 second rule GOOD conditions. Wet roads DOUBLE stopping distance, Icy roads TIMES 10. In wet weather keep 4 seconds gap, and beware of spray.

In Icy or Snowy conditions you should drive at a slow speed in as high a gear as possible.

On black ice Steering may feel light and tyres may sound quieter on the road.

Tailgating – Following another vehicle too closely. (Remember Tyres & Tarmac and the 2 second rule)

If a car is following too closely behind, increase the stopping space in front of you to allow more time to stop in.

Use the engine braking of lower gears to control your speed.

Coasting (Keeping the clutch down or being in Neutral) gives less steering and braking control.

In case of Emergency the brake should be applied Rapidly & Firmly.

ABS (Anti-lock Braking System) is unlikely to help on loose surfaces or surface water. It starts working just as the wheels are about to lock. Brake rapidly and firmly without releasing the pedal. It will allow you to steer while braking (IF necessary).

If a car without Anti-Lock Brakes begins to skid Release the Brake and Reapply.

Skidding is Mainly caused by THE DRIVER

If you go into a skid your should steer INTO it.
Skid Right – Turn Right, Skid Left – Turn Left

A FORD (See Signs)– Associated issues – Could be worse in Winter, Use a low gear and drive slowly, Test your brakes afterwards – they will be wet, There may be a depth gauge.

If a trailer starts snaking – Ease off Gas, slow gently

Stopping distance will be affected by:

- Weather
- Tyre/Brake condition
- Speed of travel
- Your health
- Your ability
- Your alertness

Stopping Distances (Bold/Blue show answers specifically required for test)

SPEED (mph)	THINKING (feet)	BRAKING (feet)	STOPPING (feet)
20	20	20	40
30	30	45	75
40	40	80	<u>118</u>
50	50	<u>125</u>	<u>175</u>
60	60	180	<u>240</u>
70	70	245	<u>315</u>

Lights

Green flashing Beacon = Dr on call

Blue Flashing Lights = Emergency Service vehicles

You may use Hazard lights:

- When Stopped and Temporarily obstructing traffic
- When On hard shoulder (Emergency Only!)
- When traffic suddenly slows ahead on a Motorway

Lights and their use:

Parking Lights for Parking

Dipped Headlights for Driving, prevents dazzling of other drivers

Full Beam when it won't blind others. ONLY when the road ahead is clear of traffic

Your horn and flashing headlights are only used to alert others of your presence. The horn should only be used to warn of danger.

Fog lights should be used when visibility is less than 100 metres (328 feet)

If parking on a 2 way road, with a limit exceeding 30mph, you should leave your parking lights on. If you have to park in fog use sidelights (parking lights)

In poor visibility used Dipped Headlights. If making a journey in fog ensure the lights are working and the windows are clean. If surface spray occurs on the motorway use Dipped Headlights.

Using Rear Fog lights when not necessary will make brake lights less visible and dazzle following drivers.

Powered Vehicles (Motorised Wheelchairs etc.) using a dual carriageway will have a flashing amber light. A powered vehicle has a **maximum speed of 8mph (12km/h)**.

Flashing Amber lights under a School warning sign warn you to slow down until clear of the area.

Reinforce signals safely using Arm signals

A Pedestrian wearing reflective clothing and **carrying a red light** would signify an Organised Walk.

Motorway

Motorway Studs (Think Traffic lights):

Green = Sliproad (You can go through it)

Red = Edge of Road (You can't go through it)

Amber = Between carriageways (In the middle on a set of lights)

White = Lane Markings

The normal Driving Lane on a Motorway is the Left Lane, the Right Lane is the Overtaking Lane.

Motorway emergency phones help the services locate you easily. They are normally connected to the Police, or sometimes an Highways Agency Control Centre. To find the nearest phone follow the directions on the marker posts.

On a Motorway or Unrestricted Dual-Carriageway Hazard lights are shown briefly to show traffic ahead is slowing or stopping.

Give way to traffic already on the Motorway.

When planning to exit the Motorway you generally position in the left-hand lane.

Active Traffic Management Systems reduce congestion.

Red Flashing lights above all Motorway Lanes mean Stop & Wait. If above a single lane then move into another lane as soon as it is safe to do so.

Trailers being towed on a Motorway are restricted to 60mph and lanes 1 & 2 only. They cannot use the right-hand lane unless there are lane closures.

Must not use Motorways:

Learner Drivers

Learner Motorcyclists

Farm Tractors

Horse Riders

Cyclists

Accidents

Initial response at scene of accident:

- Warn other drivers,
- Contact authorities,
- Check for anyone needing First Aid **IF SAFE** to do so:
 - Check ABC,
 - Stop bleeding,
 - Keep them warm, comfortable and accompanied.

ABC = Airway, Breathing, Circulation

Bleeding = Apply Pressure and Elevate (Do NOT remove anything stuck in them)

Signs of Shock = Sweating, Vomiting & Grey skin

Chest Compressions should be done to a depth of **4-5 centimetres 100 times per minute** (to the tune of Nelly the Elephant!)

Burns should be cooled for at least **10 minutes**

Do NOT move casualties unless there is an immediate and serious danger

Do NOT give injured people Food, Drink or Cigarettes

Documents

Registration Document contains details on:

- Registered Keeper
- Make & Model of vehicle
- Number Plate
- Engine Size

It is the registered keepers responsibility to make sure the Vehicle Registration Certificate (V5C) is updated with change of owner, address or car details.

Notify DVLA if you change:

- Name
- Permanent address
- Vehicle

You must also notify the DVLA when you have health issues which effect your driving or when your eyesight fails to meet requirements (or you start having to wear corrective lenses). If you need glasses or lenses, you must wear them at all times while driving.

Insurance

The minimum level of insurance is **Third party** which covers damage to Others (People, Property & Vehicles)

Fully Comprehensive is the maximum level of Insurance, this also covers You & Your vehicle.

Your **Insurance Premium** is how much the Insurance costs you.

A **Cover Note** is issued before you receive your insurance policy.

The **Excess** on your Insurance Policy is the amount you have to pay for each claim. i.e. Excess = £100, you have to pay the first £100-.

The maximum specified fine for driving without insurance is **£5000-**
Standard Insurance covers the named drivers to drive a specific vehicle. You are not insured to drive any vehicle unless you agree this with your insurance company. **DO NOT** assume you are insured without checking first.

Tax

To get Road Tax **you need** an MOT and Valid Insurance.

Road tax must be displayed clearly in the vehicle.

Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN) lasts for 12 Months and declares that the vehicle is not being used on the road.

MOT

An MOT Certificate **lasts one year**, and must be obtained once the vehicle is 3 years old.

You can only drive without an MOT certificate when driving to an appointment at an MOT centre.

Without an MOT your Insurance could be invalid.

Laws

To supervise a learner you must be 21+ having had a valid full licence for 3+ years (In the same category)

To be road legal **you require**:

- Valid driving licence
- A clearly displayed & valid tax disc
- Proper & Adequate insurance

If you get 6 points on your licence within 2 years of passing your test you will have to reapply for your provisional licence and retake both your theory and practical tests.

Maximum Speed on a Single Carriageway road – **60mph**

You cannot park closer than **10m (32 feet)** from a junction

Street lights mean **30mph** unless other signs are present.

It is illegal to leave the engine running if you leave your vehicle.

Minimum legal tyre tread depth is **1.6mm** across the **central ¾ (75%)** of the tyre all the way around.

Legally you must ensure that (amongst others) your windscreen, headlights, and seatbelts are in

good condition.

Car passengers must wear a seatbelt unless medically exempt.

It is the drivers responsibility for anyone under 14 to wear their seatbelt. A child (under 14) **shorter than 1.35m (4 feet 5 inches)** MUST wear an adult seat belt only if a correct child restraint is not available.

You must not sound your horn between the hours of **11:30pm and 7am** in a built up area.

No-one can ride in a caravan under tow

You must Give Way to buses if safe to do so.

Police

Police issuing you with a “Producer” (an official request to produce documents at the Police Station) may request Insurance, MOT and Driving Licence details. If a Policeman asks you to produce your documents you have **7 days** to do so.

Report an accident involving damage to Police within **24 hours**

If a Police Officer flashes headlights, points to the left and/or indicates left – Pull up on the left

Traffic Lights/Pedestrian Crossings

Red Lights means you must stop and wait behind the white stop line.

Green Lights – Do NOT proceed if your exit is blocked

Red & Amber Lights showing, wait for Green before crossing Stop line

Solid Amber Light means stop at the stop line

Pelican Crossings have a flashing Amber light, you MUST give way to pedestrians already crossing. Proceed when the crossing is clear.

Puffin Crossing – No flashing Amber as the crossing detects when it is clear. The light order is Green, Amber, Red, Amber & Red, Green.

Cyclists can only ride across at a **Toucan crossing** (Remember: **Two-Can** Cross = Cyclists & Pedestrians)

Zigzag lines at a Crossing mean No Parking and No Overtaking

If Traffic Lights are out of order, Nobody has priority

At a level crossing the first sign of an approaching train is a solid amber light. If red lights are flashing stop before the barrier.

If you breakdown on a crossing:

Get yourself and passengers clear of the vehicle and crossing

Telephone the signal operator

Clear crossing IF & WHEN instructed

A [School Crossing Patrol](#) (Lollypop Person) will signal you to stop by displaying a stop sign.

[SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR](#) sign is to allow a clear view of crossing area

Road Markings

[Stop signs](#) are present when visibility is restricted

[Box Junctions \(Yellow Criss-cross lines\)](#) Prevent the junction becoming blocked, you may only enter if your exit is clear. i.e. You may wait in a Yellow Box Junction when oncoming traffic prevents you turning right.

[Advanced Stop lines](#) (2 sets of Stop lines at traffic lights) are to allow cyclists to position in front of traffic.

A solid white line at the side (left) of the road indicates the edge of the carriageway.

[Hazard approach lines](#) are to warn you of your speed on approach.

You may cross a double solid white lines in the centre of the road to overtake a road maintenance vehicle travelling 10mph or less.

White line on side of road, shows edge of carriageway

Junctions

If two cars are turning right at a crossroads, it is normally safer to cross Offside to Offside.

At an unmarked crossroads No-one has priority.

If a car is signalling left, wait until it has committed to the turn before pulling out in front of it.

Watch out for cyclists when turning left, check your door mirror.

Overtaking

When overtaking use Mirror – Signal – Manoeuvre

[Beware of crosswinds](#). They most effect High-sided vehicle, motorcyclists and bicycles. Keep back and give room.

You may “Overtake another vehicle on the left” when:

You are in a one-way street.

When the vehicle in front of you is signalling to turn right.

In slow moving traffic queues.

Mechanical

[Catalytic Converters](#) reduce exhaust emissions, it is found on the exhaust system.

Uneven tyre wear can cause faults in the braking, suspension and wheel alignment.

Unbalanced wheels may cause the steering to vibrate.

Check Oil level before a long journey.

If your vehicle keeps bouncing when testing suspension it suggests worn shock absorbers.

Battery fluid should be topped up using distilled water to just above the cell plates.

Brake fade is caused by Brakes overheating.

When going down hill, if brakes are not working as well as normal it maybe due to overheating.
(Normally in cars with drum brakes)

A caravan/trailer **Stabiliser** will aid vehicle handling.

A **Breakaway cable** is a safety device added to the trailer braking system.

Inflate tyres more than recommended when – Carrying a heavy load, When roads are slippery

Old oil should be disposed of correctly at a local authority site.

To dispose of a used battery take it to a garage or to a local authority site.

An Automatic car uses “**kick-down**” to drop a gear and accelerate quickly.

Eco-Driving

Eco-safe Driving provides increased road safety.

Under inflated tyres increase fuel consumption and affect braking. Check tyre pressures when tyres are cold.

Driving at 70mph uses up to **30%** more fuel than driving at 50mph.

Driving smoothly can reduce consumption by about **15%**.

Unused roof racks waste fuel.

Road Transport accounts for **20%** of all emissions.

Loose filler caps (Fuel caps) waste money & fuel, and cause potential danger to other road users as it is slippery.

Other

Pass Plus improves Skills and can reduce insurance costs (See www.passwithcbs.co.uk for details)

A horse rider in the left-hand lane may go in any direction

Horse Riders – Pass slow and Wide

A pedestrian with a white stick and red band means the person is deaf and blind.

A dog wearing a yellow or burgundy coat warns of a Deaf pedestrian.

To deter theft get the numberplate etched on the windows.

Areas reserved for trams may have white line markings, a different surface colour and/or texture.

In “traffic calming” areas reduce your speed.

Parking on a hill – Steer towards the kerb & Apply the handbrake fully.

When parking and leaving the car you should engage the steering lock.

**Don't forget to practise the Hazard Perception section of the Theory Test.
Best of luck, and wishing you a safe future on the road!**

