

PRIVATE PRACTICE TIPS

Improve your chances of passing the test by getting additional practice

You can greatly improve your chances of passing your driving test by getting some additional hours behind the wheel, the more the better!

Driving in all weather and light conditions with a good mix of road types will really develop your driving skills.

Before you do this, there are some important requirements.

Your Legal requirements:

- The Supervising driver **must**:
 - hold a full UK License for more than 3 years.
 - be over 21
 - give you their full attention – must not use a mobile phone or similar device whilst on the move
 - be in a fit state to drive – ie, NOT under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Ensure the car is properly insured for you to drive
- Display L Plates to front and rear.
- Ensure the car is Taxed and MoT'd
- Ensure you have a valid Provisional Licence
- **We recommend** you buy an internal mirror for the supervising driver to use
- And remove any clutter and distractions from the vehicle – ie fluffy dice and turn radio down or off.



Your instructor will recommend when you are ready to take private practice.

This will normally be after **10 to 20 hours** of lesson time.

PRIVATE PRACTICE TIPS

- **Who to ask?** Ask a family member or friend that feels at ease helping you – nervous drivers are probably not the best people.
- **Know your car.** Familiarise yourself with your car – get a feel for the clutch and brakes in a quiet area first. Make sure you know how to turn on the lights, signals, window wipers!
- **Plan the route.** Start with areas you are BOTH familiar with and **you** know you can cope with. Plan what types of road you will be using and make sure you have covered them in lessons. Remember you are **PRACTISING** skills you have already learnt. Avoid trying to learn new topics before you have covered them in lesson.
- **How long?** Start with short trips of around **20 minutes**, then build up to longer trips as your confidence grows.
- **Use the System.** Always drive to the **MSPSL** system and you will develop good habits to last a life time.
- **Distractions.** You need to be able to concentrate. Filling the car with family members is not a good idea, we've all heard of back seat drivers. Concentrate and stay focused.
- **Dealing with conflict.** Driving can be stressful and shouting at each other will not help. If you do find yourself feeling upset or frustrated during a drive, find somewhere safe to stop, and talk.
- **Keep a record.** Each time you take a trip, log it on the **Private Practice Log** and be sure to reflect on what went well and what you need to work on.

Drive parents, relatives or a friend's car without risk to their No Claims Bonus!

You can get your own Learner Driver Insurance policy and get valuable practice time.

Learner Driver Insurance specialise in short term cover whilst you practice your driving skills. Get a quote at

www.collingwoodlearners.co.uk

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