

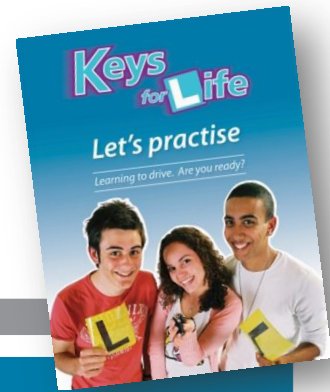
Planning driving sessions

It is recommended that the learner driver and supervisor plan formal and informal driving sessions together (eg teaching and practising skills when travelling to and from school). These sessions should include a range of conditions so that the learner driver becomes familiar with driving on different types of roads and in different levels of traffic, all types of weather, and at various times of the day including at night.

Driving to school, sports training, part-time work, going out or shopping are all daily opportunities that can be used for informal driving practice where skills are consolidated.

Stages of learning to drive

The following stages of learning to drive are explained in detail in the *Let's practise* booklet (available on the *Keys for Life* DVD and in print, via the ordering instructions on page 13). The *Let's practise* booklet provides additional detail such as, suggested lesson duration, where to hold the lesson, and a list of skills to practise and consolidate.



LEARNER'S PERMIT TEST

Stage 1: Learn basic skills and how to control the car

Driving lessons should take place in areas such as a large empty car park, a quiet residential street or sealed country road. Skill development should focus on basic controls (ie acceleration, braking and steering), clutch release, steering techniques, road positioning, stopping the car, using rear and side mirrors, checking blind spots, turning at intersections and entering traffic. All these skills should be practised before moving to the next stage.

Stage 2: Learn how to scan the road for hazards and make safe decisions

Driving lessons should take place in quiet and busy suburban streets with low to moderate traffic. Skill development should focus on three-point turns, parking, changing and merging lanes, obeying traffic signs and lights, identifying road hazards, reversing and looking ahead. All these skills should be practised before moving to the next stage.

Stage 3: Learn how to control the car in different road and traffic conditions

In this stage, learner drivers should learn to manage driving in low, medium and heavy traffic including freeways and highways. Skills from previous stages should be consolidated and skill development should focus on moving through roundabouts, multi-lane driving, smooth vehicle control and lane changing. 6 months after getting L plates you can sit the Hazard Perception Test.

HAZARD PERCEPTION TEST

Stage 4: Practice under supervision

After passing the Hazard Perception Test, learner drivers have at least six months to practice all driving skills under supervision. Skill development at this stage is about developing and refining advanced safety skills such as hazard perception and management. Where possible, the driving experiences should be varied, taking advantage of different road, traffic, weather and time of day conditions. After six months the learner driver is eligible to sit the Practical Driving Assessment

PRACTICAL DRIVING ASSESSMENT

Minimum of 50** hours - includes a minimum of 5 night time hours (between sunset and sunrise) - for the Log Book.

**Evidence shows that 100 to 120 hours are the best preparation for new drivers.

Must present completed Log Book at the Practical Driving Assessment.