

General notes

The Theory Test.

You will need to study the Highway Code MANY times, and I recommend you purchase a Theory Question book containing hundreds of multiple choice questions to work through. If you have access to a PC at home then a CD ROM such as 'Driving Test Success' will really help you to prepare, and comes with a Hazard Perception Test CD too. The DSA also have publications such as 'Driving, The essential skills', which would be a useful source of information. When you want to book your test you will need to telephone the DSA on 0870 010 1372, or book online at www.dsa.gov.uk, or I can book it for you. You will need a credit or debit card and your driving licence details to hand. The test costs 21.50. When you go for your test you need to take both parts of your licence.

The Practical Driving Test.

Your instructor will guide you through a syllabus which will cover everything you will need to know for your driving test, and should enable you to be able to drive safely thereafter. It is important that you take on board all the information that you will be given and if you don't understand something, then just ask. When it comes to the big day, it will be you that's taking the test, so you really need to understand everything you are doing. I will advise you when to take your driving test which will cost 48.50. I can book it for you if you wish to ensure it will not overlap with other test commitments. Once a test is booked, it is a contract between YOU and the DSA regardless of who booked it. On the day of your test you will need to book your lesson for two hours. The two hours then gives us time for a drive round first to recap, and then time for the test itself. You will need to take both parts of your licence and you will be expected to be able to read a number plate at 20.5 metres (67 feet). When you take the test it will start at a special test centre and you will be expected to drive on public roads accompanied by a DSA examiner (not your instructor). The test will be about 37 minutes in duration. Before a test is booked you will have completed your course and will have completed a few mock driving tests to prepare you. By the time you take your test you will know what you will need to do, so there shouldn't be any surprises!

Pass Plus.

When you pass you may want to buy a car. If you are under 25 you may find the insurance costs more than the car! I am also registered as a Pass Plus instructor. This means you can take part in a 6 hour course driving in environments which may be new to you. You will drive on Motorways, Dual Carriageways, Busy Roads, Night Driving, Rural Roads and also what to do in Adverse Weather Conditions. If you complete the course satisfactorily, you will receive a certificate from the DSA. There are many insurance companies that will give you a discount upon production of your certificate. The discount could be many hundreds of pounds, as they understand that the extra tuition will make you a better driver than someone who has not taken the course.