Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Curriculum

Unit 4

Basic Maneuvering Tasks

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-2

Unit Introduction

Unit 4 will introduce operator procedural and information-processing tasks, including basic vehicle control, space management, lane changing, turnabouts and parking.

Basic vehicle maneuvering tasks will include using procedural steps, lane changing, turnabouts, parking, driver information processing and practicing the space management system. The space management system will be used to determine appropriate roadway position, appropriate vehicle speed, and appropriate communication with other users.

Goals

Time Frame: 5 hours

Students will:

- Demonstrate procedural tasks and vehicle control tasks in non-complex roadway situations using procedures for lane changing, multiple turnabouts, and parking a vehicle
- Demonstrate an appropriate sequence of procedures in changing lanes, passing, parking, and turning around
- Complete Unit 4 Test

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-3

Title: Basic Maneuvering Tasks	Time Frame: 5 hours
Resources Needed	**Instructor Preparation**
Textbooks: Drive Right Ch. 6, 7, 9, 10 How to Drive Ch. 5, 9 Handbook Plus Ch.12 Responsible Driving Ch. 9, 10	Review recommended learning activities Review textbook Review space management system for on street instruction. Review on-street lesson plan used in combination with this unit and textbook
Slides 4.1-4.16 Fact Sheets 4.1-4.4 Videos 4.1-4.12 Worksheets 4.1-4.2 Your state's drivers handbook Included Video: • *Teaching Your Teens To Drive* Lessons 4, 5, 10, 11, 12	Review slides Review fact sheets Review worksheets Review included videos
Unit 4 Test	Included

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-4

Performance Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Students will demonstrate knowledge of turning at intersections.	Using Slide 4.1 to discuss the basic space management concepts of right and left turns and then show Video 4.1. Use Fact Sheet 4.1 as a reference for stopping at intersections.	Slide 4.1 "Turning/Stopping at Intersections" Video 4.1 "Turning/ Stopping at Intersections" (25 seconds) Fact Sheet 4.1 "Where to Stop at Intersections"
Students will describe the actions needed to reduce the level of risk when approaching an intersection to improve traffic flow.	Included Video: Show Lesson 10 of "*Teaching Your Teens to Drive*"	Included Video: "*Teaching Your Teens to Drive*" (3 minutes)

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-5

Content Outline

Turning at intersections:

1. Approach intersection checking for following: oncoming and cross traffic, other highway users, traffic control devices, condition of roadway and areas of limited visibility.
2. Check mirrors for presence and actions of following traffic.
3. Signal intent to turn at the intersection 3 to 4 seconds in advance or 100 feet.
4. Position your vehicle for appropriate turn.
5. Steer into proper lane.
6. Tap brake pedal to alert following driver.
7. Adjust speed as necessary, stopping if required.
8. Recheck cross and oncoming traffic. (90 percent of drivers do not stop for stop signs in residential areas.)
9. Check mirrors.
10. Identify a safe time/space gap in cross traffic.
11. Look through turn to farthest possible point.
12. Steer into proper lane using hand to hand (push/pull/slide steering).
13. Adjust speed as appropriate.
14. Check mirrors for traffic to the rear.

Intersection maneuvers - Students must understand the increased risk of crossing multi-lane traffic at intersections controlled either by stop signs or traffic signals. While the procedures remain consistent, gap requirements increase substantially whether crossing or turning left or right. Multiple turn lanes, with drivers cutting across lanes, are another problem associated with traveling on multi-lane, higher speed roadways to which new drivers must learn to be alert.

Crossing and joining traffic at intersection - The procedures for crossing or joining traffic traveling at higher speeds on multi-lane roadways is similar to those employed for basic Intersection maneuvers, however, this maneuver takes more time and is more dangerous. Intersections controlled by traffic signals - Before entering a signalized intersection, check again for oncoming vehicles signaling a left turn, pedestrians in the crosswalk, bicyclists, and cross traffic to make sure that cross traffic has stopped before moving. Whether the driver is first in line or in a line of vehicles, develop the habit of checking traffic and counting to three before moving. This provides some protection against drivers who fail to stop for the red signal or drivers ahead who suddenly brake to a stop. Do not move into the intersection until there is space in the next block. If turning right, yield right-of-way to pedestrians in the crosswalk. Where there is more than one right turn lane, exit and enter the corresponding lane and be alert for drivers crossing lanes while making the turn. Remember when turning right on red, drivers must first stop and yield right-of-way to any vehicles, bicycles or pedestrians in your path of travel.

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-6

Performance Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Students will describe staggered stops and double stops.	Use Slide 4.2 to discuss staggered stops then show Video 4.2 and discuss.	Slide 4.2 "Staggered Stops" Video 4.2 "*Staggered Stops*" (45 seconds)
	Use Slide 4.3 to discuss double stops at intersections. Then show Video 4.3 and discuss.	Slide 4.3 "Stopping at Intersections" Video 4.3 "*Double Stops*" (30 seconds)
	Included Video: Show Lesson 4 of "*Teaching Your Teens to Drive*" to review lane change risk-reduction concepts.	Included Video: "*Teaching Your Teens to Drive*" (3 minutes)
Students will demonstrate knowledge of changing lanes.	Use Slide 4.4 to discuss the basic concepts of changing lanes.	Slide 4.4 "Performance in Lane Change"

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-7

Content Outline

Staggered stops - Staggered stops are designed to keep traffic staggered to allow for larger vehicles to complete turns. They can be identified as the white lines found at intersections.

Stopping at intersections - When approaching an intersection with a stop sign, stop line or crosswalk, it may be necessary to stop where visibility is totally or partially blocked. The driver must then pull ahead slightly, after stopping at the legal position behind the stop line or crosswalk, and stop again where visibility is improved.

Changing lanes:

1. Maintain safe following interval.
2. Check highway and traffic conditions ahead, to the sides and behind.
3. Select a safe gap in traffic.
4. Signal.
5. Check mirror blind spot in direction of lane change.
6. Adjust speed and steer into lane.
7. Cancel signal.
8. Adjust speed to flow of traffic.
9. Check mirrors for following traffic.

Performance in Lane Change

1. Traffic flow to rear
2. Appropriate gap
3. Reduced-risk decision
4. Effective communication
5. Courtesy considerations
6. Gradual movements
7. Lane position
8. Recheck to rear
9. Regain space

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-8

Performance Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Students will demonstrate knowledge of procedures for turning around.	Use Slide 4.5 to discuss the basic concepts of turning the vehicle around to the left side then show Video 4.4.	Slide 4.5 "Turning Around - Left Side" Video 4.4 "*Turning Around - Left Side*" (30 seconds)
	Use Slide 4.6 to discuss the basic concepts of turning the vehicle around to the right side then show Video 4.5.	Slide 4.6 "Turning Around - Right Side" Video 4.5 "*Turning Around - Right Side*" (29 seconds)
	Use Worksheet 4.1 "Diagram Turning Around" during this segment as a worksheet re-source.	Worksheet 4.1 "Diagram Turning Around"

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-9

Content Outline

Turning Around by Backing into an Alley or Driveway on the Right:

1. Check traffic to rear and tap brake pedal to alert following drivers
2. Signal intention to turn right and check to make sure the driveway/alley is clear
3. Stop with rear bumper of vehicle in line with the far edge of the driveway/alley
4. Check traffic to sides and rear
5. When safe, back slowly, turning steering wheel rapidly all the way to the right
6. As vehicle centers in driveway/alley, straighten wheels
7. Continue backing straight until front of vehicle clears the curb
8. Stop, turn on left signal and shift to drive
9. Check traffic in both directions
10. When safe, turn left into proper lane and accelerate as appropriate
11. Check traffic to the rear

Turning Around by Heading into an Alley or Driveway on the Left:

1. Select a driveway/alley on the left that is clear of obstacles and where visibility will not be blocked when backing into street
2. Check to rear and tap brake pedal to alert following drivers
3. Signal intention to turn left
4. When safe, turn into driveway/alley as close as possible to the right side
5. Stop as rear bumper clears curb or edge of roadway
6. Signal a right turn and shift to reverse
7. Check in all directions for vehicles and other highway users
8. When safe, move slowly back, turning steering wheel rapidly all the way to the right
9. Check left front while backing to make sure there is a clear space as you turn
10. As vehicle centers in nearest lane, straighten wheels, stop and shift to drive
11. Cancel right turn signal and accelerate smoothly
12. Check traffic to rear

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-10

Performance Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Students will demonstrate knowledge of procedures for: • Parking on a hill with and without a curb • Angle parking • Perpendicular parking • Parallel parking	Use Slide 4.7 to discuss the basic concepts of hill parking procedures, then show Video 4.6 and discuss. Use Worksheet 4.2 "Parking Maneuvers" to discuss the principles of hill parking and pulling from a curb.	Slide 4.7 "Hill Parking" Video 4.6 "*Hill Parking*" (17 seconds) Worksheet 4.2 "Parking Maneuvers"

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-11

Content Outline

Supply information for describing parking maneuvers. Insert any state laws that may apply.

Explain Hill Parking

Leaving Traffic and Parking Up and Down Hill, With and Without a Curb:

1. Search ahead for place to park
2. Check following traffic
3. Signal
4. Release accelerator
5. Tap brake pedal to alert following drivers
6. Press brake pedal to point of resistance
7. Steer gently toward curb
8. Apply firm, steady pressure for smooth stops
9. Parking up or downhill without a curb and downhill with a curb:
   a. Before securing vehicle, turn wheels sharply toward the edge of the road
   b. Let leading edge of front tire touch road edge or curb
10. Parking uphill with a curb:
    a. Before securing vehicle, turn steering wheel sharply away from the curb
    b. Let vehicle roll back slowly until rear edge of tire gently touches curb

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-12

Performance Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Students will demonstrate knowledge of procedures for: • Parking on a hill with and without a curb • Angle parking • Perpendicular parking • Parallel parking (continued)	Use Slide 4.8 to discuss the basic concepts of angle parking procedures, then show Video 4.7 and discuss.	Slide 4.8 "Angle Parking" Video 4.7 "*Angle Parking*" (14 seconds)
	Use Worksheet 4.2 "Parking Maneuvers" to discuss the principals of angle parking.	Worksheet 4.2 "Parking Maneuvers"
	Use Slide 4.9 to discuss the basic concepts of perpendicular parking, then show Video 4.8 and discuss.	Slide 4.9 "Perpendicular Parking" Video 4.8 "*Perpendicular Parking*" (19 seconds)
	Included Video: As a summary, show "*Teaching Your Teens to Drive*" Lesson 5.	Included Video: "*Teaching Your Teens to Drive*" (7 minutes)

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-13

Content Outline

Entering an Angle Parking Space:

1. Identify space to be entered
2. Signal intention to turn left or right
3. Position vehicle 5 to 6 feet from rear of parked vehicles
4. Move forward slowly until driver can look straight down the line marking the near side of parking space to be entered
5. Look to the center of the parking space
6. Move forward slowly, turn steering wheel sharply left or right as appropriate (Danger points are front bumper on the far side and rear bumper of the vehicle on the near side of the space to be entered)
7. As vehicle centers in space, straighten wheels
8. Move forward to the front of the parking space, stop and secure vehicle

Exiting an Angle Parking Space:

1. With engine started, foot on brake, signal direction of turn
2. Check in all directions for vehicle and pedestrian traffic
3. When safe, shift to reverse
4. Move straight back until back of front seat/door post is in line with rear of vehicle on side of turn
5. Turn steering wheel in direction of turning movement. Check front bumper clearance on side opposite direction of turn
6. When front bumper clears back of vehicle on side of turn, stop, shift to drive

Entering a Perpendicular Parking Space:

1. Identify space to be entered
2. Signal intention to turn left or right
3. Position vehicle 8 to 9 feet from rear of space driver wishes to enter
4. Move forward slowly until driver can see straight down the line marking the near side of parking space ahead of the one to be entered
5. Look to the center of the parking space
6. Move forward slowly, turning the steering wheel sharply left or right as appropriate (When parking between vehicles, the danger points are the front bumper on the far side, and the rear bumper of the vehicle on the near side of the space)
7. As vehicle centers in space, straighten wheels
8. Move forward to the front of the parking space, stop and secure vehicle

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-14

Performance Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Students will demonstrate knowledge of procedures for: • Parking on a hill with and without a curb • Angle parking • Perpendicular parking • Parallel parking (continued)	Continue discussing the basic concepts of perpendicular parking.	
	Use Slide 4.10 to discuss the basic concepts of parallel parking procedures, then show Video 4.9 and discuss.	Slide 4.10 "Parallel Parking" Video 4.9 "*Parallel Parking*" (52 seconds)
	Discuss the principles of parallel parking by using Worksheet 4.2 "Parking Maneuvers."	Worksheet 4.2 "Parking Maneuvers"

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-15

Content Outline

Exiting a Perpendicular Parking Space:

1. With engine started, foot on brake, signal direction of turn
2. Check in all directions for vehicle and pedestrian traffic
3. When safe, shift to reverse
4. Move slowly back until windshield is in line with rear of vehicles parked on either side
5. Turn steering wheel slowly in direction of turning movement. Check front bumper clearance on side opposite direction of turn
6. As front bumper of vehicle clears vehicle on side opposite of turn, turn steering wheel sharply in direction to avoid striking vehicle parked in opposite row
7. When vehicle centers in lane, stop, shift to drive
8. Accelerate smoothly, steering as needed to straighten wheels

Entering a Perpendicular Parking Space:

1. Identify space to be entered
2. Signal intention to turn left or right
3. Position vehicle 8 to 9 feet from rear of space driver wishes to enter
4. Move forward slowly until driver can see straight down the line marking the near side of parking space ahead of the one to be entered
5. Look to the center of the parking space
6. Move forward slowly, turning the steering wheel sharply left or right as appropriate (When parking between vehicles, the danger points are the front bumper on the far side, and the rear bumper of the vehicle on the near side of the space)
7. As vehicle centers in space, straighten wheels
8. Move forward to the front of the parking space, stop and secure vehicle

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-16

Performance Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Students will demonstrate knowledge of procedures for: • Parking on a hill with and without a curb • Angle parking • Perpendicular parking • Parallel parking (continued)	Continue discussing the basic concepts of parallel parking procedures. Included Video: Show lesson 11 of "*Teaching Your Teens to Drive*"	Included Video: "Teaching *Your Teens To Drive*" (2 minutes)
Students will demonstrate knowledge of procedures for selecting and positioning a motor vehicle in the proper lane for safe, smooth driving.	Use Slides, 4.11, and 4.12 to lead a discussion of lane selection and positioning. Use Fact sheet 4.2 for reference.	Slide 4.11 "Controlling Space to the Front" Slide 4.12 "Lane Positions" Fact Sheet 4.2 "Making Safe Lane Position Choices"
	Use appropriate sections of Fact Sheet 4.3 to lead a discussion of law selection, restricted lane usage, following intervals and speed control.	Fact Sheet 4.3 "Your State's Vehicle Law"

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-17

Content Outline

Exiting a Perpendicular Parking Space:

1. With engine started, foot on brake, signal direction of turn
2. Check in all directions for vehicle and pedestrian traffic
3. When safe, shift to reverse
4. Move slowly back until windshield is in line with rear of vehicles parked on either side
5. Turn steering wheel slowly in direction of turning movement. Check front bumper clearance on side opposite direction of turn
6. As front bumper of vehicle clears vehicle on side opposite of turn, turn steering wheel sharply in direction to avoid striking vehicle parked in opposite row
7. When vehicle centers in lane, stop, shift to drive
8. Accelerate smoothly, steering as needed to straighten wheels

Controlling space to the front - There are three ways to control space to the front. The driver can time his arrival at a given point by adjusting speed, placement of the vehicle when stopping, and following distance.

Lane selection and positioning - The lane selection and position options described below are dependent upon open, changing and/or closed sightlines and paths of travel front/left and right/front and/or rear/left or right/rear as they apply in any given situation.

Lane positions:

- Lane positions 1, 2 and 3 are positions within a given travel lane.
- Lane positions 4 and 5 involve moving the vehicle so that the left or right wheels are straddling the lane line markers.
- Options 6 and 7 involve changing lanes left or right or moving to the right shoulder of the road.

There are three choices for lane position within a lane. Most cars are less than six feet wide, while highway lanes are 10 to 12 feet wide. This leaves four to six feet of space to the side without having to change lanes.

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-18

Performance Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Students will describe how to maintain visibility through curves.	Use Slide 4.13 and Video 4.10 to illustrate how to maintain visibility through curves.	Slide 4.13 "Sightlines Through Curves" Video 4.10 "*Sightlines Through Curves*" (36 seconds)

Driving through Curves - Searching as far ahead as possible and identifying the existence of a curve will provide more time to evaluate and control the level of risk. Does the roadway curve to the left or right? What is the sharpness of the curve, lane width, shoulder condition, posted speed, traffic volume? Is the curve on a grade, up or down hill? Is the field of view restricted? Answering these questions and checking traffic to the rear enables a driver to determine the best speed and lane position for negotiating a curve. Also, this is one more situation where driving with headlights on during daytime hours helps manage the level of risk since the vehicle is more visible to oncoming drivers. It is generally best to approach the curve in lane position 3, as far away as possible from oncoming traffic. This position also provides the best target line. On narrow rural roadways with limited traffic and limited visibility, curves to the right present special problems since oncoming drivers are more apt to drive over the center line. Under such circumstances, with headlights on, after making appropriate speed adjustments, approach the curve in lane position 2 to maximize the probability of being seen by the oncoming driver and establishing a line of sight and target line. Driver should establish lane position 3 with the apex of the curve as the target and assess the road conditions as if an escape path is required.

Cresting Hills - Hill crests on roadways with opposing traffic and limited sight lines should generally be approached in lane position 3, near the right edge of the roadway. Also, it is essential to check traffic to the rear and reduce speed prior to cresting to be in a better position to respond appropriately if some object is blocking the roadway on the downgrade

Traveling downgrade - When driving down long, steep grades (5 degrees or greater), it is important to control speed and to check to the rear about every five seconds for the presence of large vehicles. Any rapidly approaching large vehicle, particularly one with white smoke boiling out from beneath the rig, is apt to be a runaway, generally one that has lost its brakes. Do not attempt to outrun the truck. Instead, pull off the road as far as possible to give the driver as much room as possible.

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-20

Performance Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Students will demonstrate knowledge of passing and being passed and describe the basic maneuvers for using a shared turning lane.	Use Slide 4.14 to illustrate basic maneuvers for using a shared turning lane, then show Video 4.11 and discuss. Lead a discussion of passing and being passed.	Slide 4.14 "Basic Maneuvering in Shared Turning Lane" Video 4.11 "*Basic Maneuvering in Shared Turning Lane*" (24 seconds)
Students will describe the seriousness of the problem of injuries and fatalities associated with head-on crashes.	Lead a discussion of the consequences of poor judgment of time/space needs when passing. Use chalkboard or dry-erase board to list these consequences and considerations.	Chalkboard Dry-erase board
Students will identify the conditions described by law that regulate passing.	Use the appropriate sections of Fact Sheet 4.3 to lead a discussion of the laws that regulate the conditions under which one driver may pass another and the requirements placed on both drivers.	Fact Sheet 4.3 "Your State's Vehicle Law"

Using shared turning lanes - Some left turns in business areas can be made mid-block from a shared turning lane. To use these lanes, search ahead for oncoming traffic and be prepared to yield to any vehicle whose path drivers may cross. Drivers who want to make left-hand turns onto a roadway can also use a shared turning lane and wait for a gap in traffic.

Passing and being passed - Head-on collisions, typically involving a passing maneuver, annually account for approximately 5,500 or nearly 14 percent of all traffic fatalities. While some crashes occur due to impatience, or illegal actions, many occur due to lack of knowledge regarding time/space gap requirements. The purpose of this lesson is to assist students in learning the laws regarding passing, and the legal responsibilities placed on both the driver doing the passing and the driver being passed. Emphasis is placed on developing the ability to determine a safe gap at various speeds.

Impatience, errors in timing, and poor judgment of space contribute to head-on collisions. There are a number of instances when it is illegal to pass. Drivers may not pass when there is a solid yellow line on your side of the center line or a sign indicates a no passing zone. It is illegal to pass on a two-lane road when approaching a hill crest, curve or intersection. It is also illegal to pass within 100 feet of bridges, tunnels and railroad crossings where traffic is limited to one lane of travel in each direction.

Learning to estimate passing gap needs - A four lane divided or undivided highway can also be used to practice identifying space gap needs when passing a vehicle on a two-lane roadway. Traveling 40 m.p.h. a driver is going to make a flying pass of a vehicle traveling 30 m.p.h.. If the driver makes all of the visual checks, signals intentions, and starts the pass from an interval two seconds behind the vehicle ahead, it will take about 13 seconds to complete the pass. At 50 and 40 m.p.h. about 16 seconds and at 60 and 50 m.p.h. about 19 seconds. If the passing maneuver is started from three seconds back with both vehicles traveling the same speed, the passing driver will have to accelerate to a speed 15 m.p.h. faster than the vehicle to be passed to complete the pass in the same time limits.

To estimate the time and distance the oncoming vehicle is from the driver, begin counting, one, 1,000, two, 1,000 etc. When an oncoming vehicle is spotted continue the count until the driver passes the oncoming vehicle in the opposite lane. Drivers should keep trying until they are accurate at estimating the time they will need.

Passing is one more situation in which the use of headlights during daytime hours is critical. The combined distance traveled by the passing and oncoming vehicle at 60 m.p.h. is 38 seconds or 3,344 feet. Without headlights on, an approaching vehicle may not become visible until it is within 2,200 to 2,500 feet. This is in contrast to about 4,500 feet with headlights or daytime running lights illuminated. This difference in visibility can be critical.

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-22

Performance Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Students will describe the procedures for passing.	Use Slides 4.15 through 4.16 to lead a discussion of procedures to follow when preparing to pass and the time/space gaps necessary to complete a pass at various speeds. Show Video 4.12 and discuss.	Slide 4.15-4.16 "Passing Procedures" Video 4.12 "*Passing Procedures*" (22 seconds)
	Included Video: As a summary, show video "*Teaching your Teens to Drive*" Lesson 12.	Included Video: "*Teaching Your Teens to Drive*" Lesson 12 (4 minutes)

Being passed also places demands on the driver of that vehicle. The law specifically prohibits a driver who is being passed from increasing the speed of the vehicle.

Passing procedures:

Prepare to pass

- Position the vehicle two to three seconds behind the vehicle to be passed.
- Check mirrors and oncoming traffic.
- Check ahead for safe passing distance.
- Signal intention.

Overtake the ongoing car

- Accelerate and move into passing lane.
- Accelerate quickly to an appropriate speed.
- Concentrate on the path ahead.
- Check mirror for following cars.

Return to lane

- Check rear-view mirror for the front of the car being passed.
- Signal intention.
- Change lanes and maintain speed.
- Cancel turn signal.

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-24

Performance Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Students will describe proper lane position and techniques when driving in complex traffic situations.	Use chalkboard or dry-erase board, to review the key elements of driving in heavy traffic on a complex city street system.	Fact Sheet 4.4 "Driving in Moderate to Heavy Traffic" Chalkboard Dry-erase board
	Make reading assignments for the next unit.	Drive Right, Ch. 11 How to Drive, Ch. 10 Handbook Plus, Ch. 12E Responsible Driving, Ch. 10
Students will complete the Unit 4 Test.	Distribute, collect and grade the Unit 4 Test.	Test Included

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-25

Content Outline

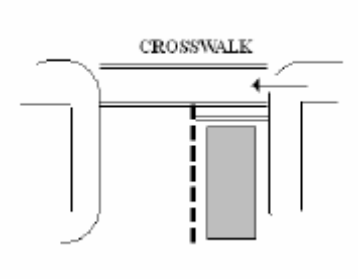
Drivers should be alert to these following items when driving in moderate to heavy traffic in a complex city street system.

While SEE rules should always be applied when driving, it is especially important when traveling in moderate to heavy traffic in a complex street grid to:

- Move with the flow of traffic. Avoid exceeding the legal posted speed limit.
- Anticipate lane blockages and select the lane that allows you to move with the least conflict.
- Identify whether there is no gap in which to make a lane change.
- Predict traffic stoppages that could trap you in an intersection.
- Identify streets as one or two way.
- Identify reversible lanes.
- Plan ahead for turns.
- Use a shared left turn lane.
- Yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians in the crosswalk when turning left.
- Identify whether turns are allowed from more than one lane.
- Position within a lane for turns.

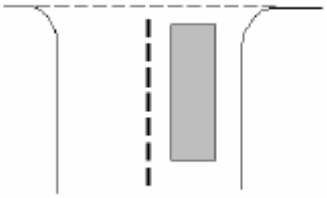
Fact Sheet **4.1**

Where to Stop at Intersections



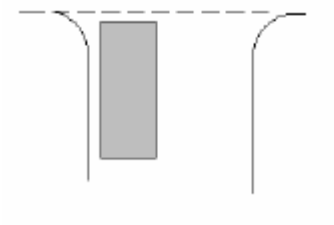
If there is a painted crosswalk, the vehicle must stop with the front bumper (car, truck, etc.) or front wheels (bike, motorcycle, etc.) behind the nearest crosswalk line.

Sometimes there is a crosswalk and a stop line. The stop line must be obeyed first, if there are both. On streets that have sidewalks, but no painted crosswalks, remember that the crosswalks are still considered to be there. Handle these situations just as if the crosswalk were painted.



When backing up, it is generally into or out of a driveway or alley. Therefore, you stop with the rear of the vehicle at the cross walk (usually unmarked, but determined by the sidewalk or at the curb line).

Sometimes a driver will be leaving a driveway, alley, or building area such as a gas station or drive-in. It is required that the driver stop just as if there were a stop sign. The stop is made behind the sidewalk, and the driver must yield the right-of-way to all persons approaching from either side on the sidewalk and to all approaching traffic. When the way is clear, the driver may turn left or right, unless pavement markings or signs prohibit such a maneuver.



If there are no identifying pavement markings and the sign or traffic control device says stop, then the stop must be made with the front bumper (car, truck, etc.) or front wheel (bike, motorcycle, etc.) behind an imaginary line called a curb line, which stretches from curb to curb closest to the driver. If there are no curbs present, then it must be imagined where they would be, and the stop completed at that imaginary curb line. Remember! Drivers' vehicle must not slow or impede the flow of traffic.

Fact Sheet **4.2**

Making Safe Lane Position Choices

When space to the front is clear - When traveling in lane position 1, search 20 to 30 seconds ahead along the planned path of travel and 12 to 15 seconds to the left and right frontal areas to identify planned and alternate paths of travel. Continually reassess the immediate path four to eight seconds ahead. If an object or condition adjacent to the projected path of travel reduces space to either side, check to the rear and side and move to position two or three as appropriate.

When more than one object or condition adjacent to path of travel poses a possible threat - Having identified that the planned path of travel is open, determine which object or condition poses the greater risk and decide on change of speed and/or position appropriate to the situation. Depending on which object represents the more serious consequences, a reduction in speed and movement to lane position 2 or 3 is typically sufficient.

When the planned path of travel is closed, but alternate paths are open - Identifying alternate paths of travel 12 to 15 seconds ahead, and maintaining an area into which steering is possible on at least one side, provides more time to reassess traffic to the side(s) and rear and to communicate intentions prior to adjusting position and speed.

When the planned path of travel is closed and there is no alternate path - Having determined when searching 20 to 30 seconds ahead that there is no alternate path available 12 to 15 seconds ahead, the driver should immediately check to the side(s) and rear to detect the presence, location, size and speed of any following vehicles. If a vehicle is following, flash brake lights to alert the following driver and begin to apply the brakes. Attempt to maintain forward motion while opening up the space ahead. If the distance ahead cannot be increased, brake to a stop while maintaining a gap to the rear.

When there is no following traffic - The absence of traffic to the rear provides the maximum level of control to the rear and permits quicker and more abrupt changes of speed and/or direction in response to changes in ongoing and oncoming traffic or by other roadway users.

Fact Sheet **4.3**

Your State's Vehicle Law

Instructors should provide information about their state's vehicle laws as they apply to this unit.

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-29

Fact Sheet **4.4**

Driving in Moderate to Heavy Traffic

- **Move with the flow of traffic** - Try to keep speed the same as that of surrounding vehicles. Avoid exceeding the legal posted speed limit. (Any speed more than five miles per hour slower or faster than the flow of traffic tends to cause disruption in the flow).
- **Anticipate lane blockages and select the lane that allows movement with the least conflict** - A visual lead of one to one and a half blocks (20-30 seconds ahead) helps to identify the better lane. Identifying blocked lanes due to pedestrian or oncoming traffic provides time to make a lane change if necessary.
- **Sometimes there is no gap in which to make a lane change** - Do not force it. Ask for permission to make the lane change by turning on the turn signal, positioning vehicle, and making eye contact. In short, ask the other driver to cooperate by helping to make a gap. Remember to return the courtesy when someone else needs help.
- **Predict traffic stoppages that could cause an intersection trap** - Position the vehicle so that traffic can be searched 20 to 30 seconds ahead to better identify conditions that determine whether an intersection can be cleared before a signal light turns red.
- **Identify streets as one - or two - way streets**- One-way streets are usually marked with arrows mounted on corner posts. If overhead signals are in use, the markings are usually located near the overhead signals.
- **Reversible Lanes** - During rush hours in some large cities, additional lanes are designated for traffic traveling into or out of the city. Identified as reversible lanes, they are marked with special double yellow broken lane line markers. In addition, signs at the side of the road and overhead signals identify which lanes can be used.
- **Plan ahead if turning is necessary** - In heavy traffic, know where the turn must be made. Since it is frequently difficult to change lanes, plan to get into the proper lane two or three blocks in advance.
- **Using a shared left turn lane** - Shared left turn lanes are frequently found between intersections where a large number of vehicles turn left across a moderate to high volume of traffic that is traveling at higher rates of speed. Shared left turn lanes may be used by drivers turning from or onto a roadway. They are to be used only by drivers making a left turn.
- **Yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians in the crosswalk when turning left**— Finding a gap in oncoming traffic, while at the same time yielding to pedestrians in the crosswalk, can be very difficult when turning left at a major intersection.
- **Frequently turns are allowed from more than one lane** - It is important to remember that regardless of the number of lanes from which turns can be made, maintain the same lane throughout the turn.

Fact Sheet **4.4**

Driving in Moderate to Heavy Traffic

It is important to check traffic in the other turn lane(s) to be sure other drivers are not crossing lanes.

Position within lane is important on turns - While it is always important to move well to the left or right when preparing to make a turn, it is especially important in heavy traffic when pedestrians in the crosswalk may cause you to stop. By moving as far left or right as possible, stops may be avoided.

Using a shared left turn lane to enter a driveway

Shared left turn lanes are marked with solid and broken yellow lines on both sides of the lane and white turn arrows that indicate that drivers traveling in either direction can use the lane. Shared left turn lanes are intended only for vehicles making left turns. As a rule, drivers should not travel more than about 200 feet while slowing to stop or turn across traffic or accelerating to enter traffic. When traffic is so heavy that a safe gap in oncoming traffic is not available, drivers can move out of the left travel lane, slow, or if necessary stop, and then complete the left turn when there is a safe gap in traffic.

When preparing to use a shared left turn lane to turn left from moving traffic, a driver must:

1. Check the shared left turn lane for stopped vehicles waiting to turn from or onto the highway
2. Check ahead on the right to see if anyone wanting to make a left turn onto the highway will be entering the shared left turn lane where you expect to turn or stop
3. Check oncoming traffic for vehicles signaling a left turn
4. Check the driveway to the left for any vehicle signaling a left turn with intentions of moving into the lane while waiting for a gap in traffic to the right
5. Check traffic to the rear and signal intention to turn left
6. Adjust speed and then enter lane
7. If an adequate gap is not available, brake to a stop
8. When oncoming traffic is clear, complete the turn

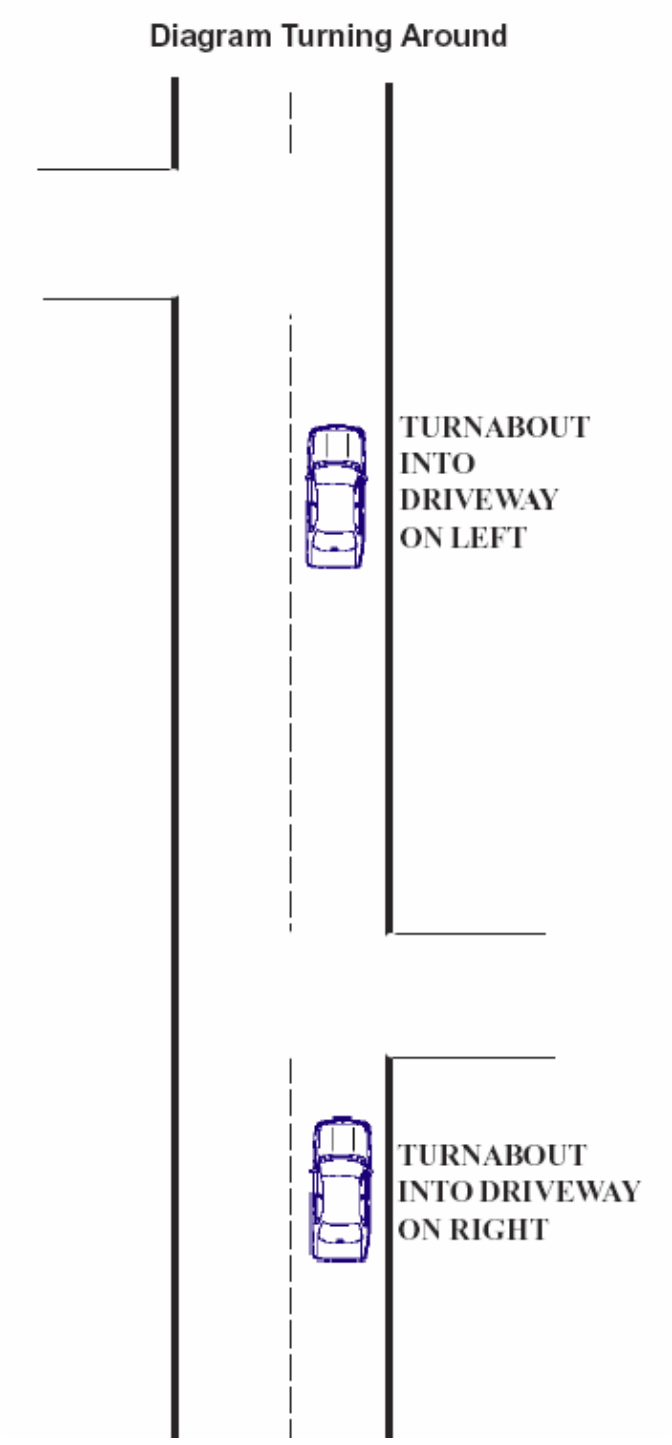
Using a shared left turn lane to enter a street from a driveway

1. Signal a left turn and stop at edge of roadway
2. Check for drivers on the opposite side of the roadway waiting to turn left
3. Check for drivers approaching from the right signaling or waiting to turn left
4. Check for a safe gap in traffic to the left
5. If traffic is clear in both directions, enter the nearest through lane, do not use the shared left turn lane
6. If there is a gap to the left, but not to the right, turn into the shared left turn lane, stop and turn on the right turn signal
7. When traffic in the lane to the right is clear, accelerate and steer into the nearest traffic lane

Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-31

Worksheet **4.1**

Name: Date:



Driver Education Classroom and In-Car Instruction Unit 4-32

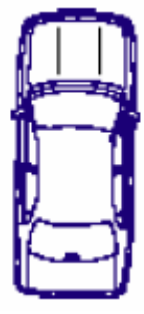
Worksheet **4.2**

Name: Date:

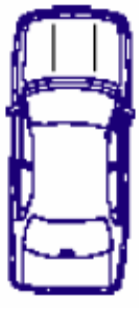
Parking Maneuvers

Directions: Indicate the wheel position for each maneuver, then list the procedures for each type of Hill Park.

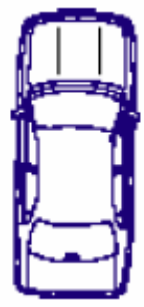
UP HILL WITH CURB



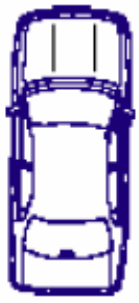
DOWN HILL WITH CURB



UP HILL WITH NO CURB



DOWN HILL WITH NO CURB



CURB PULL OUT PROCEDURE (Leaving parking space)