

## STOPPING AND MOVING OFF AT TRAFFIC LIGHT JUNCTIONS

### 209 (a) WHEN STOPPING

DO's	DON'Ts
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stop before and close to the stop-line.</li> <li>2. Leave a safety gap of 2 metres between your vehicle and the vehicle in front.</li> <li>3. Apply the handbrake after stopping.</li> <li>4. Be alert to the traffic around you while waiting for the lights to change.</li> <li>5. Position your vehicle in the centre of the lane.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stop beyond or too far from the stopline.</li> <li>2. Stop less than 2 metres behind the vehicle in front.</li> <li>3. While waiting for the lights to change,               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. read newspapers, magazines, etc.</li> <li>b. sip drinks,</li> <li>c. adjust the car audio system,</li> <li>d. use the car-phone,</li> <li>e. rev the engine.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. 'Inch' forward while waiting for the lights to change.</li> <li>5. Stop under shades which are far from the junction.</li> <li>6. Allow passengers to alight or board your vehicle.</li> <li>7. Stop suddenly.</li> </ol>

### (b) WHEN MOVING OFF

DO's	DON'Ts
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Move only when the lights turn 'green'.</li> <li>2. Look to the right and left for approaching vehicles before moving.</li> <li>3. Look out for pedestrians crossing the road in front of you.</li> <li>4. Wait 2 secs after the vehicle in front has moved off, before proceeding.</li> <li>5. Proceed only in the direction indicated on the lane.</li> <li>6. Give way to vehicles beating the lights.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Move off before the lights change even though there are no approaching vehicles.</li> <li>2. Accelerate harshly.</li> <li>3. Move before it is safe to proceed.</li> <li>4. Change your direction of travel.</li> <li>5. Overtake slow moving vehicles in front of you.</li> <li>6. Weave past pedestrians crossing the road.</li> </ol>

## ROADWORTHINESS

**210** Maintain your vehicle in a roadworthy condition. You should pay attention to the following matters in regard to maintenance, which if attended to, could prevent accidents.

### (a) Tyres

Keep your tyres up to the correct pressure. Tyres that have treads less than 1.6mm in depth should be replaced. Smooth or bald tyres will cause skids when you brake hard in an emergency, whether the road is wet or dry.

### (b) Brakes

Have the brake system checked regularly, particularly hydraulic brakes, for any leakage of brake fluid may indicate that a serious fault is developing.

### (c) Steering

The steering assembly of your car should be regularly checked and kept in good condition. Check for vibration or too much looseness in the steering mechanism or wheels that are out of alignment. A car that wanders on the road because of faulty steering is as dangerous as a car being driven by a drunk driver.

### (d) Lights

Check all your vehicle lights regularly.

### (e) Direction Indicators

Keep your signalling devices in order by checking them frequently. Signal lights that do not light up when required may cause an accident.

### (f) Horn

Check your horn to make sure it is in working order.

### (g) Radiator Coolant

Check the level of coolant in the radiator regularly. Most modern cars come with a coolant reservoir and the correct coolant level should be somewhere between the 'high' and 'low' indicator markings. Checking should be done when the engine is cool especially for cars without coolant reservoirs. Coolant in the radiator is highly pressurised when hot and releasing the radiator cap may drench you with boiling liquid. Ensure that the engine is cool before opening the radiator cap.

### (h) Engine Oil

Keep enough oil in the engine and have the oil changed periodically. Check the oil level with the help of the dip-stick.

### (i) Windscreen Wipers

Make sure that your windscreen wipers are kept in good condition. Dirty windscreens and faulty wipers will hinder vision when it rains.