

Safe Driving

Some **Lesser known**
or **Easily Ignored** points.

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Adapted from “Learn to Drive Safely” handbook by MSIL

But I am already a good driver!!

Reasons of accidents are many.

But only one of them becomes the actual reason of each instance.

May be you know many reasons already and drive safely already.

But you could pick up few new items from this basic / surprising sharing.

GOING ON A DRIVE?

Ask yourself :-

- Are you Healthy?
- Are you Tired/Sleepy?
- Under influence of Alcohol or (even medical) drug?
- In comfortable clothes?

Never switch off engine to
stop the vehicle as it will render
power assisted brake useless –
brakes will fail

In case engine is switched off power steering will become very hard making it almost inoperable

Avoid overtaking or accelerating in 5th gear as engine will have very little torque. Shift to lower gear, accelerate and come quickly to 5th gear again

Parking brake should be applied all times when you stop the vehicle more than few seconds on the road e.g. on traffic signals to ensure your vehicle does not roll accidentally as most of the roads are not plane but have a little slope

Oil Pressure Lamp



Indicates insufficient oil pressure. If this lamp comes on, switch off the engine immediately as it may result in engine seizure.

Parking Brake/Brake Fluid Warning Lamp



This lamp warns of either the parking brake is engaged or the brake fluid level has gone down. If parking brake is disengaged check the brake fluid level, top up if necessary.

Water in Fuel Filter

Indicates presence of water in fuel. Immediately drain the water.



Engine Malfunction Indicator Lamp



If this lamp lights up it indicates problem with one of the engine sensors. Take the vehicle to workshop as early as possible.

Immobilizer System

If this light blinks, then your vehicle will not start, you have to contact workshop.





Flashing red signal : come to a halt. Look around if it is safe to move ahead, priority is to be given to vehicles coming from your right side.



Flashing amber light : you can move with care after slowing down.



No parking

This sign indicates that parking of vehicles is not allowed in this area and that, the vehicles would be towed away if found parked here.



No stopping or standing

This sign indicates that in order to have an obstruction free flow of traffic, no vehicle is allowed to stop or wait in this area.



Compulsory keep left

This sign indicates that the driver should drive in left lane for a smooth flow of traffic. This sign is installed on roads with no dividers or where two way traffic flows on the same road.



Compulsory sound horn

This sign indicates that it is compulsory to blow horn at this point to let the oncoming traffic know of your presence on the road. This sign appears in hilly roads or when there are blind turns.



Stop

This sign indicates that the driver has to stop or halt here. This sign mostly appears at toll plazas and police or traffic check-points.



Give way

This sign directs the traffic to give way to the traffic on your right side. This sign usually appears at roundabouts where specific lane discipline is to be followed.



Slippery road

This sign indicates the slipper condition of the road ahead. This could be due to seepage of water or oil spill etc. The driver should slow down the vehicle at the sight of this sign to avoid any accident.



Loose gravel

This sign indicate that lose earth or gravel keeps falling on the road. These signs mostly appear on hilly roads and the driver should slow down and drive carefully.



Guarded railway crossing (200 meters)

This sign indicates that there is a railway crossing 200 meters ahead which is guarded by a person.



Guarded railway crossing (50-100 meters)

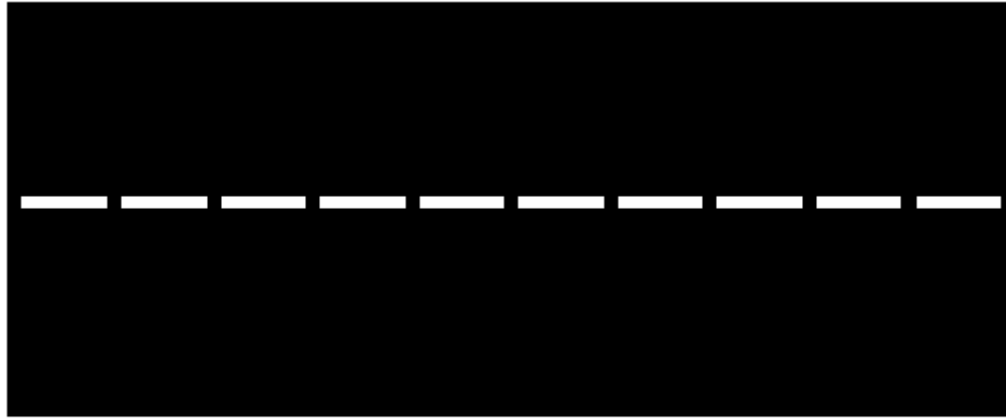


Unguarded level crossing (200 meters)

This sign indicates that there is a railway crossing 200 meters ahead and is not manned by any person.



Unguarded railway crossing (50-100 meters)



Centre line marking for a two lane road.
Overtaking is allowed in any direction.



Centre barrier line marking for multiple lane roads.
Overtaking is discouraged.



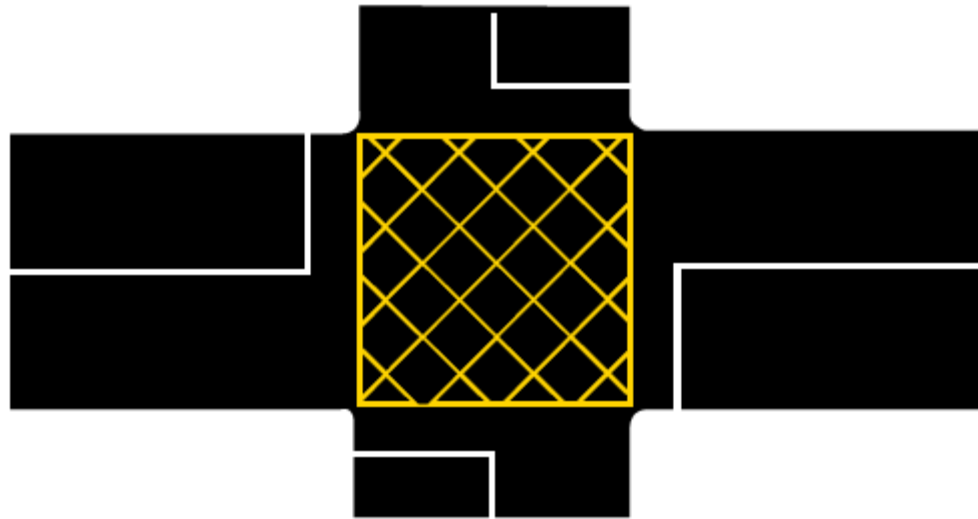
Crossing the yellow line for overtaking is prohibited.



Centre barrier line marking for a six lane road.
*Overtaking by crossing centre barrier (yellow) line is prohibited,
right turn manoeuvre are not permitted.*



Overtaking is permitted with care for traffic adjacent to the broken line, but prohibited for traffic adjacent to solid line.



Yellow box junction.
*You can cross stop line only if marked area is complete clear. You
can not stop your vehicle on marked area.*

Ensure that there is no bottle or other object which can roll under the pedals.



Infants and Children are better secured on rear seats as they may interfere with driving controls.



Before stopping look into mirrors, over the shoulders if it is safe to stop.



In case of Emergency stop –
Do Not press Clutch & Brake
together – First Brake, and then
Clutch, near the stop.

Hand Signals are useful.

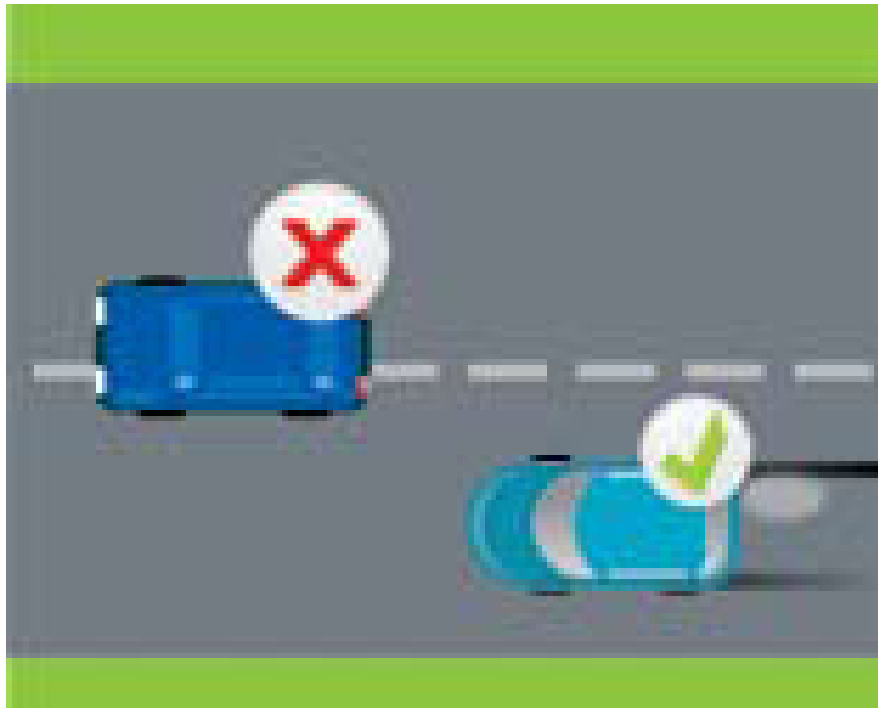


I intend to stop



To slow down

Drive inside the Lane, Not on the markings



Do not change lane suddenly if you see a pot hole or other obstruction on road as traffic following you may collide with you.

Be conscious of the Blind Spots
Of your vehicle – Especially in
Lane change, look over the
shoulder also.

MSM

- Mirror
- Signal
- Maneuver



Blind Spots



Blind Spots

You also have to ensure that you do not drive in the blind spot of other vehicles.

Keep Lane while Turning



Left Turn –

Do not trail near to edge of road
as it may block your view on
turn



Right Turn –

On an unregulated crossing, it is advisable to come to a halt before taking right turn.



Reversing –

- Mirrors & view over Shoulders, be vigilant of these cyclically.
- Remain SLOW as obstructions may appear suddenly after your last Look.



Reversing –

Always avoid reversing into a major road from a minor road as you will be able to see the road only after 75% length of your vehicle is already on the road.

Ask for guidance from someone.

Right of Way –

- Pedestrian on a Zebra crossing
- Upcoming vehicles on Hills
- In city road crossings or

roundabouts
give way to
traffic
on your right.



Stopping Distance

Speed of your vehicle (kmph)	Total stopping distance (m)	Equivalent car lengths (m)
30	12	3
50	23	6
65	36	9
80	53	13
100	73	20

2-Seconds Rule

Mark a stationary object in front of the vehicle you are following.

As soon as the vehicle in front passes the identified mark start counting “One Thousand One – One Thousand Two” each rhythmic count is equivalent to one second...

2-Seconds Rule

...If you pass the same identified mark before you complete two seconds – you are following the vehicle too narrowly.

Immediately slow down to increase the following distance.

4-Seconds Rule

In Darkness, make it 4 seconds



Overtaking

Some of the drivers have a compulsive attitude of overtaking, it is better to allow them overtake you in the interest of your safety and other road users.

Don't be such a driver.

Overtaking

In case of doubt about clear way
OR appropriate speeds, your or
other vehicle's accelerations
-don't overtake

Assumption can be very costly.
Abort timely & attempt again.

Overtaking

Do not squeeze yourself between two heavy vehicles after overtaking as they require large distance to slow down to accommodate you.



Parking

Uphill park – turn steering on
Right

Downhill park – turn steering on
Left

If vehicle rolls accidentally it will
come to an automatic stop by
Hitting the kerb.

Parking

Do not park vehicles over heap of dry leaves as these may catch fire from catalyser heat.

Do not sit in parked cars with A/C on in closed spaces like garages

Road Rage

Allow such drivers to pass, do not try to argue or teach them a lesson.

Wave hand to express sorry to cause the inconvenience and try to move off from the place



Pedestrians

Elderly tend to be indecisive & slow. They may stop suddenly or turn back.

Children try to rush through.

Expect such behavior & be safe.

Cyclists

Do not overtake them while taking left turn, let them pass first.



Bikes

Be very careful while moving to left lane or taking left turn as they prefer to overtake from left side of the traffic.



Long Vehicles

During turning, these vehicles may sway too much on Left or Right, even near their rear.

Keep Distance from them , from all Sides, even Left-Right



Night Driving

When faced with
blinding lights from
other vehicles do
Not switch on your
fog lamp
or main beams



Night Driving

Start looking towards left side kerb, this will help you prevent dazzling of eyes.



Fog Driving
keep headlight on
dipped position.



Over steer recovering Off-road?

On a country road / state highway, circumstances may force you to go off-road fully / only left wheels.

Just after climbing the road again, there is tendency of sudden over-steer – BE SLOW

Waterlog Driving

Follow exactly the same path as the vehicle in front. Do not try different path as you are unaware of any big deep pot hole, open sewer or drain.

Waterlog Driving

ensure that you keep throttle at high rpm so that water does not enter in engine through silencer route.

Waterlog Driving

Immediately after you come out of water, do not forget to dry your brakes. Put the vehicle in first gear, slowly race the engine and drive while putting slight pressure on brake pedal, frequently remove this pressure.

Hills Driving

In hills particularly
while going downhill
never press clutch
First to reduce speed,
Apply brakes first then
Use clutch to downshift
or stop.



Breakdown

Park your vehicle on the side of road, switch on hazard lamp to warn other traffic. Place the warning triangle on road about 50 meters behind the vehicle.



Accidents

In case you got injury, do not drive yourself, ask or call for help.

Accidents

Always keep the important information like contact person in case of emergency, blood group etc. for a doctor, case you become unconscious. It may be in ICE heading (In Case of Emergency) in your cell phone.

Accidents

It is mandatory as per law to provide first aid or medical attention if one comes across a road accident victim. Anybody helping or providing help to an accident victim can not be harassed as per law.

Accidents

In automotive accidents many times victim gets entangled in the wreck, do not try to pull out the victim if any body part is stuck.

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Learn basic First-Aid techniques.