

How to Drive a Manual Car for the First Time?

Follow these steps if you are looking for how to drive a manual car for beginners:

Step 1: Start a Car in Neutral

Start the vehicle in neutral, turn on the ignition key to crank the engine and depress the clutch pedal. Drivers might not have to depress the clutch for switching on an older car model, but most modern cars are engineered in a way that it is necessary to engage the clutch before starting the engine.

This practice also ensures that a vehicle will not give any hiccups while starting, even if a driver forgets to put the gearbox in neutral.

Step 2: Shift into First Gear

With the engine running, drivers must engage the clutch entirely with their left foot and shift the gear-lever into first gear. At this point, individuals must use the left foot only for operating the clutch and the right foot for modulating brake pedals and accelerator.

Step 3: Get the Car in Motion

To set a car in motion, drivers must disengage the parking brake while keeping the clutch pedal depressed. They must not accelerate at this point.

Now, drivers should start lifting the clutch pedal until they notice a drop in revs and clutch plates start coming in contact. This is also known as 'bite point'. Individuals searching on how to drive a car, should note that disengaging the clutch further at this point will make the vehicle crawl ahead without any accelerator input.

Step 4: Upshift into Higher Gears

Now that the car is in motion, release the accelerator and push down on the clutch. Then by following the shift pattern, change the gear-lever to second gear. After upshifting, disengage the clutch and begin applying moderate throttle inputs for maintaining momentum.

Individuals looking for how to drive a manual car must note that this entire procedure of engaging and releasing the clutch, modulating throttle inputs, etc. needs to be synchronised in quick succession.

Step 5: Downshift to Lower Gears

A car tends to shudder when stuck in a traffic jam and starts slowing down. In such cases, drivers must downshift a certain number of gears by following the same procedure - release the accelerator, depress the clutch and shift down to a lower gear.

Step 6: Stop a Manual Car

To completely stop a manual car, disengage the accelerator and apply moderate force on the brake pedal to gradually downshift the gears to first gear. Once the vehicle is moving at a crawling speed, shift to neutral and allow it to freewheel without the involvement of any throttle input. Then allow the vehicle to come to a halt by engaging the clutch and depressing the brake completely.

Wondering what to do during an emergency situation?

While searching on how to drive a car, individuals must note that they can stop a vehicle in any gear during an emergency situation by pushing down on their vehicle's clutch and shifting it to neutral.

Step 7: Reversing a Manual Car

Firstly, beginners having a search query on how to drive a car must ensure their vehicle is at a complete stop before shifting it to reverse gear. While reversing, they must check out that there is no vehicle or individual behind their vehicle before backing up.

Step 8: Parking a Manual Car

Unlike an automatic car, a manual one does not come with a 'Park' gear. Therefore, it is imperative to engage a parking or emergency brake every time while parking a vehicle. Alternatively, drivers can also shift their vehicle into the reverse or first gear to prevent it from moving or rolling.

How to Drive an Automatic Car for the First Time?

Answer: Follow these steps if you are wondering on how to drive an automatic car in India:

Step 1: Start a Car

Beginners looking for how to drive a car must first push down the brake pedal with their right foot, then insert the key and turn it clockwise for starting their car.

Step 2: Select Your Gear

Place a foot on the brake pedal and shift the gear lever into "Drive", which is marked with a "D" on the display panel. The same will get highlighted when you select it.

For cases where shift levers are mounted on the steering column, pull the lever towards you, then move it up and down to select a gear. In cases where shift levers are mounted on the floor, a side button is usually present for unlocking the lever. You can then move it along its track into position.

Step 3: Release the Parking Brake

This either comes as a pedal on the far left side of the foot area or as a lever between the two front seats. There might be a button to push on the topside model or a release lever above the lower parking brake before one can disengage it.

Step 4: Set a Car in Motion

Release pressure from the brake pedal slowly, and the vehicle will slowly get moving. Next, take your foot off the brake and use it to press the gas pedal gently. This will lead the car to move faster.

Step 5: Use the Neutral Gear

Individuals must use the "neutral" gear only when there is no need for controlling the car's speed, not while driving regularly. This includes situations when a car is being towed or pushed.

Step 6: Using Lower Gears

The gears denoted by "1," "2," and "3" are lower gears. These work as a kind of in-engine brake system when drivers need to save their vehicle's actual brakes. The lower gears can come in handy while going down steep hills. Drivers must use first gear only when they want to travel very slowly. They need not stop while shifting between the lower gears and drive.

Step 7: Stop a Car

Apply brakes for slowing or stopping a car. Take your right foot off the accelerator pedal, place it on the brake, and apply gradual pressure so that you do not jerk to a halt.

Step 8: Drive in Reverse Gear

Individuals having a search query on how to drive a car backwards, must ensure that their car is at a complete stop before the gears change in or out of "reverse."

You can slide the gear shift for choosing the gear marked as "R" and look around for any possible obstructions. Then gently place your foot on the accelerator after removing it from the brake.

While turning in "reverse", the vehicle turns in the same direction in which the wheel is turned.

Step 9: Park a Car

Apply gradual pressure to the brake pedal, and slide the shift lever back into the "P" position if you want to bring a car to a complete stop. Turn the key counter-clockwise to turn off the engine. Additionally, turn headlights off and apply the parking brake before you get out of your vehicle.