25. Reversing left



The ability to reverse while steering left or right is essential for safe driving. You might need to reverse into a driveway in order to park outside your home, or you might need to reverse because of a problem on the road ahead, for example, a broken down vehicle, or even a herd of sheep or cows.

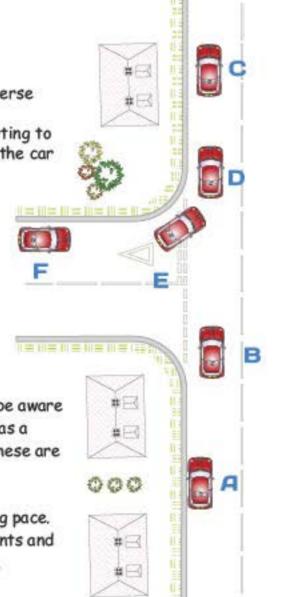
Driving Test Examiners check your ability to drive backwards by asking you to reverse into a road on either the left or right. When reversing to the left you will be asked to stop just before the road that you are going to reverse into. You will then drive past the turning, stop, and reverse around the corner.

- A Remember your normal safety checks before you move off.
- B Glance into the 'target' road to make sure it is safe and clear to reverse
- Stop about 45 cm (18 in) from the kerb. Look all around before starting to reverse. Glance to the front before starting to steer; the front of the car will 'swing out' and might affect other traffic.
- Check to the front and your right shoulder blind spot frequently.
- E Look around, at least twice, as you steer round the corner.

 Then keep looking well back (for accuracy), with occasional glances to the front (for safety), as you reverse in a straight line.
- F Remember your normal safety checks before you move off after reversing.

Good observation is essential for safe reversing to the left; you must be aware of what is happening all around you throughout the manoeuvre. As well as a general awareness, you must make some specific observation checks; these are shown on the diagram.

Use clutch control to keep your speed to a slow (zimmer-frame) walking pace. This will give you plenty of time for observation and steering adjustments and help you to position your car accurately (approx. 45 cm from the kerb).



Lesson Notes:

