

5. Signals

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In day-to-day life we often have to communicate with other people. For example, we are communicating every time we go into a shop, meet a friend or make a telephone call.

Successful communication requires the clear use of a language that is easily understood by all involved. When driving, the language we use takes the form of signalling with indicators, arm-signals, brake-lights, reversing-lights, vehicle position, headlights, hazard-warning-lights, fog-lights and the horn.

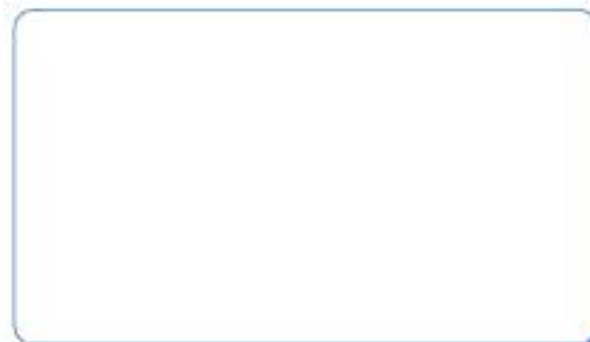
The most common way to signal your intentions is the use of flashing direction indicators. To help others to make sense of your indicators you need to use them early; this will allow enough time for your intentions to be clearly understood.

Flashing headlights and the horn provide a more immediate way of signalling. Use these to warn people of your presence. Some drivers use flashing headlights for other purposes, but this can be confusing. Stay safe by keeping to the rules of the Highway Code! If someone flashes at you always double check the situation to make sure that it's safe for you to proceed.

Use hazard warning lights to let people know that your vehicle is stationary. It is important to remember that you should always park safely - hazard warning lights offer little protection for a dangerously parked vehicle - only use them in emergencies, not as an excuse for bad parking!

You can also use your hazard lights to warn following drivers of danger on high speed roads in emergency situations where you have to slow down rapidly.

**Only use the signals
shown in the Highway Code!**



I intend to turn right



I intend to turn left



I am slowing down



I am here!



I am stationary
or slowing down
rapidly



I am reversing
or intending
to reverse

Lesson Notes:

