

22. One-way systems

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One-way systems help to smooth the traffic flow around busier central areas of towns and cities.

For the systems to work well, drivers need to choose the best road position for their intended destination. Stay in the left-hand lane to leave the system via a road to the left; keep right if you want to leave to the right. Always be on the look-out for signs and markings showing the best lane for your destination and move into that lane as soon as possible after entering the system.

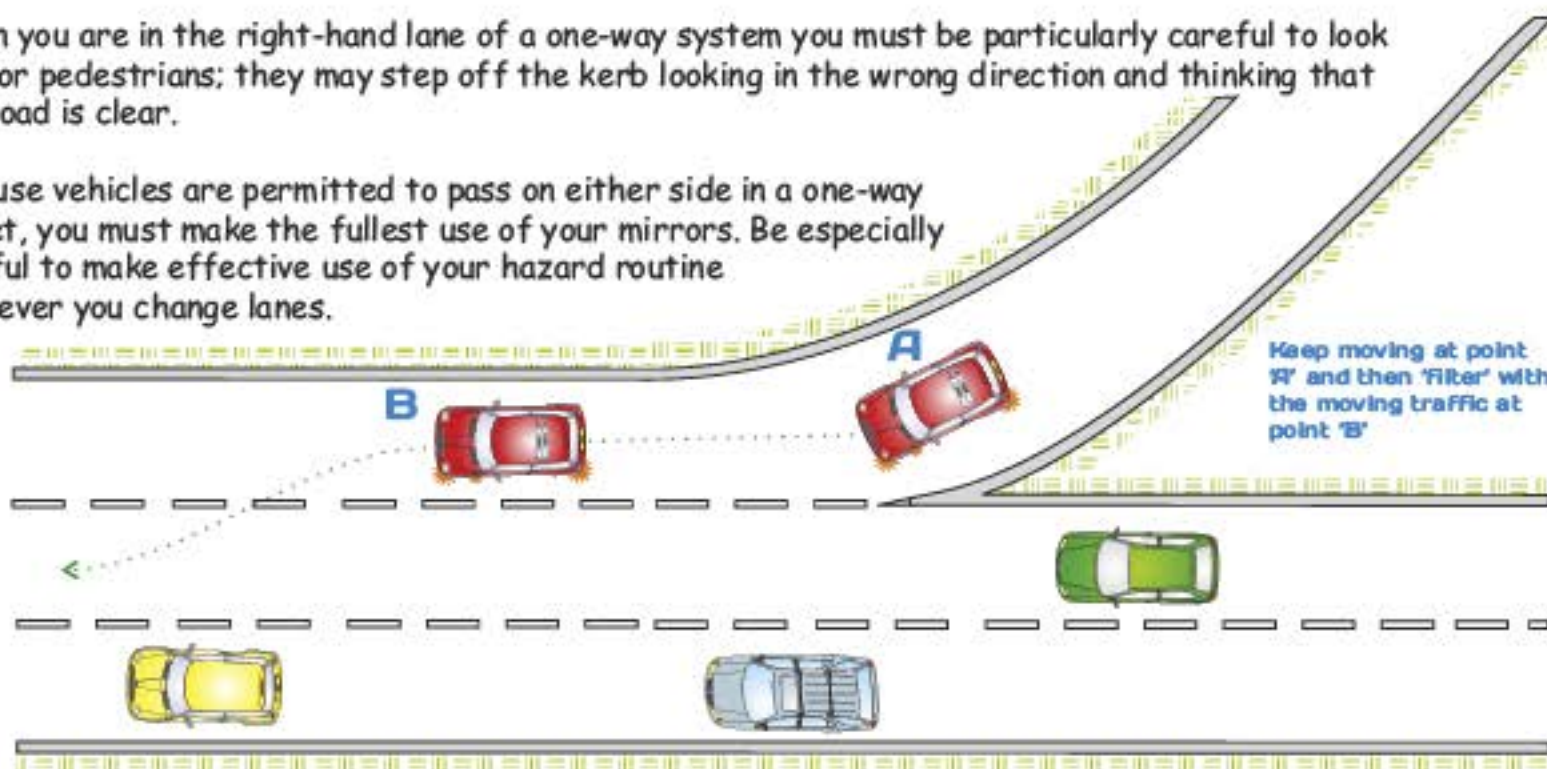
You may occasionally come across a one-way system that has no road markings (perhaps on a recently resurfaced road); in these circumstances you should use your skill and experience to guide you to the best 'imaginary' lane position. In other words, drive as if the lanes were marked.

Driving in the centre of your lane without straddling the white lines will help other drivers recognise your intentions. If you are unsure about which lane to choose, move to the right and drive around the one-way system again; this will give the information needed for you to choose the best lane second time around.



When you are in the right-hand lane of a one-way system you must be particularly careful to look out for pedestrians; they may step off the kerb looking in the wrong direction and thinking that the road is clear.

Because vehicles are permitted to pass on either side in a one-way street, you must make the fullest use of your mirrors. Be especially careful to make effective use of your hazard routine whenever you change lanes.



Finally, get into the habit of filtering (above) by keeping your car moving when you change lanes instead of stopping to wait for a gap in the traffic. Filtering reduces the risk of being hit from behind (by drivers who are not looking where they are going!).

Lesson Notes:

