



8

Manoeuvring

As an advanced driver you will be able to accurately turn, park and manoeuvre your vehicle with a degree of finesse. The decision-making process of where, when and how to perform these manoeuvres, in safety and with the least impact on other road users, is an important part of the process.

8a Low-speed manoeuvres

8b Information

8c Position

8d Speed

8e Gear

8f Acceleration

Competency sheet

Manoeuvring



To be an advanced driver, these are the competencies that you should be able to demonstrate. Consider how confident you feel with each. Read on to learn more about each competency.

	Progress		
Information			
Make the correct decision on which manoeuvre to perform			
Make the best use of available space			
Carry out correct observations			
Respond appropriately to changing information			
Use available in-car technology to good effect			
Position			
Adopt the correct starting position for a manoeuvre			
Maintain a safe position during a manoeuvre			
Consider the safety of your finishing position			
Speed			
Maintain correct speed for a manoeuvre			
Gear			
Move smoothly between forward and reverse gears			
Acceleration			
Apply correct acceleration to complete a manoeuvre			

Achieved all competencies

Date

8a Low-speed manoeuvres

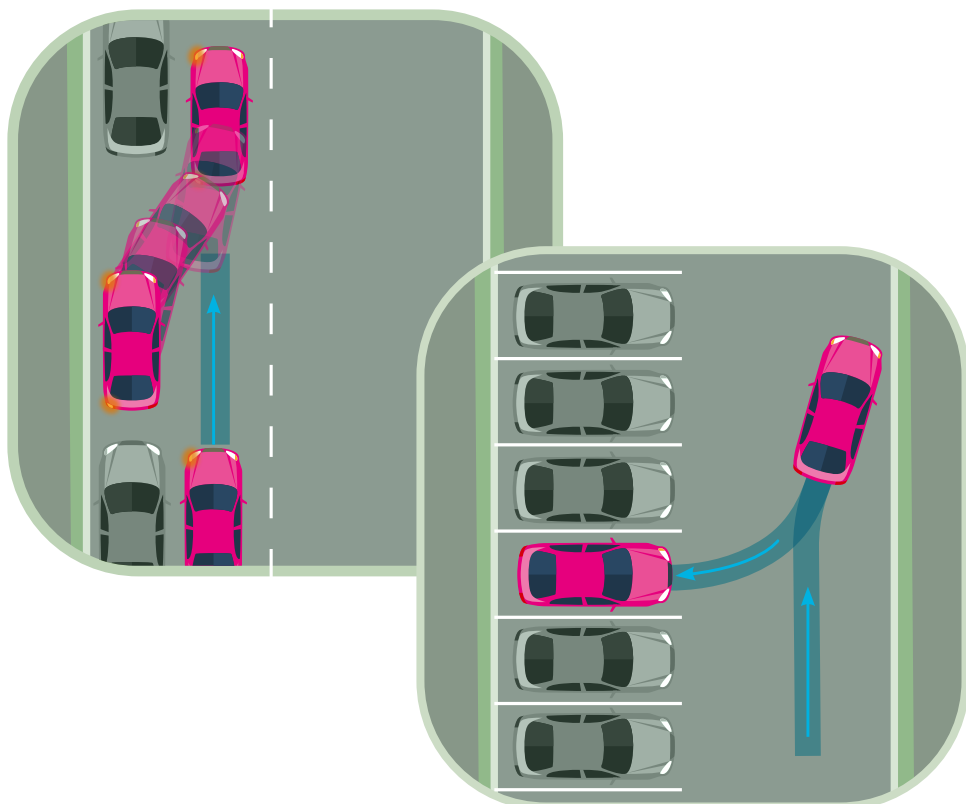
As an advanced driver, you will be expected to be able to control your vehicle with a degree of finesse in all circumstances

Novice drivers are expected to be able to turn their car around safely, using forward and reverse gears, and to perform parking manoeuvres to the side of the road as well as in car parks

Advanced drivers must be able to demonstrate their competence and proficiency in all of these areas

For example: it may be better to drive a short distance to a roundabout than to try and safely perform a turn in the road. Similarly, it may be a better plan to turn into a side road and turn around rather than attempting this on a main route

- If you have space, use cones or barriers to practise your manoeuvres. If you practise in a real-life setting, be flexible and respond to events and hazards around you



8b Information

As an advanced driver, you must be able to:

Make the correct decision on which manoeuvre to perform

- In real-life driving situations, you may have a number of options available to you when deciding how to turn your vehicle around or park it safely
- Choose the most appropriate option for the given circumstances
- Show confidence and proficiency when turning your car around and performing parking manoeuvres

Make the best use of available space

- The most suitable manoeuvre will usually be dependent on the space available.

For example:

- Use a junction or driveway to perform a turn in a narrow street
- Consider making a U-turn in a slightly wider road
- If you need to access the boot, consider if reversing into a parking bay is appropriate
- When parking, ensure the gap is large enough to move into and allow you to exit the vehicle

Carry out correct observations

- Be able to conduct all-round checks before carrying out a manoeuvre
- Remember: these observations must be timely
- Prioritise the area of potential danger
- Remember: safety is paramount when driving and effective observation is essential

Respond appropriately to changing information

- Remember: observation is only the start of planning

- If a danger is identified, ensure your response is correct and proportionate
- If there are any doubts about safety, you should usually stop
- Be aware of how others might be affected by your actions

For example: timely completion of the manoeuvre may be the safest action

Use available in-car technology to good effect

- In-car technology is becoming commonplace. It is there to aid you and should be embraced

For example:

- Reversing cameras and sensors help in assessing but are not a substitute for sound observation
- Auto park systems help with parking but aren't always suitable. Remember, as an advanced driver, you should be able to park both with and without them
- If in doubt, confirm information before moving

8c Position

As an advanced driver, you must be able to:

Adopt the correct starting position for a manoeuvre

- Remember: the correct starting position makes any manoeuvre easier to conduct

For example:

- For a turn in the road, it helps to have a tight nearside position
- For a parallel park, it helps to maintain the correct distance away from the other parked vehicles

Maintain a safe position during a manoeuvre

- To ensure safety is retained while conducting the manoeuvre, be mindful of your mirrors

For example:

- Check whether other vehicles have got tow hitches or other protrusions
- Look for trees or lamp posts
- Check the position of the kerb

Consider the safety of your finishing position

- When parking and leaving a vehicle, consider whether it is likely to cause inconvenience to anyone
- Consider whether your vehicle is likely to be safe from damage in your chosen location

8d Speed

As an advanced driver, you must be able to:

Maintain correct speed for a manoeuvre

- With safety the primary concern, carry out manoeuvres slowly; 'As slow as possible but as quickly as necessary' is a good guide
- Drive slowly enough to ensure accurate information assessment, but quickly enough to cause minimal inconvenience
- Control the speed of a manual vehicle by balancing the clutch pedal
- Remember: braking with your left foot in an automatic may help when conducting a manoeuvre

8e Gear

As an advanced driver, you must be able to:

Move smoothly between forward and reverse gears

- When manoeuvring, stop the car before changing from forward to reverse gear or vice versa
- Be prepared to use the clutch to smooth out changes (it may never be fully released)

8f Acceleration

As an advanced driver, you must be able to:

Apply correct acceleration to complete a manoeuvre

- Use accurate pedal balancing to assist in completing manoeuvres safely
- Be able to recognise when the manoeuvre requires more power and apply the accelerator appropriately

