



Driver & Vehicle
Standards
Agency



Top 10 faults made in driving tests

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Many of these reasons are top contributory factors in reported collisions

Help assess if pupils have the skills, knowledge and understanding needed

Explore factors with your pupils that will increase risk

- Personality
- Confidence
- Stress, mood and emotions
- Risk perception
- Hazard perception
- Mental workload
- Distractions
- Fatigue
- Alcohol and drugs
- Technology
- Road environment

Probing questions

- Open-ended questions
- Nudges pupil towards revealing more
- Explore thoughts and feelings

Clarifying questions

- If response is unclear or hard to understand
- Avoid any confusion or misunderstanding
- Show you're listening

10. Not driving at a safe and reasonable speed

READY TO PASS?

- **Driving over the speed limit**
- **Not adjusting your speed to the road conditions**



Risk factors

Personality

Distractions

Confidence

Fatigue

Stress, mood and emotions

Alcohol and drugs

Risk perception

Technology

Hazard perception

Road environment

Mental workload

9. Poor positioning on the road during normal driving

READY TO PASS?

- Repeatedly driving too close to the kerb or centre of the road
- Unnecessarily driving in the right-hand lane of a dual carriageway
- Cutting across the normal road position when you go ahead at a roundabout with no lane markings



Risk factors

Personality

Distractions

Confidence

Fatigue

Stress, mood and emotions

Alcohol and drugs

Risk perception

Technology

Hazard perception

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Mental workload

8. Not responding correctly to road markings

READY TO PASS?

- **Not following direction arrows on the road**
- **Straddling lanes on a roundabout**
- **Crossing double white lines where the line nearer to you is solid**
- **Ignoring a box junction**
- **Not following road markings at mini-roundabouts**



Risk factors

Personality

Distractions

Confidence

Fatigue

Stress, mood and emotions

Alcohol and drugs

Risk perception

Technology

Hazard perception

Road environment

Mental workload

7. Not responding correctly to traffic signs

READY TO PASS?

- **Going to the wrong side of a 'keep left' sign**
- **Ignoring a 'stop' or 'no entry' sign**
- **Driving in a bus lane**
- **Choosing the wrong lane at a roundabout with clear signage**
- **Acting late or not at all to speed limit changes**



Risk factors

Personality

Distractions

Confidence

Fatigue

Stress, mood and emotions

Alcohol and drugs

Risk perception

Technology

Hazard perception

Road environment

Mental workload

6. Not having proper control of the steering

READY TO PASS?

- Repeatedly not steering enough or steering late on the approach to junctions when turning left
- Not steering enough when going around a bend
- Steering late when turning right into a minor road
- Repeatedly mounting the pavement when pulling up on the left
- Steering late when moving out to pass parked vehicles



Risk factors

Personality

Distractions

Confidence

Fatigue

Stress, mood and emotions

Alcohol and drugs

Risk perception

Technology

Hazard perception

Road environment

Mental workload

5. Not responding appropriately to traffic lights

READY TO PASS?

- Failing to react to red traffic light
- Stopping after the first white line when there are advanced stop lines for cyclists
- Not progressing when you're waiting to turn right at a junction and it's safe to proceed
- Not going ahead when a green light is showing and the junction ahead is clear
- Going ahead when a green light is showing but the junction is not clear



Risk factors

Personality

Distractions

Confidence

Fatigue

Stress, mood and emotions

Alcohol and drugs

Risk perception

Technology

Hazard perception

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Mental workload

4. Incorrect positioning when turning right at junctions

READY TO PASS?

- **Positioning in the left-hand lane when turning right at a roundabout**
- **Obstructing traffic when you wait to turn right**
- **When you want to turn right at the end of the road, you incorrectly position to the left**



Risk factors

Personality

Distractions

Confidence

Fatigue

Stress, mood and emotions

Alcohol and drugs

Risk perception

Technology

Hazard perception

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Mental workload

3. Not moving away safely

- **Moving off from behind a parked vehicle into the path of an approaching vehicle**
- **Repeatedly moving off from the side of the road with no blind spot checks**
- **Pulling off from the right-hand side of the road, causing an oncoming vehicle to slow or stop**
- **Not making any rear observations when moving off following an emergency stop**



Risk factors

Personality

Distractions

Confidence

Fatigue

Stress, mood and emotions

Alcohol and drugs

Risk perception

Technology

Hazard perception

Road environment

Mental workload

2. Not using mirrors correctly when changing direction

READY TO PASS?

- Not using mirrors when exiting a roundabout
- Causing a vehicle to slow when changing lanes on a dual carriageway
- Trying to change lane on a roundabout when a vehicle is directly alongside



Risk factors

Personality

Distractions

Confidence

Fatigue

Stress, mood and emotions

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Risk perception

Technology

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Mental workload

1. Not making effective observations at junctions

READY TO PASS?

- Failing to judge the speed of an approaching vehicle
- Entering a roundabout with a vehicle approaching from the right
- Making no effective observations at all
- Making no observations when joining a dual carriageway from a slip road
- Going straight ahead at a crossroads
- Looking too late
- Repeatedly not looking left when turning left



Risk factors

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Distractions

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