

In-Car Guide Drills

Drive #4 – Interacting

Combine Lessons 5-6
into one lesson

BTW time: 60 minutes each driver

Total BTW time: 3 hr. 30 min.

Signal Usage Drill

Simple Drill

- Ask student to turn right 3 times in a row
- Ask the student to turn left 3 times in a row
- Ask for simple lane changes in low traffic
 - Driving lane to turn lane
 - Parking lane to driving lane
 - Driving lane to parking lane.
- Follow the guidelines for your state
 - 100 feet before the turn
 - 5 seconds before the turn, etc.

Pedal Communication Drill

Simple Drill

- Ask the student to “brush” the brake pedal as if to alert a distracted driver behind you.
- Used for tailgaters and for early warning of intent to slow

Speed / Lane Usage Drill

Observation

- Both driver and observer can participate
- During the drive, as the driver is changing lanes, notice if the vehicle decreases, increases, or maintains speed.
- Common Error for new drivers to focus hard on one element to the exclusion of another.

“Body Language” Drill

Observation Game (FUN!)

- Find somewhere to park in view of a street that is busy or presents multiple options for drivers (a “Y” in the road, etc.)
- As cars approach, ask the students to guess which way the vehicles may continue, based on:
 - Lane position
 - Speed
 - Pitch of Vehicle
 - Focus of Driver

Eye Contact / Smile Drill

- This final communication drill is not just for other drivers
- Have student watch for roadway users who may come into conflict with the intended path of travel.
 - Pedestrians
 - Bicyclists
 - Children playing

Zone Condition Drill

Intersection Approach drill

- From Motolla's guide (#17).
- Drive on a road that presents LOS or POT challenges that make identifying approaching intersections difficult.
- Ask the student to identify upcoming intersections the minute they recognize them.
- On approach ask for a list of restrictions they see or will deal with to continue through.

PONR Challenge Drill

Point of No Return practice

- (1) Have student tell you when they are 2 seconds from an intersection.
 - Observer may also participate.

* Advanced Option *

- (2) Use the PONR formula to have students tell you when they reach the point of no return for intersections based on the speed limit and their traveling speed.

Smooth Stop / Start Drill

Simple Intersection Drill

- As the driver stops for traffic controls (signs or signals) point out their stops.
 - Are they smooth?
 - Do they need to begin stopping earlier?
 - Do they need to engage trail braking?
- Do the same for multiple starts at intersections.

Staggered Stop Drill

- Identify an intersection that you wish the student to engage a staggered stop.
 - Be sure they have plenty of notice because they might question the need.
- Watch where the driver places the vehicle.
 - The “line” over the hood of the car, etc.
 - For use when interacting with large trucks who might need a little extra room to turn towards your vehicle.

Safety Stop Drill

- For a safety stop, identify an intersection with known LOS restrictions that require a safety stop.
- Ask the student to demonstrate and verbalize how they perform the stop
 - Legal stop, then cautious movement forward until vision is clarified.
 - Once LOS resolved a physical second stop is not needed and actually presents more risk*
 - If LOS discovers a hazard, the driver should stop at the safety stop.
- Remind the student that the foot should not come off the brake until after the commitment to begin travel into the intersection commences.

Permission Drill

Use for “Late Stop” condition

- Use in simpler environments only
- Student must ask permission to use the brake.
- This forces the student to “get ahead of the problem” by identifying the need to stop earlier.

Brake / Mirror Drill

Simple Drill that is used throughout a majority of the driving lessons.

- The observer can also participate by observing the driver as they approach zone conditions that require slowing or stopping.
- The instructor says “Rear” every time the driver’s foot moves to the brake, if they do not see the driver’s eyes head for the mirror automatically.

Blind Spot Check Drill

- Blind spot checks aren't just for lane changes.
- Instructor should check the driver's blind spot check for turns as well.
 - Bicyclists
 - Pedestrians
 - Other Vehicles passing on the side (right or left)

“Sand Barrels” Drill

Simple Drill

- Ask the driver to tell when they have 2 vehicles stopped behind them while waiting at a traffic signal.
- They can say “sand barrels”
- The observer may also participate.
- The instructor may need to prompt if in a period of inactivity.

Closed / Changing Zone Drill (1)

Zone Control Development

- Closed zones get easier as driver's continue in training. Closed or changing elude them until they have practice identifying.
- Ask driver to:
 - Tell you when they discover a zone is changing
 - Offer a “solve” and/or “control” for the discovered condition.
- Good observer activity as well.

Closed / Changing Zone Drill (2)

Student Driver's Habits

- One of the biggest risks comes from new drivers entering closed zones themselves.
- Ask the student to notify you when they are entering a closed (or changing) zone.
- Be sure they identify the other zones that they have checked or need to check.
- The observer can participate, but rules need to be established to avoid the driver feeling “picked on.”

“Stopping with a Tailgater Drill

Simple Drill

- Tailgaters require extra following distance for your driver.
- When discovered, ask your driver how many seconds “behind” the vehicle in front they are.
- Driver can “brush” the brake pedal as practiced in earlier drills.

“Car in Front” Drill

Simple Drill

- At stops, observe your driver’s position behind the car in front.
- If you cannot see the pavement behind the tires of the car in front, your student is too close.
- Ask the student to say “pavement” at the next occurrence for habit development.

Speed Control Drill

- Monitor how the student uses speed control to:
 - Approaching a stop location.
 - Approach an identified LOS restriction.
 - Approach an identified POT restriction.
- Instructor uses
 - Grade of the road
 - Weather conditions
 - Traffic congestion
- Have the student tell you when they do engage a speed control method and what that method is.
- The Observer can have the “list” of all speed control options so that they can “prompt” the driver if needed.

End of Behind-the-Wheel Lesson 5 Drills

In-Car Guide Drills

Lesson 6 – Interacting

Near / Far Timing Game (Drill)

Intersection Approach Timing

- As driver approaches intersection determine the light status.
- If red, driver times arrival to green.
- This begins from the moment the traffic signal comes into view, even if it is a considerable distance away.
- Observer can assist with “stale” determination

By _____ full _____ 10 _____ 10 _____ full _____ 10 _____

Approach Drill – Car Following

Simple Drill – Intersection Approach

- For closed zone entry by driver.
- When Instructor sees a car closing, state “color”
- The driver should be able to instantly tell you the color of the vehicle approaching from the rear.
- Instructor may temporarily cover rear view mirror as the statement is made so the student cannot “cheat.”

Approach Drill - Congestion

More Complex Drill

- Whenever driver approaches a major intersection as a closed zone and there is traffic, ask “Zones?”
- Student should be able to identify the potential POT and LOS blockages while physical controlling the approach of the vehicle to match the dialogue.

R-G-P-L Drill

Left Turns at Signaled Intersections.

- 1. Check **REAR** until stable
- 2. Look for a **GAP/HOLE**
- 3. See Open **PATH** to enter
- 4. See **LIGHT** change

From this lesson on, whenever the student is making a left turn, whether there is a traffic light or not, the student should make these checks

LOS / POT Commentary Driving

- **Find:**
 - See Zone Change
- **Solve:**
 - Check Other Zones:
 - Options Available
 - Open Zones
 - Escape Path
- **Control:**
 - Get Best Speed Control, Lane Position and Communication

“Options” Game Drill

Drill Activity based on House M.D.

- ***Differential Diagnosis***

- Driver and Observer offer all of the potential “solves” and “controls” that the instructor identifies:
 - Examples: “Red truck on right”
 - Students: “Could pull out,” “might be waiting for a bigger gap,” “Is distracted and forgot to drive” etc. 😊

S.M.O.G. Drill

- SIGNAL
 - Remind student that cars will not yield until they know they need to
- MIRROR Check
 - Center mirror too!
- OVER the Shoulder Check
 - In the direction the student wishes to go
- GO, when safe
 - If not safe, cancel signal and try again later

M.S.M.O.G. Drill

There ya go,
Howard! 😊

- MIRROR Check (Inside Rear View)
- SIGNAL
 - Remind student that cars will not yield until they know they need to
- MIRROR Check (Outside Mirror)
- OVER the Shoulder Check
 - In the direction the student wishes to go
- GO, when safe
 - If not safe, cancel signal and try again later

Driving Posture Drill

Lateral Movement Drill

- Instructor asks driver to do specific positioning “as if to:”
 - Prepare for a left turn
 - Prepare to pull into the parking lane
 - You have oncoming traffic and no parked vehicles in front
 - You are approaching a “Y” intersection and wish to bear right

Lane Change Drill

- Student changes lanes in simple environment at least 3 times each lateral direction
- Repeat in a moderate environment
- Ask observer to note inconsistencies that the driver shows.

Parking Lane (Side) Drill

- This is also a “lane change”
- Approach at correct speed for zone condition
- 360 degree scan on approach
- Blind spot check (chin to shoulder) in the direction of the curb line.
- Move the vehicle laterally to the parking lane.
- Secure vehicle

Resume from Park Drill

- Proper Gear
- Signal
- Left side blind spot check
- Wheel turned
- 360 degree check
- Release foot pressure on brake
- Straighten wheel as car moves out into lane.
- Cancel signal.

Perpendicular Backing Drill

- Student pulls forward until their body is centered in the space to occupy.
- Identify a target over the left mirror.
- Turn wheel all the way left, then move car forward until target is over wheel.
- Turn wheel all the way right.
- Slowly back the car until the vehicle is perpendicular to space. Stop.
- Turn wheel 2x back to center. Back straight.
- Back to rear limit. Constant 360 checks.

End of Behind-the-Wheel Lesson 6 Drills