

Basic Driving Skills and RMV Required Maneuvers

TO: ALL CMSC STUDENTS

To pass the road test, you should be proficient in the following. The examiners make certain that you are safe to drive. Both the RMV and CMSC are concerned for your safety, as well as, the passengers in your vehicle and other drivers.

HAND SIGNALS

- Put down window
- Put left arm (out to elbow) out window
- Left turn – arm straight out, hand pointing left, palm facing forward
- Right turn – arm bent, hand pointing up, palm forward
- Stop/Slow down – arm bent down (beside door), open palm facing back

PARALLEL PARK

- Turn on right signal
- Pull up beside other vehicle (about 2 feet away)
- Line up your mirror with other vehicle's mirror (for different size line up back bumpers), shift into reverse, turn steering wheel all the way to the right, look over your left shoulder to make sure no one is beside the vehicle, **look back over right shoulder** and slowly back up until the panel between the passenger window and the back side window block the back light of the other vehicle or when your vehicle is at a 45 degree angle. Remember **"right to the light"**
- **Straighten** wheel (turn 1 ½ times) look left and then continue to look over right shoulder, backup until your right-side mirror blocks your view of the license plate on the other vehicle. Remember **"straight to the plate"**
- Turn the wheel all the way to the left, look over your right shoulder and back up slowly so that your vehicle directly aligns with parked vehicle

IF THERE IS NOT A HAND E-BRAKE, THEN THE E-BRAKE WILL BE ON THE FLOOR BY YOUR LEFT FOOT. PUSH ON AND OFF. Electric E-Brake, Lift UP

UPHILL/DOWNHILL PARK

- Turn on right signal
- Pull over to side of the road
- Apply parking brake
- Shift into Park
- Turn steering wheel to right (no curb)
- Or left (with curb)
- **Downhill** always turn to right

BACKING UP (WITH CONTOUR OF ROAD)

- Straighten steering wheel and make sure all 4 wheels are aligned
- Turn on right signal
- Release e-brake if on
- Shift into "reverse"
- Hold top center of steering wheel with left hand and look over left shoulder
- Look over right shoulder and look out the rear window, back up slowly (6 to 12 inches from edge of road). Follow contour of road. Use side mirror for curb alignment

3 POINT TURN

- Start 1 foot away from the right edge of the road
- Shift into drive
- Turn steering wheel all the way to the left
- Turn on left signal, check mirrors, check blind spot and proceed when safe to do so (SMOG)
- Pull up to the edge of the other side of the road (DO NOT hit curb or go on the grass)
- Shift into "reverse", turn steering wheel all the way to the right. Look left
- Look back over right shoulder and back up slowly until the left mirror reaches the middle of the road
- Shift vehicle into "drive"
- Turn wheel all the way to the left. Signal to the left
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- Look left and right to make sure it is safe to go
- Proceed slowly when safe to do so

REMEMBER

- STOP at the white "stop line" on a red light, do not block crosswalk
 - When you are making an unprotected left turn, if there is on-coming traffic wait behind the white stop line until it is safe to pull **all the way through the intersection**
 - Come to a FULL stop at all stop signs and red lights.
 - Do not cross the white solid line (break down lane) to pass on the right
 - Speed limits: Unless posted (a sign) up to 15-20 mph in neighborhoods, 20mph in a school zone, up to 30mph in thickly settled area (homes), up to 40 mph outside thickly settled area (i.e. wooded area or business area), 50-65mph on the highway.
- FUNDAMENTAL SPEED LAW** - drive at speeds that are reasonable and proper for the current road condition
- Always use signals and check blind spot (**SMOG**) when pulling from side of road into traffic.
 - Remember to use proper backing up technique. RRR
- R – Reverse**
R – Right Shoulder
R – Rear Window

