Driver Education Chapter 4

Performing Basic Vehicle Maneuvers

4.1 Mirrors and Backing

Mirrors Usage

Standard Mirrors—inside rearview, two side mirrors, optional convex to help with blind spots.

It is important to continually pay attention to your mirrors and what is happening around you and your vehicle.

Be aware of blind spots if you need to look over your shoulder in the direction you want to move.

Additional convex mirrors allow you to see a wider area. If you see something in the convex mirror but not in the flat. It is in a blind spot area. Judge distance by the flat mirror.

Backing—Backing is a high risk task. Before getting in a vehicle check what is behind you.

Backing Procedure—foot on brake, shift into reverse.

--glance over your right shoulder to see your path.

--check in your mirrors

---back slow

Backing Straight---left had at 12:00 position. Move steering wheel in the direction you want go.

Backing left or right—both hands on the wheel. Head movement should be all directions. Pull wheel from the top down in the direction you want to go. Make sure you keep in mind where the rear of the vehicle and the front of the vehicle are moving to.

4.2 Driving Maneuvers

Signaling—Whenever you are changing lanes, turning, entering traffic, pull off the road. Give at least 5 seconds notification.

Entering traffic flows

Check zones before entering—Find a safe place to enter

Select proper lane to enter—accelerate to speed

Cancel turn signal once in the flow

Check rear zone for fast approaching vehicles.

Turns

Before turning check for pedestrians/other vehicles

Make sure you are in the correct lane to make your turn

Signal

Brake/slow down to make turn

Make sure you are clear of pedestrians and vehicles

Make sure just prior to turn you are checking traffic and turn when your vehicle is about even with the curb.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZaX9Q6nvUK8--left> turn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lid44Yr3sL8> turns

Lane Changes

Signal first

Check Mirrors and blind spots.

Gradually pull into the desired lane

Stop your turn signal

Turning a Vehicle

Turnabout—turning your vehicle around to change direction.

Make sure it is allowed

Select a clear location with 10 seconds of visibility in each direction.

Don’t do around intersections, heavy traffic areas.

Make sure you are constantly checking for all kinds of traffic around you.

Midblock U-Turn.

Make sure it is legal. You need 2 wide lines to do.

Pull to the far right edge of the road and stop.

Check front and back, and left rear blind spot. If all clear make a sharp left turn.

Continue to check mirrors once going in the opposite direction.

Back into Driveway on the Right Side

Pull into Driveway on the Left Side

Three Point Turnabout

Pull to the right as far as possible

If all clear turn sharp left and stop before the curb

Check all clear shift to reverse and turn sharply while backing on far enough to complete the maneuver

Check traffic and signal left. Move forward.

4.3 Parking

Angle Parking—spaces at the curb or in parking lot

Perpendicular parking—parking lots

Parallel Parking –backing between to vehicles along a curb.

Reference Point—part of the outside or inside of the vehicle as viewed from the driver’s seat—relates to the roadway.

Standard reference points—typical for most drivers

Personal Reference Point—adapting a standard reference for your vehicle

Forward Reference Point—when steering should begin during a maneuver.

Angle/Perpendicular Parking

Angle Parking Steps—Easiest to perform, most dangerous to leave.

1. Check behind you. Check the parking space(legal and clear) . Tap your brake lights to warn people.
2. You should have a least six feet of side space away from the parked vehicles. Your forward reference point is the center of the space and the curb.
3. Turn steering wheel while vehicle is moving
4. Line up with a targe at curbside, such as a parking meter, Straighten car and tires.
5. Place tip of bumper even with the curb.

Follow this same process for perpendicular parking but you will need eight feet off side space.

Leaving an Angle/Perpendicular Space—Backing our is high risk—cautious/slow.

1. Creep straight back, control speed with brake. When your front bumper is even the rear bumper of the vehicle on the opposite of where the back of your vehicle will go. Begin to turn the steering wheel.
2. Stay close to parked areas when backing to reduce risk of approaching traffic. Straight the tires, shift to forward while checking vehicles approaching fast behind you.

Perpendicular Back-In Parking. Backing into a parking space reduces risk of backing out.

1. Signal. Check traffic to the rear, and tap brake lights.
2. Position vehicle so that its side is 3 feet from the parked cars, and you bod appears to be aligned with the center of the parking space.
3. Select a target 45 degrees to you left, using the outer edge of the driver’s side mirror.
4. Align your vehicle with the target using the lese forward motion possible.
5. Line up your car with the parking space. Straighten tires and and shift to reverse.
6. Back until the corner of the car parked next your space is in your rear window’s blind spot. The quickly turn the steering wheel all the to the right while backing slowly.
7. When your car is proper aligned in the space, straighten your tires. Back until the back line of the space appears to be in the middle of the rear side window.

Parallel Parking—Used to park by the curb. Select a space that is 5 to 6 feet longer than your vehicle. When parking on the right, front of your vehicle will swing far left.

1. Signal a right turn and flash your brake lights. Evaluate the parking space to be sure it is legal and clear of the objects. Stop about 3 feet away from parked cars.
2. The pull forward so that your rear bumper is even with the rear bumper of the front of the space you want to enter.
3. Back slowly, controlling speed with your brake. When the back of the passenger’s seat is even with the rear bumper of the front vehicle, straighten the wheels. Look over your shoulder through the rear window.
4. When your front bumper is even with the front vehicle’s back bumper, turn the wheel sharply left towards the street. Continue to back slowly to clear the front car’s rear bumper. Check to the back and front continually.
5. Straighten you tires and center the car when you vehicle is parallel to the curb.

Leaving a Parallel Parking Space.

You are responsible for safely leaving a parallel parking space. Find an opening in traffic to get into the flow.

1. Slowly back straight until you rear bumper almost touches the vehicle behind you. Turn the wheels sharply left as you stop. Signal a left turn. Check you left mirror and blind-spot area.
2. Move the vehicle forward slowly. Check the right-front corner of your vehicle for clearance.
3. When you are halfway out of the parking space with your passenger door aligned with the street-side corner of the parked car, turn you wheels slowly to the right.
4. Scan the front again, and accelerate as you center your vehicle in the traffic lane.

Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jvazH0g9Nqs> parallel, angle, perpendicular parking

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vra9c29-UL4> perpendicular parking

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUleYG96qnQ> parking on a hill.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Rdc0q_m2yY> parallel parking

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=geLjBUdsUEM> parking in a lot