

The Test – What to Expect

The test is the culmination of your training, it is your opportunity to show how good you are and justify your observer's faith in you. A little bit of nerves can be a good thing. Stay focused and try to enjoy it. The perfect driver has not yet been discovered but how close are you?

What to expect during the test

- The administration process
- The test
- You
- At the conclusion of the test

The administration process

Having applied for your test you will be contacted by your examiner either by telephone or email. This is to arrange a mutually convenient date, time and location for the test to take place. The location should be safe, easy to find, of no cost to either of you with facilities and easy access to a variety of roads. Supermarket car parks and fast food restaurants are often chosen. (Beware of time limited parking).

The test

This should be about 75 minutes from start to finish with no more than 60 minutes riding or driving.

What will be tested?

After the document disclaimer is dealt with the examiner will conduct an eyesight check. This is the same as the DVSA test or a police roadside check. You must be able to read a standard number plate at a distance of 20 metres (20.5 metres for pre 2001 number plate).

During the drive you can be tested on anything from the course material. It may not be possible to assess some areas practically so the examiner may ask questions.

You will be asked to conduct a practical real life manoeuvre or demonstrate competency during the test. Your decision making process is part of the assessment. On a motorcycle you may be asked to perform a slow riding manoeuvre if this has not been displayed during the test.

Your drive must be safe and legal. Use your speedometer to keep to the speed limits which must be adhered to at all times, there are no exemptions when making an overtake so do not plan to exceed the speed limit when deliberating.

Your Examiner

All of the IAM RoadSmart examiners are trained advanced police drivers or experienced IAM RoadSmart drivers who have National Observer and Masters qualifications. They are all experienced in dealing with road safety matters. They will:

- Put you at ease.
- Set the scene for you and explain what they are looking for.
- Explain clearly the route directions and how they will communicate them.
- Explain test protocols such as safety and spoken thought.
- Explain that any road traffic offence is likely to lead to a fail.

- Explain about their note taking. (They write positive points as well as areas for development).
- Give advice on how mistakes will be dealt with. (You will not necessarily fail for a minor mistake).
- Answer any questions you may have.

You

We know that you will be nervous, we all were in the same circumstances. Your examiner will have been through the assessment process a number of times from both seats.

If you have any concerns or are unsure of anything don't be shy, ask the question, there is no such thing as a stupid question and you will get an answer to help put you at ease.

If you are suffering from any disability or mobility issues let the examiner know.

If you are dyslexic or hard of hearing let the examiner know.

All reasonable adjustments will be made to the test to make it all-inclusive. It must however be assessing a standard that is perceivably higher than the DVSA test.

You will be asked to attempt a spoken thought. To achieve a F1RST you must have tried (unless medical reasons apply) give it a try; it can help you to focus.

During the test if you don't hear or think you may have misunderstood an instruction ask. We are all human.

At the conclusion of the test

You will be told your result straight away

You will be given verbal feedback followed by a written report containing the detail of your drive or ride.

If you are successful you will be given an interim pass certificate. You will also be given advice on other options within IAM RoadSmart that you may choose to further develop your skills such as Local or National observer, the F1RST register, the Masters program, or regionally run skills days.

If you are unsuccessful your areas to develop will be highlighted and this reinforced by the written report. If you don't understand what is being said, ask; the examiner wants you to develop and be successful.

Advanced Driver/Rider test report

Note to Examiner
This form is to be used for all manner of vehicles. The terms 'Drive' and 'Ride', 'Vehicle' and 'Machine' should all be deemed interchangeable in relation to this form.
The associate should be encouraged to attempt spoken thought, if not attempted strike through the box. This will not result in a test failure but a F1RST cannot be awarded.

Safety & Legality
As the examiner, outside whether the associate's driving/riding is legal. This may be a trial of safety regarding in the respect of safety. Consider if a safety effort was possible for any breach of road traffic legislation or whether what was done was reasonable in the circumstances. An associate cannot be held liable for the speed limit.

System
Does the associate grasp the phases of the system and can they apply the system correctly to each hazard?

Observation
Is the associate identifying hazards and making scans in all directions around the vehicle/machine?

Planning & Hazard Management
Does the associate plan for their own hazards identified? Do they apply appropriate margins for the risk associated with each hazard? (By change of speed, positioning, use of horn etc.)

Anticipation
Does the associate make appropriate assumptions for what will occur based on their observations?

Vehicle Sympathy & Eco
Does the associate to when appropriate for positioning the vehicle?

Spoken Thought
Can the associate explain the or adequately after associate attempt?

Gear Changing
On automatic & manual (avoid gear)?

Use of Gearbox
Does the associate use of gear?

Acceleration
Can the associate road conditions being used?

Braking
Can the associate about they?

Sign
Can they?

Ken
Can they?

Comments

Competence Levels: 1 = Commended 2 = Satisfactory 3 = Requires Development

Competence Area	1 = Commended	2 = Satisfactory	3 = Requires Development
Safety and legality			
System	Gear changing	Use of gearbox	Cornering
Observation	Acceleration/sense	Mirrors/rear observation	Overtaking
Planning & hazard management	Steering	Signals	Restraint/progress
Anticipation	Braking	Knowledge	Human factors & concentration
Vehicle sympathy & eco driving			Courtesy
Positioning			Slow manoeuvring
Spoken thought			Smoothness
			OVERALL RESULT

Candidate information

Surname: _____ First Name: _____
 Date: _____ Time: _____ Associate No: _____
 Advanced test: Members re-assessment: Declaration: Eyesight test:

Vehicle information (tick and delete as required)

Car: Motorcycle: Commercial (Heavy/Medium/Light): Bus/Coach/Minibus (with trailer):
 Reg no: _____ Make: _____ Manual: Automatic:

This must be brought to the attention of the Driver
 *As the driver you are deemed to be in control of your vehicle at all times including responsibility for safety

Examiner name _____ **Signature** _____ **Number** _____