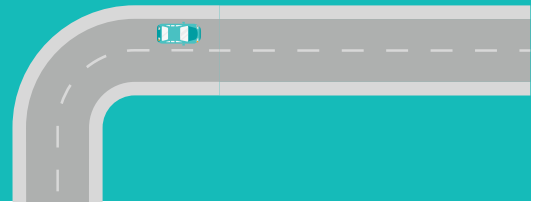


What makes a good practice session?

DRIVE

A good driving lesson isn't just getting in the car and driving. There's a bit more to it than that.

This resource is all about running a good practice session for your learner.



Talk before you drive

Before you start each lesson, talk to your learner about what you're going to do during the lesson and where you'll be going so there are no surprises.



Show don't tell

A quick demonstration, with a little commentary, is a lot better than just telling the driver how to do something. Be prepared to show them more than once and give them lots of encouragement, especially if they don't master it straight away.



Listen

If your driver says they're not comfortable about a new situation, ask them why. It may be that they haven't practised a previous skill enough to progress yet.



Review the lesson afterwards

Leave yourself enough time at the end of each lesson to review the lesson with your learner. Say, "Today we did x, y, z". Ask them to assess their competency in each area, either competent or not yet competent. If your learner doesn't believe that they are competent, explore the reasons why.

Finally, highlight any skills your learner needs to focus on in their practice and then briefly discuss what they will be learning during the next lesson.



Don't rush it

Only introduce things when your learner needs to know them. Focus on what you need to do to get moving. Don't bombard your learner with too much information. Practice takes a while and has to be repeated to sink in. Just because a driver does something first time, doesn't mean they've mastered it. If in doubt, repeat, repeat, repeat.



Use the WASP technique

The WASP technique is a great way for you to manage a learner's mistakes.

- **Wait** – see if your learner notices they've made a mistake.
- **Ask** – if they haven't said anything, ask if they've noticed the mistake.
- **Show** – if they can't work it out, show them.
- **Practise** – repeat the skill a few times the right way.



Keep your cool

Don't let yourself get frustrated if your learner hasn't mastered a skill as fast as you'd expect. Everyone learns at different speeds, and there may be something else bothering them – like exam stress or girl or boyfriend trouble – that you don't know about.

Unresolved personal issues should be left by the kerb.