



**運輸署**

*Transport Department*

## **DRIVING SERVICES SECTION**

# **Guide to Private Car and Light Goods Vehicle Driving Test**

### **ATTENTION FOR CANDIDATES :**

According to the past experience, debuts should receive **30 hours** or more tuition lessons before they can reach the basic driving standard required by the Transport Department.

2. This booklet is designed for reference purpose only and has no legal bindings on driving tests. The Driving Services Section of the Transport Department may make certain amendments to it as and when necessary without giving prior notice.

# ***PRIVATE CARS and LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES***

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Private Car and Light Goods Vehicle driving tests aim at assessing candidate's driving ability, and ensuring that in future the candidate will drive safely and properly, acquire good traffic knowledge and give due consideration to other road users.

The Driving Examiner will carry out the driving test in accordance with the contents of this Guide and will handle situations that are not described here by applying his profound experience and sound judgement in driving.

## **PART I TEST VEHICLE REQUIREMENT**

### **Specific Requirements**

Candidates who pass their driving tests with test vehicles which do not meet the specific requirements listed below will only be given, upon application, restricted full driving licences allowing them to drive vehicles of the same class or less than those of the test vehicles : –

#### **Private Car (Code 1)**

- (A) It should be a licensed private car.
- (B) The cylinder capacity should be not less than 800 c.c.

#### **Light Goods Vehicle (Code 2)**

- (A) It should be a van type vehicle licensed as a light goods vehicle.
- (B) It should have a permitted gross vehicle weight of not less than 2.7 tonnes.
- (C) Dimensions:

- Length – not less than 4.65 metres
- Width – not less than 1.69 metres
- \* Wheel Base – not less than 2.00 metres

Note : \* Wheel Base : Distance between the centre points of the front axle and the rear axle.

### **General Requirements**

Vehicles that do not meet the following general requirements will **NOT** be accepted for the purpose of driving test: –

- (A) Right hand drive vehicle in good mechanical order with handbrake readily accessible to the examiner.
- (B) The test vehicle should be insured to cover third party risks (including driving test purpose).
- (C) Valid vehicle licence must be displayed on the left of the windscreen of the vehicle.
- (D) The test vehicle should be fitted with a gearbox capable of performing at least four forward and one reversing speeds.
- (E) The test vehicle presented for a light goods vehicle driving test must carry a simulated load in such a manner that the total weight of the vehicle including the required loading should be equivalent to at least two third of the permitted gross weight of the respective test vehicle.
- (F) Side mirrors should be fitted on both sides of the test vehicle for the light goods vehicle driving test. Moreover, the light goods vehicle should have a protective partition between the seating accommodation and the goods compartment and that it should have no windows fitted to the sides of the goods compartment.
- (G) The test vehicle presented for light goods vehicle driving test should be fitted with a reverse warning buzzer.

## **Others**

- (A) Vehicles fitted with automatic transmission (including automatic clutch and pre-selected gearbox types) may also be accepted for the test. However, candidates having passed their driving tests with automatic transmission vehicles will be given, upon application, restricted driving licences allowing them to drive automatic transmission vehicles of the same class as the test vehicles used by them.
  
- (B) Handicapped candidates: such as those with impaired hearing, missing or defective limbs, or with walking difficulties, have to be referred by medical officers and to successfully pass a physical test conducted by the Transport Department, before they are allowed to apply for a driving test. For enquiries, please call Driving Services Section at **2713 7262**.

## **Part II TESTING PROCEDURES & OBSERVATIONS**

### **Basic Requirements of the Test**

**(I)** The test is divided into three parts, candidates should be able to pass the Part A – (Written Test), before they can be arranged to take the Combined Test – Part B (Intermediate Test) and Part C (Road Test), or the gradual test, i.e. Part B and then Part C tests, applicable only to students of government designated driving schools.

The Written Test is in the form of multiple choice questions from which 20 of them have to be attempted. The questions come from the "Road Users' Code". Candidates must give not less than 16 correct answers in order to pass the test.

Should a candidate during a Combined Test obtain a partial pass (Part B or Part C), the result of that part can be retained. The candidate can apply for the test of the unsuccessful part, and then apply for a probationary driving licence upon passing it.

Candidates applying for gradual tests must first obtain a pass in Part B test, after then they can be scheduled for Part C test. After passing the Part C test, they may apply for a probationary driving licence.

Any person who applies to take a private car or light goods vehicle driving test before 9 February 2009 can apply for a full driving licence upon passing the test. Any person who applies to take a private car or light goods vehicle driving test on or after 9 February 2009 is required to apply for a probationary driving licence upon passing the test. The holder of a probationary driving licence to drive a vehicle class is required by law to undergo a 12-month probationary driving period (i.e. twelve months from the date the probationary driving licence is issued under the Road Traffic (Driving Licences) Regulations (Cap. 374B)).

Successful candidates can apply for the issue of full / probationary driving licence after 7 working days (but not exceeding 3 years) from the date of their test. Successful private car candidates can apply for full / probationary driving licence of private car (code 1), whereas successful light goods vehicle candidates can apply for full / probationary driving licences of private car and light goods vehicle (codes 1 and 2). A probationary driving licence holder should apply for a full driving licence for the respective class within 3 years from the date of satisfactory completion of a mandatory probationary driving period. Otherwise, he/she must sit for and pass a driving test again to obtain a new probationary driving licence.

**(II)** Those who wish to take the Private Car and Light Goods Vehicle driving tests must reach the stipulated standard required by the Transport Department, including: –

- (A) Candidates must be fully conversant with the "Road Users' Code";
- (B) Candidates should be familiar with the functions and safe manoeuvring of the control of the vehicle;

- (C) Candidates should be able to master the following manoeuvres: –
  - (i) The proper use of gears and accelerator to meet various traffic conditions.
  - (ii) The proper judgement of timing, speed and car distance to meet various traffic conditions.
- (D) Candidates should also be able to master the following specified manoeuvres:
  - (i) Starting the engine of the vehicle;
  - (ii) Moving off straight ahead or at an angle;
  - (iii) Keeping an appropriate distance from the vehicle ahead;
  - (iv) Overtaking vehicles and selecting the appropriate traffic lane to meet the traffic conditions;
  - (v) Turning left and right;
  - (vi) Reversing and parking;
  - (vii) Turnabout in a narrow road;
  - (viii) Stopping and starting on a slope;
  - (ix) Giving correct signals under appropriate conditions;
  - (x) Responding promptly and correctly to people controlling traffic, other road users, traffic signs and traffic lights.

### **Documents and Papers Presented for the Test**

Candidates should present the following documents and papers for inspection by Driving Test Centre Officer and Driving Examiner when attending a test : –

- (a) test appointment letter;
- (b) Hong Kong Identity Card or an alternative identity document e.g. passport (previously registered in the Transport Department; defaced or expired documents will not be accepted);
- (c) temporary driving licence or learner's driving licence;
- (d) valid Third Party Risks Insurance Certificate in respect of the test vehicle (should also cover driving test purpose);
- (e) driving instructor's licence.

### **Vision Test**

Candidates are required to read at a distance of 23 metres in good daylight (with the aid of spectacles or other corrective lenses, if worn) a motor vehicle registration mark. A candidate who fails his/her vision test will not be allowed to take the test and his/her test form will be invalidated. If he/she wants to take the driving test again, he/she will have to purchase a new test form.

## **PART III : DRIVING OBSERVATIONS FOR CANDIDATES**

### **Preparation before Moving Off**

Before starting the engine, candidates should check that the handbrake is secured, the gearshift is in the neutral position, the mirrors and the seat are adjusted, and the safety belt is fastened. Before moving off, candidates should check the surrounding traffic conditions, signal properly and then drive away safely.

### **Driving Manoeuvres and Control of Speed**

Candidates should be fully conversant with the use of various controls of the vehicle in order to handle various road conditions, such as going up and down of slopes, approaching road junctions and roundabouts. Maintain proper coordination of steering wheel, clutch, accelerator and footbrake so as to avoid rolling forwards or backwards during moving off and stopping.

Care should be taken in the control of the speed of the vehicle with the use of proper gear so as to suit the ever-changing traffic conditions. Do not drive too fast when approaching junctions, zebra crossings, pedestrians and objects or when cornering. Under normal traffic conditions, candidates should not dwell in low gears (first or second gear) or drive only at low speed during the test; otherwise, examiners will regard these as serious mistakes and it would eventually lead to a failure. If the road condition ahead is clear and safe, candidates should make use of the proper gear to reach a reasonable speed, but not exceeding the speed limit. However, if the road condition does not permit so doing, candidates should adopt low gear instead and reduce speed for the sake of safety.

### **Judging Car Distance**

Candidates should always keep a safe distance from the car ahead, and bear in mind the 2-second rule. Avoid driving in parallel with other motorists in dual or multiple lanes, try to keep a safe distance from other vehicles or objects when overtaking or stopping.

### **Overtaking**

Candidates should make full use of mirrors before overtaking, observe the rear following vehicles, and/or those vehicles from opposite directions, and signal properly. Make use of the mirrors especially before moving out and check the blind spot by looking back over the left / right shoulders to ensure safety. (Owing to the view of the light goods vehicle being obstructed by its load, candidates cannot check the rear left side blind spot, therefore candidates need only to check traffic conditions using the left side side-mirror). During the process of overtaking, care should be taken to keep a safe distance from the objects ahead and control the speed of the vehicle properly. After overtaking, candidates should return to the original lane if situation permits. Care should be taken not to cut in sharply in front of other vehicles.

## **Hazard Recognition**

Candidates should constantly observe the road conditions, so as to act appropriately to road signs, vehicles parked at roadside, pedestrians, junctions, change of road conditions and emergencies.

## **Roundabouts and Junctions**

Before entering or leaving roundabouts or junctions, candidates should signal properly, adopt the appropriate speed and correct traffic lane. Observe the "Give Way" and "Stop" signs and yield right to vehicles having the right of way.

Candidates, before reaching the junctions, should control the vehicle properly and to act according to warning, regulatory and informative traffic signs. Select the appropriate lane beforehand, signal properly and make use of the mirrors. Before driving into the junction, candidates may stop at an appropriate position to check traffic conditions from the right, then left and then right again. Only after ensuring a safe traffic condition should candidates drive into the junction. Constant observation of traffic condition from both sides is necessary when passing the road junction. Care should be taken to keep the vehicle inside the proper track when left cornering, not to strike kerb or drive on to the pavement, and when right cornering, not to commit right corner cut, late steering or let the vehicle out of the proper track.

## **Traffic Signs/Traffic Lights and the Directions of Authorized Traffic Controllers**

Candidates should be familiar with and to obey the traffic signs, and to follow the directions of traffic controllers (including policemen, traffic wardens and members of school traffic safety team). Candidates should also observe the change of traffic lights. If the traffic lights change from green to amber and that the vehicle has passed the stop line, candidates may continue to move on. But if it has already changed to amber and that the vehicle has not yet reached the stop line, candidates should stop the vehicle. However, if the bringing of the vehicle to a sudden standstill would lead to a traffic accident, candidates should carefully continue with their way.

## **Traffic Lanes**

Candidates should always keep in left lane. Before reaching a road junction, they should select the appropriate lane for left turning, right turning or going straight ahead. Make full use of the mirrors to check traffic condition and to signal properly in good time before changing lanes. Mirrors and shoulder checking must be performed prior to steering, (owing to the view of the light goods vehicle being obstructed by its load, candidates cannot check the rear left side blind spot, therefore candidates need only to check traffic conditions using the left side side-mirror) in order to ensure safety.

## **The Stopping Rule**

Before stopping, candidates should make use of the mirrors to check traffic conditions, signal properly and then pull up near the left side kerb. After stopping, the handbrake should be secured; the gearshift should be moved to neutral position. Before leaving the vehicle, make sure to switch off the engine and engage first or reverse gear as appropriate.

## **Reversing and Parking Manoeuvres**

Candidates have to reverse the vehicle into a designated parking space in one attempt. The parking space may be in the form of "S" or "L" shape, depending on the surrounding condition of the test venue. In the course of reversing, the vehicle should not touch the marker cones or the kerb. After parking, the entire vehicle should be brought within the boundary of the parking space, any part of the test vehicle should not overhang any white line or the kerb; furthermore, the wheels should not touch any white line or the kerb. Apart from the above requirements, the extreme rear of the light goods vehicle should stay within the 1-metre yellow stopping area. For L-shape parking, if the parking space is comparatively shorter than a light goods vehicle, the front part of it is allowed to overhang the front white line.

## **Turnabout in a Narrow Road**

Candidates will be required to demonstrate the turnabout in a narrow road manoeuvre by means of 3-point turns (two-forward and one-backward) or 5-point turns (three-forward and two-backward) as the case may be. In the course of the turnabout manoeuvre, candidates have to check traffic conditions, signal properly and the vehicle not to touch any object, e.g. the railing or kerb.

## Part IV : OTHERS

### Test Routes

Under normal conditions, examiners would conduct the test according to the standard test routes designed by the Driving Services Section of the Transport Department. However, in case of road repairs, traffic jam or emergency, test routes may be deviated to meet the traffic conditions.

### Dangerous Driving/Inadequate Control

Should a candidate perform any dangerous act, which may endanger other road users during the course of the test, or should he/she prove himself/herself to be in a state of inadequate control over the vehicle, the test may be terminated by the examiner.

In case of emergency, which may endanger other road users or lead to traffic accidents, an examiner may exercise his discretion to stop the test vehicle.

### Methods of Recording Driving Errors

The mistakes committed by candidates will be divided into minor and serious ones and recorded on the test form by means of a tick against the appropriate item :

#### ***Minor Mistakes***

Minor mistakes refer to those driving faults committed by candidates, they would not endanger other road users or even cause inconvenience to them. Such driving faults would not lead to a fail in the test.

#### ***Serious Mistakes***

Serious mistakes are those which would cause imminent or direct danger; including the driving technique or basic control not up to the stipulated standard of the Transport Department. The driving test system being strict and fair, and if a candidate commits one or more serious mistakes in a driving test, it will be regarded as a fail.

If a candidate commits minor mistakes against a certain item for three times or more, these mistakes will be accumulated to form a ***serious mistake*** and the test will be regarded as a fail.

## **Test Form and Record of Result**

After the test, the original of the Driving Test Form will be endorsed and kept by the duty Driving Test Centre Officer, who will give to the candidate the duplicate of the test form (also known as the "yellow copy"), on which all the mistakes committed by the candidate during the test as well as the test result are recorded.

The result of the candidate will become final only after it has been verified by the Transport Department. However, if the candidate's licence has been suspended by the court during the period of his/her test, the "Pass" result he/she has obtained will be rescinded and the fees paid will not be refunded.

## **Application for Driving Licence by Successful Candidates and Application for a Second Test by Unsuccessful Candidates**

### **1. Successful Candidates**

Please approach one of the Licensing Offices of this department listed below after 7 working days (but not exceeding 3 years) from the date of your test to apply for the issue or extension of your driving licence as the case may be. Please bring along with you the following documents : –

1. Hong Kong Identity Card (original or photocopy); or a valid identity document (original or photocopy); and
2. Original or photocopy of address proof (residential address and correspondence address) issued within the last 3 months (e.g. water/electricity/gas bill and bank correspondence); and
3. The “yellow copy” of test form; and
4. The duly completed Application for Full Driving Licence (TD557) / Application for Probationary Driving Licence (TD590)\* as appropriate; and
5. The required fee for the issue of a driving licence / probationary driving licence; and
6. Medical examination report form TD256 duly completed by a registered medical practitioner (applicable to a person aged 70 or above who applies for Full/Probationary Driving Licence).

According to the Road Traffic (Driving Licences) Regulations (Chapter 374B), any candidate who applies for the issue of driving licence after 3 years from the date that he/she passed his/her test will not be entertained by the Transport Department.

<i>Licensing Offices</i>	<i>Tel. No.</i>
Hong Kong Licensing Office: 3/F, United Centre, 95 Queensway, Hong Kong.	<b>2804 2636</b>
Kowloon Licensing Office: 2/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon.	<b>2150 7712</b>
Kwun Tong Licensing Office: 5/F, East Kowloon Government Offices, 12 Lei Yue Mun Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.	<b>2775 6835</b>
Shatin Licensing Office: 2/F, Shatin Government Offices, 1 Sheung Wo Che Road, Sha Tin, N.T.	<b>2606 1468</b>

\* Application for Probationary Driving Licence (TD590) is made in accordance with the Road Traffic (Driving Licences) Regulation (Cap. 374B), any person who applies to take a driving test for motor cycle, motor tricycle, private car or light goods vehicle is only eligible to apply for a probationary driving licence upon passing the driving test. A probationary driving licence holder can apply for a full driving licence for the respective class after completion of a mandatory probationary driving period.

## 2. Unsuccessful Candidates

If you wish to re-take your Private Car / Light Goods Vehicle driving test, you may make application 7 working days after the date of your test through the following ways (the result of the test part you have passed will be retained and you will only need to take another test on the remaining part of your the driving test):

- Online Booking for Private Car/ Light Goods Vehicle driving test by visiting the GovHK website ([www.gov.hk/en/residents/transport/drivinglicense/roadtest.htm](http://www.gov.hk/en/residents/transport/drivinglicense/roadtest.htm)) (Note: you must possess a valid personal digital certificate issued by recognised Certification Authorities for authentication; and with a credit card (Visa or MasterCard) or a PPS account number and Internet password for payment). Please contact the Driving Test Appointment Office at 2771 7723 for enquiries.
- Approach one of the following Licensing Offices with the necessary documents for application for Private Car/ Light Goods Vehicle Driving Test: -

### *Licensing Offices*

### *Tel. No.*

Hong Kong            3/F, United Centre, 95 Queensway, Hong Kong.            **2804 2636**  
Licensing Office :

Kowloon            2/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices,            **2150 7712**  
Licensing Office : 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon.

- Submit your application together with the necessary documents by post to “Kowloon Licensing Office, Transport Department, 2/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon” and mark 《Application for Driving Test (TD82)》 on envelope : –
- Necessary documents for application for driving test:
  - 1 · Hong Kong Identity Card or other identity document (original or photocopy);
  - 2 · Learner's Driving Licence (original or photocopy);
  - 3 · The duly completed application form: Application for a Driving Test (TD 82);
  - 4 · The required fee for the purchase of the relevant driving test form (application by post please pay by crossed cheque or cashier order, payable to “The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region”, do not send in cash).

## 3. Result of Driving Test

The result of the driving test as shown on the copy of the test form is subject to final verification by this Department. Should an amendment of the verdict be found necessary in the course of verification, the candidate will receive by post a notice to this effect and he/she will be invited to our office for the purpose of updating the test result.

Revised in February 2009