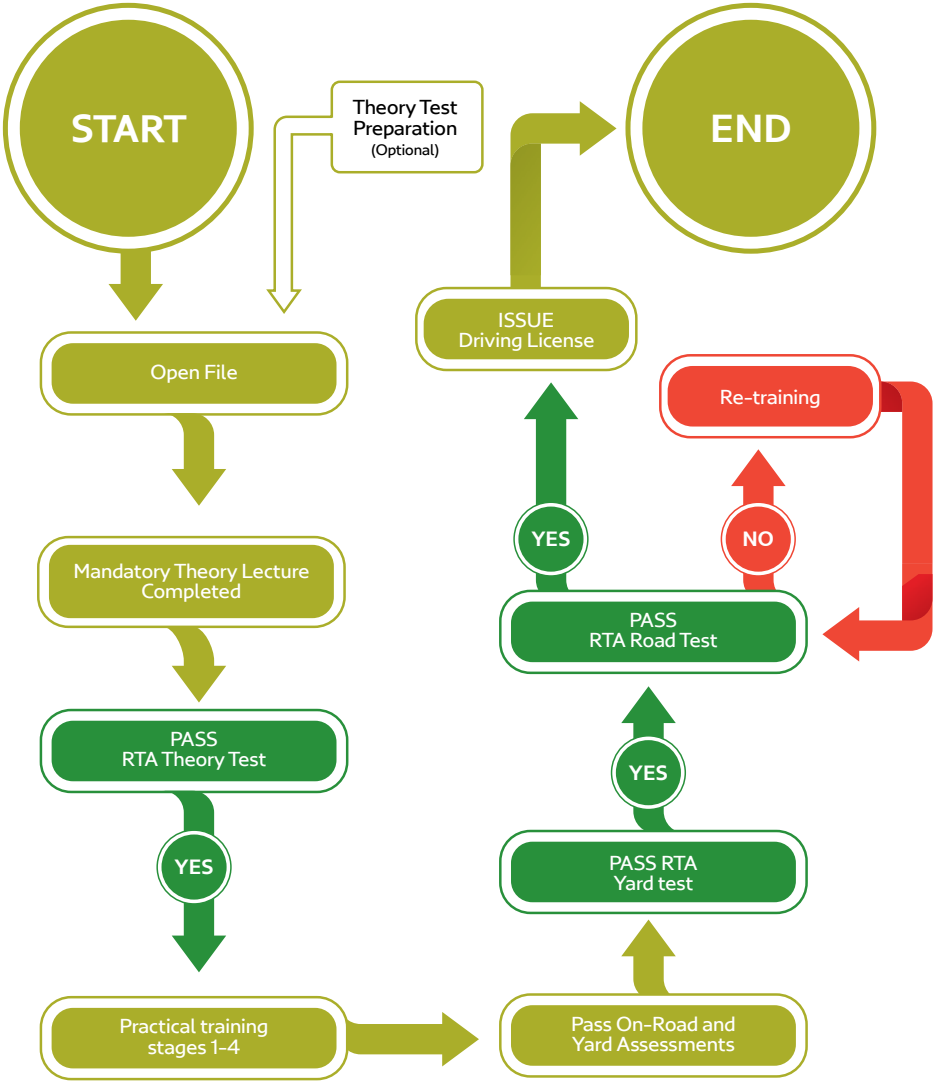
Light Motor Vehicle Handbook

A Guide to Safe Driving
Licensing Agency

10th Edition

8009090 rta.ae

Training and Testing Process



How to use this Handbook

Look for these icons and colored boxes that have been used to help make this handbook easy for you to read and use.

Emphasizes a Traffic Law.

When you are reading the handbook, you will notice the word "must" in bold. That clearly means this is a law that you must obey. You are breaking the law if you do not follow this information.

Explains what something means.

Indicates a [road safety] message to help you.

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Introduction

Welcome to the Light Motor Vehicle Handbook

This Light Motor Vehicle Handbook is a guide to safe driving not just for learner drivers but also for experienced drivers.

Experienced drivers from other countries may find that road laws in Dubai maybe different compared to the road rules from their countries of origin. Road networks and traffic situations in Dubai are also different. Reading and understanding the contents of this handbook will go a long way in ensuring hassle-free motoring in Dubai.

During the course of your driver training, this handbook will be an essential tool for learning to drive safely. Refer to its contents whenever necessary, as they are important information that will help you pass both the theory test as well as practical driving test.

Even after you have passed your tests, it will be beneficial to read this handbook from time to time as it can help clarify some of the issues you may encounter during your driving.

Remember that learning to drive does not end after you have passed your tests. Driving situations may change at any given time. To deal safely with these ever changing situations require skills and experience that can only be gained through practice.

The first few months after getting your license are usually the most dangerous period of driving. During this period, young drivers are usually excited by the new found freedom of being able to drive independently. This is also the time when new drivers feel the need to test the limits of their driving ability. The lack of experience and the sensation of speeding are usually a very dangerous combination. Do not fall into this trap.

Corruption Warning!

Do not attempt to offer any money, gift or favour in any form to any instructor, assessor or examiner as this is considered "BRIBERY." The case will be referred to the Police for necessary actions.

Part 1: **A License To Drive**

Steps to Obtain and Keep Your License

Step 1: Open traffic file and obtain your Learner Permit.

Your Learner Permit will contain an 8-digit traffic file number, which will also be used on your driver's license. Mention already if you need a translator for your theory exam.

Step 2: Book your theory test through your driving institute

You may re-schedule or cancel your test 48 hours before the scheduled test or you will lose your test fee.

Step 3: Take (and pass) your theory test

Passing your theory test is required to start your practical driver training. Arrive 30 minutes before your appointment time. No personal belongings allowed inside the test room.

Step 4: Start your driver training

By law, when you are learning to drive, you must:

- Have a driving instructor beside you.
- Not be under the influence of alcohol.
- Wear a seatbelt and carry your learning permit at all times.

Step 5: Book your appointment for practical driving test

Before booking your practical driving test, it is important that you are confident in your driving ability. In order to book your driving test, you must:

- Have passed the theory test,
- Have completed the minimum required driving lessons,
- Have passed your driving assessment

Step 6: Attend freeway/highway driving

Once you have completed and passed your on-road assessment, attend at least 4 lessons (2 hours) of freeway driving with your instructor.

Step 7: Take (and pass) your practical driving test

Your practical driving test will take place at the areas near the driving institute. Right before the test, the examiner may:

- Verify your identity against the record.
- Ask for your training record.
- Ask for the theory test certificate.

Step 8: Keep learning to drive and driving to learn

Drive safely and your real learning will begin! It is up to you to improve your driving, to drive safely and obey the rules. By law, when you are driving, you must:

Not be under the influence of alcohol, wear a seat belt, not use a mobile phone.

Expats Driving in Dubai

If you are not a permanent resident and want to drive on your visit to Dubai you must:

- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Have a valid Visit Visa.
- Hold a valid international driver's license according to RTA policy.

International Driving License Restrictions

Generally you can drive a hire car using an international driver's license if you are on temporary stay (Visit Visa) only. However, you will need to check with individual car rental companies to see if they accept international driver's license, as some companies do not accept them.

You will need to check that you have insurance cover if you intend to drive outside the UAE. An international driver's license carried in conjunction with your foreign driving license is required for driving in the UAE. You cannot drive using an international driver's license if you are on a Residence Visa.

Licenses Recognised by the UAE

Licenses from a number of countries are currently recognised by the UAE as being suitable to change to a Dubai license without going through a formal test. Please note the following:

Applicants from some of these countries will also need to submit an official letter from their Embassies as proof of attestation of the license.

The license holder's nationality or passport should be the same as the country that issued the driver's license. Below is a list of recognised countries and requirements.

List of countries/states eligible to exchange UAE driving license (without training/ test):

GCC Countries				
Saudi Arabia (!)	Kuwait (!)	Bahrain(!)	Oman(!)	Qatar(!)
European Countries				
Austria	Belgium	Spain	Germany	
France	Ireland	Netherlands	Italy	
UK	Turkey	Greece	Switzerland	
Norway	Denmark	Sweden	Poland	
Luxembourg(*)	Portugal(*)	Romania(*)	Finland	
Lithuania(*)	Serbia(*)	Latvia(*)	Slovakia(*)	
Montenegro	Albania (*)	Cyprus (*)	Hungary(*)	
Bulgaria (*)	Iceland (*)	Estonia (*)	Slovenia(*)	
Malta (*)	Ukraine (*)			
North American Countries				
Canada		USA		
East Asia Countries				
South Korea	Japan	New Zealand	Australia	
Hong Kong	Singapore	China		
African Countries				
South Africa				

(!) GCC citizens with Emirates ID – license will be taken and sent back to the issuing country by the Drivers Licensing Department. Holder of GCC license but non GCC citizens, direct to driving test.

(*) License will be taken by the Drivers Licensing Department and sent back to the issuing country.

If a license is not written in Arabic or English, must be legally translated and with a letter from the consulate/embassy.

If you do hold a license from a recognised country and you want to exchange it to a UAE driver's license , you must provide these documents:

- A copy of your passport/visa.
- An eye test certificate.
- A passport size photograph.
- UAE National ID (original and copy).
- The fees required – check with the RTA office for current fees.

Note the following requirements:

- Original documents must be presented.
- Licenses from non-English or non-Arabic speaking countries should be submitted with a notarial certificate in English or Arabic with the photocopy of the license (valid full license only).
- Permanent licenses for Residence Visas are issued for a period of up to 10 years if driver is 21 and above, yearly if the driver is below 21.

Changing Your License From a Foreign License to a Permanent Dubai License (non-recognised countries - Residence Visa only

You will need to undertake driving lessons as determined by the licensing authority if:

- You hold a driver's license from countries whose licenses are not recognized by the UAE, or.
- Your passport and driver's license have not been issued in the same country.
- Driving Centres will arrange the necessary paperwork and permits.

What you will need to bring:

- Original passport (valid Dubai Residence Visa)/UAE National I.D.
- 1 passport copy with visa page.
- 4 photographs (passport size).
- An affidavit from the consulate stating that you have a valid license of that country (for non-English/Arabic speaking countries).
- An original license of your country and copy of the same.

Fees

Training Fees vary depending on the Driving Centre so check by contacting individual centres.

License Renewal

Who are eligible: Individual customers, citizens and residents, are eligible to apply for this service.

Required documents for all nationalities

- For customers younger than 21 years old
- Original valid Emirates ID
- For customers older than 21 years old
- Original valid Emirates ID
- Eye test according to the required category. Service fees
- For customers younger than 21 years old
- AED 100 for renewing a driver license
- AED 20 Knowledge and Innovation fees
- For customers older than 21 years old
- AED 300 for renewing a driver license
- AED 20 Knowledge and Innovation fees.

Note: Delays in renewing the driving license for less than 10 years has a fine of AED 10.00 per month, with a maximum of AED 500. If expired for more than 10 years, renewal is allowed only after passing the road test.

Check the RTA website for more information on license renewal: www.rta.ae

Part 2: **Learning To Drive**

Learning to Drive

Learning to Drive in Dubai is a step by step and structured process. Your driving instructor will guide you in your training. It requires your time, focus, patience and lots of practice. Be sure to go through the complete training and testing process. This is for your safety in the long run.

Drivers with less than 2 years driving experience are involved in about one third of all crashes in Dubai.

New drivers are more likely to focus on the mechanical side of driving. That is, the basic operations of car control. This is still a risky period as reaction to dangers is either too slow or exaggerated.

Over time and after gaining enough experience, the focus of the driver should automatically shift to looking out for possible hazards and the reactions will be quicker and more appropriate.

The more driving practice you have, the safer you will be.

Learning to Drive in 5 Stages

These 5 stages of training take you from basic car control operations up to driving in freeways, until you are ready to take the on-road test.

Your driving instructor will take you through these stages as you learn to drive.

You need to reach the requirements in each subject before moving on to the next. There will also be an evaluation at each stage so as to review your weak points before new skills are added.

Stage 1 - Basic Car Controls

This will be conducted inside a yard or approved location. You will be trained on basic vehicle operations in preparation for driving on public roads.

Stage 2 - Driving in two-way streets

This will be conducted on public roads with light to medium density traffic, on two-way streets with speeds of 40 to 60 km/h. You will use your car control skills on quiet, lower speed roads. This stage will give you a chance to practice driving on real roads, without having to deal with congested traffic.

Stage 3 - Driving in multi-lane roads of 60-80 km/h

This will be conducted on multi-lane public roads with medium to heavy density traffic. These roads will have major intersections, may be busier and with more difficult traffic conditions.

Stage 4 - Special maneuvers (yard)

In this stage, you will be expected to drive solo on the yard. It is important to practice these special maneuvers for you to skillfully handle the vehicle in various maneuvers.

Stage 5 - Yard test, On-road assessment and freeway/highway driving.

In this final stage of learning to drive, you will go through the yard test, the road assessment to prepare you for the on-road test. After completing your on-road assessment, you will have to attend at least 4 lessons (2 hours) of freeway/ highway driving.

Your Driving Instructor Will Help You to Learn

Once you get your learner license you can begin to learn to drive with your driving instructor.

It is too hard for new drivers to be able to do all that is needed when driving, that is why you have your driving instructor beside you. You and your driving instructor should aim for at least 40 hours of driving practice before you take your practical driving test.

Remember to refer to this handbook when you are learning to drive. Your driving instructor will also be referring to this handbook and may highlight relevant areas as your driving skills progress.

Your driving instructor will help you to:

- Learn the basic car control skills.
- Understand the road rules and what you should do.
- Help you see any dangers.
- Make choices about what to do.
- Answer questions you might have.

Make sure that you always drive carefully and obey all traffic laws. Pay attention to the advice from your driving instructor.

Practise your driving a little at a time and not try too much too soon. You can use times when you are not behind the wheel to still learn. If you are a passenger in a car, you can practise watching out for hazards and thinking about what you would choose to do to keep safe.

As you practise your driving you may find that you seem to be picking things up quickly. You may think this each time you progress with your driving instructor.

Learning to drive safely and competently is a once only investment for a lifetime of safe motoring.

The more hours of driving practice you get, the less likely you are to have a crash when driving solo. Research data suggests that for drivers of all ages, the risk of crashing during the first two years of driving after passing their test may be reduced as much as 40%, if they have many hours of supervised experience before getting their license.

When you obtain your license you will be responsible for your driving. Even though you will have your driving instructor in the car with you when you are learning, you will be making many decisions yourself.

It may seem that there is little left to learn, but do not fall into this trap. Remember there is more to driving than just car control and these driving tasks are only a small part of becoming a safe driver.

Theory Lesson Curriculum

Aim: to provide knowledge and positive mindset to leaner drivers
Duration: 8 lessons of 1 hour each

Lesson	Contents
1. Attitude and responsibilities of driver	• Training and testing flowchart • Attitude in driving • Insurance and what it does not cover • Consequences of traffic accident • Seat belts, airbag and child seat.
2. Knowledge on Traffic Rules and Regulations	• Purpose of Traffic Rules and Regulations • Road signs • Road markings • Bus and taxi lanes • Traffic controls at intersections • Speed limits • Give way to pedestrians • Turning • Roundabouts • Changing lanes and overtaking • Prohibition in parking
3. Characteristics of road users	• Car drivers • Dubai Tram and related traffic rules • Pedestrians • Heavy vehicle and articulated vehicles • Motorcyclists • Cyclists and related traffic rules • E-scooter riders • Animals
4. Driver's condition	• Medication, fatigue, alcohol • Mobile phone and other distractions • Personalities – aggressive, show-off and impulsiveness • Vision and perception error • Reaction time and stopping distances • Safe following distances

Lesson	Contents
5. The environment	• Night driving - How our eyes see at night - Colors affecting visibility - Headlight and high beams - Accident at night • Fog and sand storm - Visibility and Speed - Reports on accident causalities • Rain and floods - Visibility and Aquaplaning - Braking distance and Following distance - Assessing the flood waters - Passing through and thereafter • Slippery and sandy roads
6. Driving on freeways, Traffic violations and Route plannings	• Rules of freeways - Lane discipline - Dos and Dont's • Common traffic accidents and offences • Planning for suitable route - Sufficient time for journey - Selecting best routes - Detours to avoid congestion • Eco driving • ADAS (advance driver assistance system)
7. Developing Forecasting of hazards and emergencies when driving	• Hazard perception clip: - Straight roads - Junctions - Night - Fog - Residential - School area • Emergencies - Stuck in sand - Dealing with punctured tyre - Cruise control malfunction • Mechanical problems - Over heating - Brake failure - Warning lights on dashboard

Lesson	Contents
8. Traffic accidents case studies and How to act in an accident	• Discuss various types of accidents - Crash with pedestrians - Crash with vehicle in front - Crash with vehicle behind - Crash with vehicle at junctions - Straight /left turn - Crash with passing vehicle - Crash with oncoming vehicle - Single vehicle crash • How to avoid the above accidents • Emergency vehicles, official vehicles and how to give way to them • Give way to Emergency Vehicles • Responsibilities in a crash - Assistance to victims - Who can give First Aid - In-vehicle fire extinguisher - Police Mobile Application for Accidents

Practical Lesson Curriculum

Subjects	Details	Requirements
STAGE 1 – Basic vehicle operations (yard)		
Preparation for driving and basic operation		
1.01 Checking the external of the vehicle	• Wheels/tyres, bodywork, lights, number plate, side mirrors, windows, underneath.	Able to check the exterior of the vehicle.
1.02 Entering the vehicle	• Safety aspects of entering the car (if exposed to traffic), unlocking and opening the door, opening the door without damaging the bodywork or other property	Know the procedures of getting into the car safely
1.03 Familiarization with instrument panel	• Fuel gauge, rpm counter, speedometer, engine temperature gauge, A/C settings, hazard lights, headlight settings, indicators, windscreen wiper settings, horn. Additional features that are available e.g. tyre pressure monitoring, traction control etc.	Know the instruments and its functions
1.04 Cockpit drill and visibility	• Door check (including child locks), • Mobile phone switched off • Clean windscreens/mirrors	Know how to lock the door, child lock and apply the cockpit drill
1.05 Driving posture	• Adjustment of seat, backrest and buckling seatbelt. • Hands when holding the steering wheel should form an angle of about 120 degrees	Adopt the correct driving posture.
1.06 Passenger safety and load security	• Seatbelts, head restraints, baby/child seats (airbags!), maximum passengers/ seats, secure loads	Know the proper way of using the seat belt and ensuring all passengers are secured.
1.07 Familiarization with controls (hand & foot)	• Foot controls: accelerator, brake, (clutch) • Hand controls: handbrake, gear box, steering wheel	Able to do dry run practice on all the controls

Subjects	Details	Requirements
1.08 Safety precautions & turning on the engine	Procedures of turning on engine. (handbrake, gear, steering lock)	Able to turn on the engine safely.
1.09 Instrument check	Warning lights, gauges and sounds check	Able to identify the warning lights and its functions.
1.10 Adjusting the mirrors	• The two side mirror to be adjusted such that 1/5 of the mirror reflects the car body. • The rear view mirror shows the whole of the rear windscreen • Without shifting the posture.	Able to adjust all the mirrors correctly.
1.11 Eye direction when driving.	Understand the importance of effective observation and the need to communicate your intentions to other road users	Able to scan ahead and also the rear.
1.12 Moving off and stopping.	• Friction control / knowing the biting point (manual cars) • Coordination of foot controls to move and stop the car	**Able to:** • Co-ordinate accelerator and clutch pedals well. • Identify the biting point. • Move the vehicle smoothly with accelerator and clutch control.
1.13 Prevent Stall engine (manual vehicles)	• Preventing a stall by pressing in the clutch • Re-start stalled engine.	**Able to:** • Prevent the engine from stalling. • Re-start stall engine quickly and safely.
1.14 Securing the vehicle (from inside and outside)	Gear selection for parking, securing the vehicle (handbrake), turning off engine, locking the vehicle from the outside	Able to turn off the engine, apply parking brakes and lock the vehicle.
1.15 Leaving the vehicle.	The importance of checking for safety before exiting.	Able to leave the vehicle safely.
1.16 Gear changing (manual cars)	• Know when to change gear • Change up to 3rd gear • Managing steering when changing gear	**Able to:** • Know when to change gears • Change up 3rd gear smoothly without zigzagging

Subjects	Details	Requirements
1.17 Steering and positioning	• Steering technique • Eye direction when steering • Positioning within the lane • Steering and positioning straight • Steering and positioning on bends (left/right)	Able to steer the vehicle within the lane in a straight road and bends
1.18 Slowing down	• Slowing down by releasing the accelerator • Slowing down by pressing the brake • Importance of rear observation when slowing down	Able to reduce speed by using engine brake and foot brake and observing the rear before slowing.
1.19 Stopping the car at a precise spot	• Smooth braking and stopping at a precise spot • Importance of rear observation when stopping	**Able to:** • stop the vehicle within 0.5 m of a target • To check the rear view mirror before stopping.
1.20 Stage one evaluation	• Review all subjects in stage 1 • Improve on weak subjects • Evaluations on stage 1 subjects	Able to perform all the subjects in stage one independently.
STAGE 2 Public Roads (light to Medium density traffic)		
Driving in two-way streets (40 - 60 km/h)		
2.01 Blind spots, head checks, potential hazards.	• Know where your blind spots are • How to check blind spots • How to look for hazards. • Do fix eye points when driving. • Constantly scan for dangers • Identify Potential hazards: cars appearing out of driveways, children crossing from behind parked cars...	**Able to:** • identify the location of the blind-spots, • check blind spot correctly • Know how to look for hazards.
2.02 Systematic driving procedures (safety routine)	• Actively looking for information (mirrors, head check) • Communicate your intentions (indicate) at the appropriate moment • Only move (i.e. change your speed or direction) when safe to do so	**Able to:** • check mirrors and perform head check • give signals at least 3 sec in advance • Confirm safety before moving.
2.03 Pulling out from the side of the road	Mirrors – Head check – Signal – Maneuver when safe – Mirrors – Look ahead	Able to move out from the road side safely with proper safety routine.

Subjects	Details	Requirements
2.04 Pulling over and stopping	• Mirrors – Head check – Signal – Maneuver when safe – Mirrors – Stop at a precise spot – Gear selection and secure the car • Stopping in a safe and legal place	Able to stop at the road side safely with proper procedures.
2.05 Passing hazards on the roadside	• Mirrors – Signal – Waiting position (if appropriate) • Passing hazards with 0.5 and 1 meter side clearance • Understand that oncoming traffic has priority (if you need to cross the central road markings)	Able to passing an obstacle safely with the required side clearance.
2.06 Meeting oncoming traffic	• Scanning for on-coming traffic • Judgment of on-coming traffic • Speed adjustment when oncoming traffic • Safety routine before passing.	Able to pass an obstacle safely by judging and consideration to on-coming traffic.
2.07 Turning into side roads on the right.	• Approach phase: Look (Identify junction) – Mirrors – Signal – Positioning/Speed – Right Mirror/Head check for vulnerable road users – Look into (new) road • Turning phase: Turn right and look into road – Mirrors on entry into new road	**Able to turn right into side roads by:** • Using the correct procedures • Giving way to road user with right of way. • Keeping in the center of the lane.
2.08 Turning into side roads on the left.	• Approach phase: Look (Identify junction) – Mirrors – Signal – Positioning/Speed • Turning phase: Gap selection and timing of approach (turn or waiting position) – Left mirror before turning – Turn left and look into road – Mirrors on entry into new road	**Able to turn left by:** • Using the correct procedures • Giving way to road user with right of way. • Keeping in the center of the lane.
2.09 Combination turning into side roads: right & left	• Approach phase: Look (Identify junction) – Mirrors – Signal – Positioning/Speed • Turning phase: Gap selection and timing of approach (turn or waiting position) – Left mirror before turning – Turn left and look into road – Mirrors on entry into new road	**Able to turn right and left by:** • Using the correct procedures • Giving way to road user with right of way. • Keeping in the center of the lane.

Subjects	Details	Requirements
2.10 Using higher gears: shifting up and down	• Smooth gear changing up to 3rd or 4th gear at appropriate speeds • Function of 1-2 on automatic gearbox, 'kick-down' phenomenon • Know the speed limit on your road	**Able to:** • Accelerate rapidly and change to up to 4th gear in clear traffic. • For AT, able to 'kick-down' for power and speed. Know the function of 1&2 gear function. • Obeying the speed limit.
2.11 Give Way, STOP signs, priority rules	• Understand the general priority rules at junctions • Know the difference between Give Way and STOP signs	Able to stop and give way when required at junctions in accordance to the mandatory signs.
2.12 Pedestrian crossings and vulnerable road users	• Know the rules for pedestrian crossings • Understand why vulnerable road users are particularly at risk at junctions • Understand the function and rationale of speed humps	**Able to :** • Give way and stop safely for pedestrians at pedestrian crossings. • Anticipate vulnerable road user's behavior
2.13 Approaching & emerging at T-junctions on the right.	• Give Way, STOP signs, pedestrian crossings • Approach phase: MSM PSL (mirror-signal-maneuver, positioning-speed-look) • Turning phase (emerging from junction): Gap selection and vulnerable road users (e.g. motorcyclists), 'creep and peep' if visibility is restricted • Exit phase: Mirrors on entry into new road – Pick up speed to match the traffic conditions	**Able to:** • Give way and stop safely for pedestrians. • Apply standard safety procedures • Give way before entering major road safely and pick up speed thereafter.
2.14 Approaching & emerging at T-junctions on the left.	• Give Way, STOP signs, pedestrian crossings • Approach phase: MSM PSL (mirror-signal-maneuver, positioning-speed-look) • Turning phase (emerging from junction): Gap selection and vulnerable road users (e.g. motorcyclists), 'creep and peep' if visibility is restricted • Exit phase: Mirrors on entry into new road – Pick up speed to match the traffic conditions	**Able to:** • Give way and stop safely for pedestrians. • Apply safety routine • Give way before entering major road safely and pick up speed thereafter.
2.15 Negotiating unmarked crossroads	• Adjust speed prior to crossroads • Look into crossroads • Oncoming traffic may pull across you (turning left) • Proceed when safe	Able to enter the crossroads at a safe speed and anticipate dangers

Subjects	Details	Requirements
2.16 Coping with road users ahead	• Traffic emerging from side roads ahead • Crossing traffic (oncoming traffic turning left) • Traffic emerging from driveways, garages (e.g. residential, industrial areas) • Vulnerable road users (e.g. pedestrians) emerging from behind parked vehicles / on roadside • Interpret the intentions of the vehicle in front (slowing, braking, signaling) • Anticipate the behaviors of all road users, including e-scooter riders • Safety margins when driving and when coming to a stop	**Able to:** • Identify road users' intentions when driving ahead and react properly. • Safe stopping distance from the vehicle ahead.
2.17 Stage 2 Evaluation	• Review all subject in stage 2 • Improve on weak subjects • Evaluations on stage 2 subjects.	Able to perform all the subjects in stage two independently basing on 50% pass of road checklist.
Stage 3 Public Roads (medium to heavy density traffic)		
Driving in multi-lane roads of 60-80 km/h		
3.01 Entering via a STOP sign from a two-way street	• Approach phase: MSM PSL (mirror-signal-maneuver, positioning-speed-look) • Give Way to vehicles approaching from the left • Check that no vehicle is approaching in your lane (nearest lane) • Check that no approaching vehicle on another lane is changing into your lane • Consider joining the road if there is no risk of conflict with approaching vehicles. Take into account the turning circle of your vehicle when pulling out. • Check right side mirror (head check) before pulling out • Once you have pulled out and joined the new road, check your mirrors • Build up speed quickly to adapt to the conditions of the new road	**Able to:** • Stop within 0.5 m of stop line • Able to judge the approaching vehicle and give way to them. • Move off without delay at junction • Regulate speed after merging • Apply mirror, signal and head check procedures.

Subjects	Details	Requirements
3.02 Driving straight: traffic lights	• Know the sequence of traffic lights (order of green, yellow and red lights), flashing yellow = malfunction (caution!) • Identify traffic lights well in advance • Check mirror and adjust speed on approach ("point of no return" on green light) • Pedestrian crossings • Box junctions • Alignment within lane after crossing junction • Match your speed to the prevailing conditions • Risk factors: trying to 'beat the lights', rear-end shunt when stopping suddenly at the lights, beware of traffic jumping a red light (from the left or right)	**Able to:** • Drive through the traffic light junction by obeying all the rules. • Adjust safe speed to coup with changing of the signals and road users. • Apply mirror, signal and head check procedures.
3.03 Driving straight: observation & scanning	• Look well ahead, to your sides and to the rear (awareness of tunnel vision at higher speeds) • Be constantly aware of your surroundings: identify signs, road markings, road users, etc, while driving • Look along/down the line of traffic	Able to apply the scanning rule and keeping the eyes moving to observe traffic signs, markings and road users.
3.04 Driving straight: speed adaptation & safety margins	• Know the speed limit on your road • Maintain appropriate speed for the conditions (traffic density, weather, light/dark, driver ability) and speed limit • Maintain appropriate safety margins when driving straight (minimum 2 second rule, safety cushions to the front, rear and sides), slowing down, stopping and moving off • Recognize braking / brake lights / signals of vehicles in front • Know when you are in someone else's blind spot • Awareness of different handling characteristics (e.g. steering sensitivity) of vehicle at higher speeds (positioning within lane) • Cope with merging traffic from the right (via slip lanes, service roads, bus stops) and other road users changing lane from the left	**Able to:** • Identify the speed limit of the roads. • Select the appropriate speed to suit the traffic and road conditions • Apply the safe following distance rules and margins. • React safely to merging traffic.

Subjects	Details	Requirements
3.05 Driving straight: use of higher gears (manual cars)	• Change into higher gears at appropriate speed and moment • No sequential downshifting (through the gears, e.g. 4-3-2) required when slowing down / coming to a stop • Block-shifting when slowing down, if required by vehicle (to prevent stalling) • Block-shifting after slowing down and when moving off again (appropriate gear according to speed)	**Able to:** • Adjust speed to traffic and road conditions • Use the engine brake correctly when required.
3.06 Exiting via a slip lane (to the right)	• Approach phase: MSM PSL (mirror-signal-manoeuvre, positioning-speed-look into turn) • Turning phase: Speed – Positioning – Vulnerable road users (pedestrian crossings) – Look into road ahead (either 'through moving lane' or merging lane) • Risk factor: beware of exiting traffic behind you	Able to leave the major road on the right with correct procedures.
3.07 Entering via slip lanes (merging)	• Pedestrian crossings (on bend, prior to merging lane) • Understand priority rule (GIVE WAY) • Approach phase (on slip lane): Mirrors – Signal – Head check – Adjust speed and positioning • Merging phase: Gap selection (merge [adjust speed?] or waiting position) – Awareness of vehicles pulling out from behind you	Able to enter slip lanes with correct procedures and within the centre of the lane.
3.08 Lane-changing	• Lane-changing phase: Mirrors – Check for sufficient gap-Signal – Headcheck – Mirrors –Manoeuvre into lane (positioning/speed) • Stabilisation phase: Mirrors, adjust speed and safety margins after lane change • Know where lane-changes are not allowed (e.g. before junctions, pedestrian crossings) • Know where lane-changes are unsafe (e.g. lane-changing into right-hand lane in advance of emerging traffic points such as service roads, bus stops and entry lanes)	**Able to:** • Change lanes at the appropriate locations • Judge the speed and distance of approaching vehicles with the aid of mirrors. • Change lane smoothly and gradually. • .Apply the correct procedures in lane-changing.

Subjects	Details	Requirements
3.09 Overtaking (lane change & return to lane)	• Lane-changing phase: Mirrors – Check for sufficient gap – Signal – Head check – Mirrors – Maneuver into lane (positioning/speed) • Stabilization phase: Mirrors, speed and safety margins after lane change • Return to lane: Mirrors – Signal – Head check – Mirrors – maneuver (positioning/speed) • Re-stabilization phase: Mirrors, adjust speed and safety margins after lane change	**Able to:** • Apply the steps in overtaking. • Judge on the on-coming traffic accurately to avoid head-on collision • Accelerate for power and speed. • Return safely to the lane after overtaking. • Identify areas that are prohibited to overtake.
3.10 Turning left at traffic lights	• Know the appropriate left filter lane to choose, if more than 1 lane (U-turn, left-turn, next turn) • Approach phase (entry into left filter lane and to traffic lights): Mirrors – Signal – Maneuver (adjust positioning and speed) • Turning phase (through lights): look into turn – enter turn when appropriate – maintain appropriate positioning (lane selection during and after turn, positioning in relation to other turning vehicles) and speed – beware of merging traffic from the right • Risk factor: at some traffic lights, oncoming traffic may also be on green! • Risk factor: the vehicle in front may intend to make a U-turn (rear-end shunt?)	**Able to:** • Position correctly for left turn. • Ensure vehicles have stopped before turning. • Turn correctly into the lane. • Identify dangers and take preventive actions. • Regulate speed after the turn
3.11 U-turns (at traffic lights, open and closed)	• Understand U-turn signs, including when prohibited • Identify U-turn (and STOP) sign, type of U-turn (open, closed...) in advance • **Approach phase:** Mirrors – Signal – Adjust positioning & speed • **At STOP sign:** Positioning towards right of lane to create space for turn. • Give way to any oncoming traffic in all lanes (and opposing traffic if an open U-turn) Judgment of speed and distance of approaching vehicle is essential. • **At traffic lights:** choice of left-most filter lane for U-turns • **Turning phase:** Gap selection – look into turn – choose appropriate lane on turn – beware of merging traffic from the right (traffic lights)	**Able to:** • Position correctly for U-turn. • Turn correctly into the lane • Identify dangers and take preventive actions. • To return the steering without zigzagging. • Regulate speed after the turn.

Subjects	Details	Requirements
3.12 Dual-lane Roundabouts (right, straight, left and U-turns)	• Identify (roundabout) traffic signs, chevrons, rumble strips, in advance of roundabout • **Approach phase:** Plan appropriate lane – Mirrors – Signal – Head check if lane-changing –Positioning & Speed – Give way to traffic from the left on the roundabout • **Entry phase:** Gap selection – enter appropriate lane on the roundabout • **Exit phase:** Signal – Head checks – Enter correct lane on exiting the roundabout – return to appropriate lane (if necessary) when safe • **Risk factor:** beware of traffic not giving way and entering in front of you or to the side (when driving straight, on left-turns and U-turns). The vehicle's left A-pillar may obscure view of traffic from the left when approaching/ entering roundabout	**Able to:** • Position correctly before approaching the roundabout. • Give appropriate signals entering and leaving • Judge the speed and distance of vehicle with right of way. • Use the correct speed in the round about. • Understand the intention of vehicles in the roundabout. • Apply safety routine.
3.13 Coping with the unexpected actions of other road users	• **Examples:** lane-changing or merging without prior warning or prior observation • Know that other drivers may not drive according to the rules • Giving way to other road users where considerate and safe: share the road	**Able to:** • Read road users' intentions and react in appropriately. • Exercise courtesy and consideration to them.
3.14 Night-time driving (minimum 1 hour)	• Correct lights to be used for the conditions • How to use the lights • Checking your lights work (front, rear, brake lights, indicators, hazard lights) • Seeing and being seen • Night-mirror function Adapting speed to the conditions • Specific risks when driving at night (e.g. dazzle) • Reference to difficult weather conditions (rain, fog, sandstorm) • Use of windscreen wipers and washer fluid	**Able to:** • Check all lights • Use headlights according to traffic and road conditions • Identify different colors that affect visibility • How to avoid being dazzled • Adjust speed to drive within headlight range.
3.15 Stage 3 Evaluation	• Review all subject in stage 3 • Improve on weak subjects • Evaluations on stage 3 subjects basing.	Able to perform all the subjects in stage three independently basing on 75% pass of road checklist.

Subjects	Details	Requirements
Stage 4 Special maneuvers (yard)		
Skill courses		
4.01 Angle parking (60°, forwards, left & right)	• **Entry phase:** Mirrors – Signal – Speed adjustment – Head check (vulnerable road users) – Maneuver into parking space when safe • **Exit phase (reversing):** Observation (approaching road users), head checks right and left, reversing when safe (beware of reversing into traffic!)	**Able to angle park the vehicle:** • without touching the sides and the front boundary lines • Completely inside the lot. When leaving, able to: • confirm safety by looking through the rear windscreen and • slowly reverse in anticipation of approaching vehicles
4.02 Garage parking (90°reverse and to the right only)	• Understand why it is safer to reverse into a garage parking space • **Pre-entry phase:** observation / assessment of parking space on arrival • **Entry phase (in reverse gear):** Positioning of the vehicle before reversing – Mirrors – Signal – Maneuver into the parking space when safe • **Exit phase:** Observation (approaching road users) – Signal – Maneuver out of the parking space when safe	**Able to:** • Position the vehicle • Park without 'DRY turning' of steering wheels • Park without touching the sides and the rear boundary lines and poles. • Completely inside the lot. • Complete in 3 minutes. **When leaving, able to:** • Confirm safety by looking left and right before moving off. • Drive out without touch any of the boundary lines and poles.

Subjects	Details	Requirements
4.03 Parallel parking (reverse, and to the right, only)	• **Pre-entry phase:** observation / assessment of parking space on arrival • **Entry phase:** Positioning of the vehicle before reversing – Mirrors – Signal – Head checks (both sides) – Use orientation points to reverse into space • **Exit phase:** Space in front to move off? – Signal – Head check – Maneuver	**Able to:** • Position the vehicle • Park without 'DRY turning' of steering wheels • Park without touching the sides and the rear kerbs and poles. • Completely inside the lot. • Complete in 5 minutes. **When leaving, able to:** • Confirm safety by looking left and right before moving off. • Drive out without touch any of the kerbs and poles.
4.04 Moving off on an incline (forward only, manual and automatic cars)	Understand the importance of the handbrake, correct gear, biting point (manual cars) and effective observation before moving	**Able to:** • Move off in the first or second attempt and does not roll back by 30 cm or more. • Move off in less than 60 sec after stopping.
4.05 Three point turn	• Understand the need to perform 3 point turns, where the road is narrow and unable to perform a U-turn. • Give consideration to road user by making sure it does not inconvenient road users. Apply courtesy by allowing others to pass. • Observation / assessment of space for the 3 pt. turn. Ensure it safe to perform and make the 3 pt. turn. • Mirrors – Signal – Head checks and stops at the kerbside. • Perform the 3pt turn with proper safety checks • Must not strike of mount kerbs	**Able to:** • Turn the vehicle around in three movements without touching the front or the rear kerbs. • Turn and steer - no 'DRY turning' • Check the rear when reversing. • Show courtesy and consideration to road users.

Subjects	Details	Requirements
4.06 Emergency brake	• Know the importance of applying the correct technique • Know the signal for emergency brake exercise. • Speed of 20-30 km/h. when signal given, react quickly and apply the footbrake firmly. Just before the car stops, apply the clutch. • Explain the negative maneuvers to avoid. • Signal – Head checks – resume driving. • Risk factor: beware of traffic following behind. Ensure safety all round before performing this exercise.	**Able to:** • React in less than 1 sec • Apply brake before clutch • Stop within the required distance • Apply safety procedures.
4.07 Tyres	• Know the legal minimum profile for your tyres • Know the correct pressure for your tyres • Know how to check tyre profile and pressure, and how often • Know how to adjust tyre pressure • Know where your spare tyre is	Able to check the tyre's requirements
4.08 Changing of tyres	• Know the procedures of changing tyres • Instructor to demonstrate and learner participate.	Able to know the procedures of changing tyres
4.09 Fluid levels	• Know how to fill the (windscreen) washer fluid reservoir • Know where the motor oil reservoir is • Understand the importance of these and other fluids (e.g. engine coolant, brake fluid, steering and automatic transmission fluid) for the smooth and safe functioning of the vehicle	Able to know the fluids requirements
4.10 Servicing / vehicle inspection	• Know the legal requirements for vehicle inspections (frequency, certificate, process) • Know when your car should be serviced • Know that servicing does not just involve an oil change (brakes are especially important)	Able to know the servicing and inspection requirements
4.11 Legal documents required (vehicle/ driver)	Vehicle registration card (vehicle inspection, vehicle insurance), SALIK, valid driving license for the category of vehicle being driven	Able to know the all legal documents requirements
4.12 Stage 4 Evaluation	• Review all subject in stage 4 • Improve on weak subjects • Evaluations on stage 3 subjects	Able to perform all the subjects in stage four independently basing on the yard checklist.

Subjects	Details	Requirements
STAGE 5 Yard Test, On-road assessments and Freeway Driving		
5.01 Internal Road Assessment	• Perform on public road driving assessment. • If pass, this is one of the requirements to book for RTA on-road test • If fail, advise on weak areas for improvements.	**Able to** 1. Drive on public road drive according to the checklist of RTA road test. 2. Perform all maneuvers without assistance.
5.02 Internal Smart Yard Assessment	• Brief on smart yard testing procedures • Review all smart yard test items • Improve on weak points • Assess all smart yard test items according to smart yard test requirements • Explain strength and areas that need improvement.	**Able to perform** • All the test items as according to smart yard score sheet. • All maneuvers independently.
5.03 RTA Yard Test	Able to perform all the test items according to RTA smart yard test system independently	
Learners must passed 5.03		
5.04 Independent driving on city roads • for 20 hours learners - minimum 120 minutes • for 10 & 15 hours learners – minimum 60 minutes	• Know the routes to a predetermined landmark/point of interest that use Dubai routes. • Know the use of 'Trailblazing Guide Signs' **(Green Background).** • Independently perform driving maneuvers without instructions. **For Training Vehicles with additional features, able to use:** • Automotive Navigation system • Blind spot assist / monitor • Parking Sensor/Reverse camera/ Automatic parking	**Able to:** • Use 'Trailblazing Guide Signs' and arrive safely at a given landmark/point of interest • Drive independently by making own decisions when perform driving process e.g. lane positioning, lane change, overtaking, signaling etc. **For Training Vehicles with additional features:** • Able to safely use additional features.

Subjects	Details	Requirements
5.05 Independent driving on Freeway. • for 20 hours learners -minimum 120 minutes • for 10 & 15 hours learners – minimum 60 minutes.	• Know the routes to a predetermined landmark/point of interest that uses Emirates routes. • Know the use of 'Trailblazing Guide Signs' (Blue Background). • Entering and exiting a freeway. • Road signs & road markings • Giving way to traffic entering the freeway. • Use of lanes and lane discipline • Looking far ahead: anticipating traffic flow • Safety margins • Minimum and maximum speed limits • Stopping distances • Wind disturbance from vehicles to the sides (passing and being passed) • Lane changing (blind spots, vehicles converging onto one lane) • Overtaking (and mirrors: 'objects may be closer or further than they appear') • Multi-lane roundabouts • Function and use of hard shoulder • Variable message signs • Speed cameras and related penalties • Use of 5th gear **For Training Vehicles with additional features:** • Cruise control or Adaptive cruise control • Lane departure warning system • Hands-free mobile devices • Other items, where available.	**Able to drive in the freeway by:** • Adjusting the speed when entering and leaving the freeway. • Knowing appropriate lanes to use. • Scanning for dangers when driving at higher speeds • Keeping a safe following distance and margins. • Knowing the appropriate lanes at roundabout. • Using the 5 gear. • Knowing to read the advance directional signs. **For Training Vehicles with additional features:** • Able to safely use additional features.
5.06 RTA Road Test	Able to meet the requirements according to the **Practical Road Test Score Sheet**	

The Challenge of Driving Safely

For newly licensed drivers, driving safely can be a challenge.

Each type of driving condition presents a different challenge and therefore requires a different approach to driving.

You may find yourself driving on roads:

- Congested with traffic, or with traffic traveling at high speed, or in the desert.
- With a variety of road signs.
- With different speeds.
- With changing weather conditions.
- At different times of the day, such as sunrise, sunset and night.
- With a range of different road users, such as pedestrians, motorcyclists, cyclists, truck and bus drivers, scooter riders and delivery riders..

You need to watch carefully all the time in case other road users make mistakes. The ability to adjust to the situation is essential and this can only be developed through practice.

Practice is the Best Way

New drivers with little driving experience make all sorts of mistakes, which may increase their risk of having a crash:

- They are less able to predict possible problems. By the time they realise there is a problem it is often too late.
- They concentrate on the basic driving skills and how to operate the vehicle. They are not able to deal with distractions or unexpected things that happen.

Driving is not easy - it takes a lot of time and practice to become a good driver.

You need to look ahead and plan what you are going to do next. When you are doing this, try to predict what other drivers are going to do. The more you plan ahead the less likely you are to come across problems, which will take you by surprise.

As you learn to drive you will notice small improvements:

- Your driving skills will get smoother.
- You will make better choices.
- You will also get better at anticipating what might happen on the road around you.

Driving Defensively

Defensive driving goes beyond knowing the rules of the road and the basic mechanics of driving. It aims to reduce the risk of driving by training drivers to recognise dangerous situations early enough to avoid them, despite difficult conditions or the mistakes of others. It is based on effective all around observation and good anticipation and control of both yourself and your vehicle.

It is about always anticipating the actions of other road users and being prepared for the unexpected so you are not taken by surprise.

Driving with Responsibility, Care, Consideration and Courtesy to others will help to reduce the risks. Looking 15 – 20 vehicles ahead will help you identify possible dangers and will give you more time to react. Always drive at a safe distance from the vehicle ahead, and keep looking for changes of speed and position of other drivers. Driving too close makes you less aware of possible dangers, and lessens your reaction time if anything should happen suddenly. Always travel at the correct speed and in the correct gear for the conditions you are faced with. If other drivers make mistakes, help them instead of making it harder for them. In the same way you would like them to help you when you are in difficulty.

Remember you may make mistakes as well and may need other drivers' help one day. Remember the following:

- **CONCENTRATION** – Concentrate on driving 100% of the time.
- **OBSERVATION** – Scan in front, beside and behind you.
- **ANTICIPATION** – Anticipate hazards early.
- **COMMUNICATION** – Let other motorists know what you intend to do. Use your turn signals, horn, stoplights, headlights, hazard flashers and maintain your lane position.

Defensive driving is low risk driving. It focuses on training drivers to minimise risks and learn how to make choices that put safety first. It is a way of driving that assumes that other road users will not always be doing what you might expect.

What is Hazard and how to Avoid it?

In driving, a hazard may be defined as "anything (moving or not moving) that can cause the driver to change direction, position or speed of the vehicle".

Avoiding hazards and staying safe require skills to anticipate and forecast what may happen and have the ability to make quick decision on the appropriate actions/reactions.

Knowing what to look for (hazards) in different situations is an important skill that will keep you safe.

Typical driving scenario on a busy street

Look at the above scenario and see if you can identify the possible driving hazards.

Analyzing the scenario for hazards

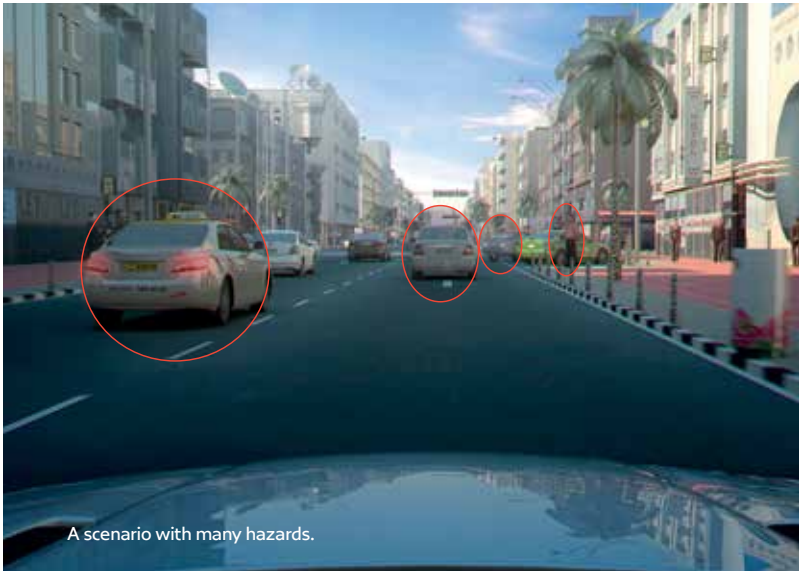
Closer look at the scenario reveals the following hazards:

The person on the right ahead - trying to hail a taxi may start the chain of events.

Taxi on the left has reacted and may just turn right to pick up the person on the right (and suddenly stop in front of you).

Notice the grey vehicle ahead with its reverse lights on.

The white car in front may stop suddenly in reaction to the reversing grey car.



A scenario with many hazards.

Some Important Considerations to Avoid hazards

See far and wide (scanning) – See wider and farther and actively taking in the scenario and continually filtering for possible hazards.

Anticipate – read the movement of other road users around and anticipate their next actions. Take note of the their speed, direction, way of driving and distance from you.

Control and adjust your Speed – Slow down and cover the brake pedal, this reduces your reaction time.

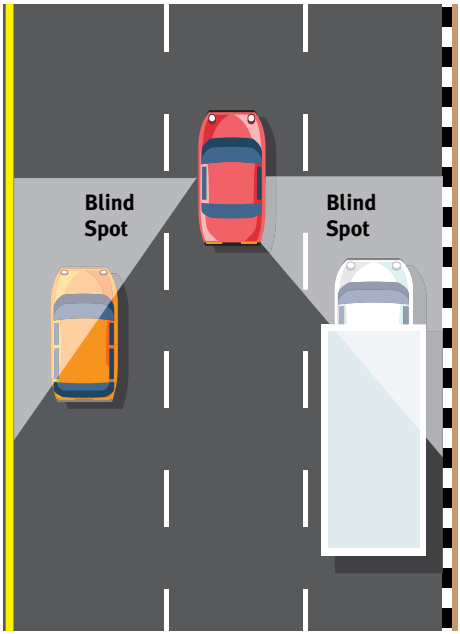
Be aware of yourself – Your physical and mental condition affects your driving. If you are ill or sleepy, your reactions will be slower.

Stay calm – Being calm helps you stay in control of yourself. This way you are able to adjust to changing situations and not become a hazard to yourself or to others.

Possible hazards can be anywhere and are very important to be aware of what's happening all around you. The mirrors help but are not enough to see through the blindspots.

You can only see what is in these blind spots by moving your head and quickly looking over your shoulder – this is called a headcheck.

Moving only your head and not your shoulders is important. Your head should return to the forward position before any manoeuvre is made. The timing of the headcheck is critical. For example, a headcheck should not be undertaken when vehicles ahead are braking. In such a case, it is important that you keep looking at the vehicle in front.



Do a headcheck as well as using your mirrors to make sure you see everything around you when necessary, especially when reversing, changing lanes, merging or pulling out to overtake.

A headcheck means looking over your shoulder to see things through the rear side windows. It is essential that you do not take your eyes off the road ahead for more than a second, and that you do not swerve the vehicle as you turn your head.

You Will Continue to Learn for Years ....

The practice you do with your driving instructor beside you is the safest time to face difficult driving situations and build your driving experiences.

You will notice improvement in your driving ability as you progress through each stage of driving with your driving instructor. You will also have seen from the lessons with your driving instructor that there is more to driving than just car control.

There are five different types of skills you need to develop to become a safe driver:

- **Car control** – steering, braking and using pedals, buttons and other controls.
- **Visual scanning** – looking to the front, the sides, in the rear view mirror and taking notice of what is happening on the edge of your vision.
- **Thinking and responding** – this includes thinking about possible hazards and judging the distance between you and other vehicles.
- **Identifying and weighing up risks** – to see a risk and take the right action to deal with it takes a lot of practice.
- **Making decisions** – when to slow down and by how much, what speed is best for different conditions, when to change lanes or overtake.

There are many decisions you need to make every time you drive. Being able to work out what other road users are going to do and making the safest choice only comes with experience. Use your practice time with your driving instructor effectively.

Drive safely and remember .... you never stop learning!

Part 3: Managing Risk

Managing Risk

Road Safety is Your Responsibility – Do Not Take Risks!

Driving involves risk – a risk that you may crash and that you or others may be injured or killed.

The best way for new drivers to manage the risk is to be prepared. The more driving experiences you have with your driving instructor, the better prepared you will be later when you drive on your own.

> Good drivers aim to reduce and manage risk to stay safe.

Good drivers reduce the risk by making good decisions and taking responsibility for their behaviour when driving.

Your ability to drive will improve with practice. The more you do, the better you get. **However, managing the risks of driving is also about choices:**

- You can choose to drive more slowly.
- You can choose to increase the space between you and the car in front.
- You can choose to stay behind rather than try and overtake – especially if you are turning off in a few kilometers.

You can choose to drive around a corner a bit more slowly.

Some actions add to the danger on the road:

- Speeding.
- Using alcohol, drugs and medicine.
- Using mobile phones.
- Driving when you are tired or angry.
- Not wearing seat belts.
- Driving a vehicle in poor condition.

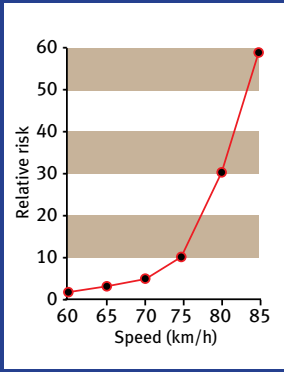
These are dangers you must not forget. There are rules that you need to know and you need to make the right choices to keep yourself and your passengers safe. It is really up to you!

Speed

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must not exceed the maximum speed shown on a sign, taking into consideration the road, weather and vehicle conditions and related safety requirements.

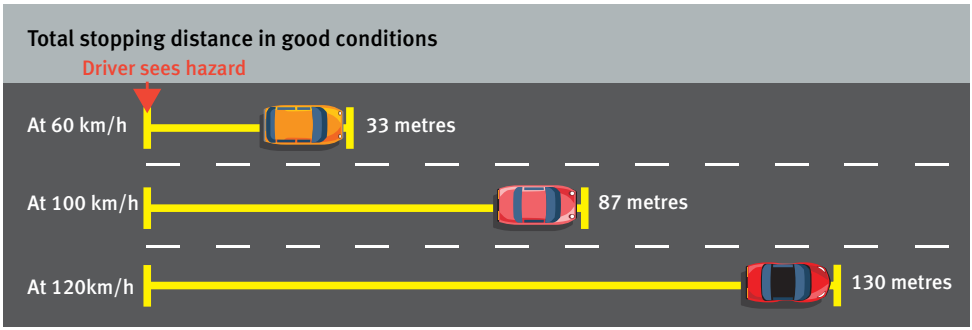
(Article 10.10, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)



The faster you go the more likely you are to have a crash. Speed also increases how serious a crash will be. For example, a driver traveling at 65 km/h in a 60 km/h zone is twice as likely to have a serious crash as a driver traveling at the speed limit. Driving at 70km/h in a 60km/h zone, the driver is more than 4 times as likely to crash.

It is important not to exceed the legal speed limit of the road or your vehicle. In Dubai, this means traveling at no faster than 40, 60 or 80km/h on urban roads (depending on the road) and 100 or 120km/h on highways (depending on the highway). Observe speed limits on all roads as they may change. You should always travel at a speed that will allow enough time for you to slow down or stop, if necessary, easily and safely.

Speed makes a big difference to how long it will take you to stop. The faster you go the longer it will take you to stop.



Modern cars hide the sensation of speed. Many cars are so comfortable to travel in that it is difficult for drivers to judge how fast they are going. You need to be aware of this. Keep checking the speedometer in your vehicle to make sure you are not exceeding the speed limit. As a new driver, speeding is even more risky as it is more difficult to do all the things you have to do when you drive. Remember, you need to:

- Scan the roads for possible hazards.
- Check your speedometer.
- Adjust your speed to the conditions.

An average car traveling at 60 km/h may take up to 33 metres to stop under normal road conditions. At 100km/h it may take up to 87 metres to stop and at 120 km/h 130 metres (the length of 6 to 7 cricket pitches or about 11/2 soccer pitches). A larger vehicle will take even longer to stop.

Seat Belts

Seat belts do save lives.

Wearing a seat belt correctly helps to keep you safe in a crash. Seat belts are designed to be worn on the bony structure of the body across the front of the pelvis, chest and shoulders. The sash part of the belt should not be in contact with the neck and the lap section needs to be worn across the hips. The seat belt:

- Must be firmly adjusted – This is to provide the protection it has been designed for. A slack belt will greatly reduce protection to the wearer
- Must not be twisted.
- Must only restrain one occupant.

IMPORTANT RULE!

The driver and the person seated next to the driver must wear a seat belt.

(Article 33, Executive By-Law; UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Make sure everyone is wearing a seat belt, every trip

It is important to put your seat belt on as soon as you are seated in your vehicle and wear it at all times even if you are only driving a short distance. As a driver, you must wear your seat belt.

Seat belts hold you securely in place. If you are a driver, this helps you control the car in a crash situation.

Seat belts protect everyone in the vehicle. If a seat belt is not worn in a collision, the vehicle may come to a sudden stop but the people inside the vehicle will continue to move within the cabin at the original speed of the car. Serious injuries often result when people are thrown into each other or to parts of the vehicle, such as the steering wheel, gear stick, windscreen or back of the front seat during a crash.

Important: Airbags do not take the place of seat belts. With an airbag you can still be thrown out of your car, so always wear your seat belt correctly.

Help to keep your passengers safe by making sure they wear a seat belt as well.

Pregnant women need to also use a seat belt to keep themselves and their unborn child safe.

Four Key Safety Points for Car Seats

1. Restrain your child on every trip, every time.
2. Keep your child in the back seat.
3. Use the best safety restraint for your child's size.
4. Use the child safety seats and belts correctly.

Why Rear-Facing Car Seat for Your Baby?

Car seats (or seat belts for adults) are designed to absorb some crash forces and spread remaining crash forces over a larger area of the body. The infant's body especially the neck area is not strong enough to withstand the crash forces when seat is facing forward. Rear-facing car seat distributes the crash force along the entire back, neck and head, putting less stress and trauma on any one part of the body.

Car Safety for Your Toddler

When your toddler reaches the highest weight allowed by your rear-facing seat, you need to switch your child safety seat to a forward facing position.

Once your child completely outgrows a forward-facing child safety seat with an internal harness, you should switch them to a belt-positioning booster seat.

All children should ride in the back seat of a vehicle until 10 years old.

Alcohol, Drugs and Medicines

You must not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs when you drive. There is a good reason for this. Alcohol and drugs:

Make it more difficult for you to judge risks including distance and the speed of your own and other vehicles.

Medicine

Sometimes medicine from a doctor or pharmacy can also stop you from driving safely. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if your medicine is safe to use when you are driving.

The use of alcohol, drugs and some medicines may prevent you from driving safely. When you mix any of these together and decide to drive you are a danger to yourself as well as others. Choose to be safe before it is too late.

IMPORTANT RULE!

Drivers must not be under the effect of alcohol or drugs.

(Article 10.6, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

To stay safe, plan ahead. Arrange to be picked up by someone who is alcohol or drug free, or take a taxi.

Driving in Different Conditions

Drivers need to adjust their driving according to the situation. Different times of the day present different driving challenges. Here are some points to consider.

Sun Glare

Dubai has a very warm climate and is sunny most of the year. However, it can be hard to see the road ahead when you are driving into bright sunlight at sunrise or sunset. Slow down at these times and be aware of the traffic and possible hazards around you. Wear sunglasses when you are driving in bright sunlight and use the sun visor in your vehicle to help reduce the glare.

Driving in Rain

Rain makes the road surfaces slippery, making driving dangerous. Slow down especially during the first few minutes. The first rain after a long dry period makes the road surface slippery as oil and dirt are washed to the surface. Until further rain washes these away, skidding can occur. Slow down and always keep your distance from the vehicle in front.

In heavy rain it may be difficult to see and the roads may fill up with water. Spray from other vehicles can also cause loss of visibility by covering windscreens and windows. You need to slow right down and, if the rain is very heavy, pull off the road and wait for the rain to stop. If you are driving in these conditions you must turn on your headlights.

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must use lights during the day when visibility is poor.

(Article 63, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Rain spell leads to an accident every two minutes

According to Dubai police, crashes occur because motorists do not adjust their speed or the distance between themselves and other vehicles to suit changing weather conditions. Traffic Watch, Gulf News

Aquaplaning

Aquaplaning occurs due to a combination of speed, tyre pressure, tyre condition and depth of water. Because of this, the steering may become unresponsive.

Avoid aquaplaning by reducing your speed to less than 80 km/h. Over this speed you significantly increase your chances of aquaplaning. Travel in the tracks of the vehicle in front of you, but stay back by at least 4 seconds. Try and stay in the middle lanes if possible, as water will tend to gather in the outside lanes first.

Aquaplaning is where there is too much water on the road or you are going too fast in the wet. Your tyres may ride on the top of the water like water skis and you can lose control of your vehicle.

If you do aquaplane:

- Check your mirrors.
- Put on your hazard lights.
- Grip the wheel firmly and avoid braking or accelerating.
- Reduce your speed gradually by releasing the accelerator.
- Once you feel your vehicle under control either brake gently or accelerate gently.
- Check the mirrors for other vehicles getting too close.

Good tyres will help to prevent aquaplaning. Most tyre treads have patterns that are designed to allow water to pass through the grooves without losing grip on the road. Bald tyres do not have grooves, so the water builds up in front of them. Check that your tyres are in good condition. Even with good tyres it is important to adjust your speed after heavy rain.

Remember that the roads may still be slippery after the rain has stopped. So drive carefully and adjust your speed for the changed conditions.

Driving in Fog

Fog is like a cloud at ground level. It forms when the temperature drops very low and invisible water vapor in the air condenses to form suspended water droplets. Fog can be patchy. It can be very dense in some areas and light in some. This creates visibility problems and very dangerous driving conditions. Fog usually comes during early mornings on the months when the weather is changing (start or end of summer in the UAE). Learn the Dos and Dont's on how to drive in the fog safely:

Dos

- Drive slower than usual during foggy conditions
- Make sure the full lighting system of your vehicle is turned on.
- Use your low beam headlights. High beams reflect off the moisture droplets in the fog, making it harder to see. If you have fog lights on your vehicle, use them, in addition to your low beams. They will increase your visibility and could save your life.
- Be patient. Avoid passing, changing lanes and/or crossing traffic.
- Use pavement markings to help guide you. Use the right edge of the road as a guide, rather than the centre line.
- Increase your following distance. You will need extra distance to brake safely.
- Look and listen for any hazards that may be ahead.
- Reduce distractions in your vehicle. For example, turn off the cell phone . . . your full attention is required for driving.
- Watch out for any electronically operated warning signs.

- Keep looking as far ahead as possible.
- Keep your windows and mirrors clean. Use your defroster and wipers to maximize your vision.
- If the fog is too dense to continue, pull completely off the road and try to position your vehicle in an area away from other traffic. Turn on your emergency (hazard) lights.
- Before you drive, and during your trip, check weather forecasts and road reports. If there is a weather warning or reports of poor visibility and driving conditions, delay your trip until conditions improve, if possible.

Dont's

- Don't stop in the middle of the road. You could become the first link in a chain reaction collision.
- Don't make sudden stops. The vehicles behind you may not be able to see you in time.
- Don't speed up suddenly, even if the fog seems to be clearing. You could find yourself back in fog.
- Don't speed up to pass a vehicle moving slowly or to get away from a vehicle that is following too closely.
- Don't continue driving if the fog is too dense and the visibility is greatly reduced. Remember, to be late is better than not to arrive at all.

Remember

- Watch your speed. You may be going faster than you think. If so, reduce speed gradually.
- Leave a safe braking distance between you and the vehicle ahead.
- Remain calm and patient. Don't pass other vehicles or speed up suddenly.
- Don't stop on the road. If visibility is decreasing rapidly, pull off the road into a safe parking area and wait for the fog to lift.
- When visibility is reduced, use your low beam lights.

Slow down, adjust your speed and allow enough space from the vehicle in front of you.

Drive Safely at Night

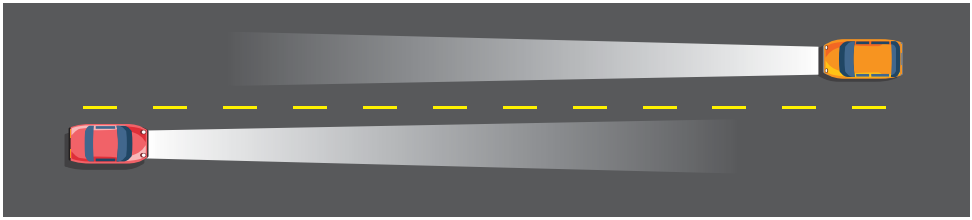
The risk of a crash is higher at night. However, if you drive carefully you can reduce the added risks of driving after dark. This is very important when you are a new driver, as you may have only had a few driving lessons with your driving instructor at night. Driving at night is much different from driving during daylight. Pedestrians are harder to see, especially those wearing dark clothing. Motorcyclists and cyclists can also be difficult to see, particularly if they are not using their headlights. Sometimes this even applies to other vehicles.

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must use the lights of your vehicle from sunset until sunrise as well as during the day where the view is unclear. The lights must be on the front and the rear of the car.

(Article 63, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Keep your speed down and you will have time to react. You should be able to stop within the distance you can see. In rural areas this will be the range of your headlights. But remember, it is more difficult to judge speed and distance at night.



Headlights on high-beam help you see further. They should only be used:

- On highways without lighting, not in areas with street lighting.
- When the view is not clear enough to drive safely.

Because high beam may dazzle the oncoming driver's eyes, you should 'dip' to low-beam when another vehicle is within sight.

You should also dip your headlights when you are approaching another vehicle from behind.

Look to the right side of the road and drive towards the right of your lane if a car with high beam on is coming towards you. If you are dazzled by the lights, slow down and pull over until you can see again.

Many modern vehicles are fitted with night mirrors to reduce the possibility of being dazzled by the lights of a vehicle behind. Learn how to use this mirror and make sure that it is adjusted so that you can still see behind you while having the glare reduced.

IMPORTANT RULE!

High beam lights must only be used on highways which do not have overhead lighting when needed to improve the view ahead. They must not be used when another vehicle is coming from the opposite direction.

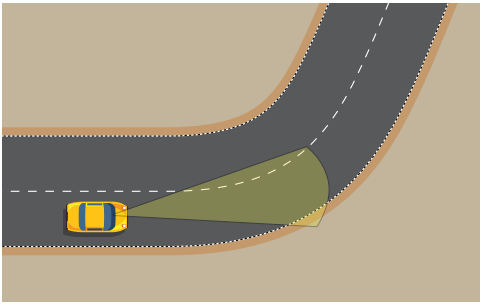
(Article 65, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Obey the road laws at all times and remember to be prepared for the mistakes of other drivers.

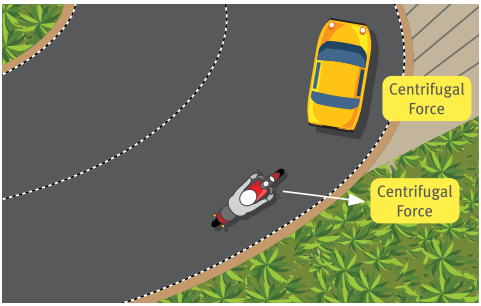
Negotiating bends

Before entering a bend, reduce speed. If your speed is too fast, centrifugal force will push the vehicle outwards. Avoid hard braking at the bend, as the wheels can easily lock and slide the vehicle out of control.

At the bend, maintain a safe speed. Do not accelerate excessively, you will have difficulties in keeping within the lane.

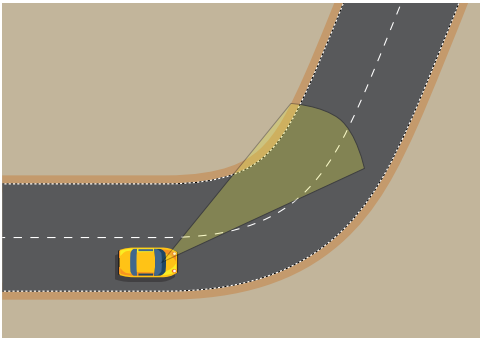


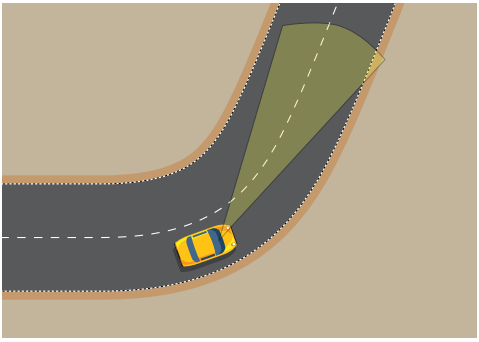
When leaving the bend, accelerate only after the traffic ahead is clear and the front wheels are straightened.



Line of vision

Look out for traffic or hazards before, and at the bend. Equally important is the space after the bend which may not be easily visible. Scan for things like spilled oil, sand, leaves etc. that can affect the tyre grip on the road.





Driving When Tired

Drivers who get behind the wheel when they have not had enough sleep risk killing themselves and other innocent road users.

Crashes happen when:

- You are tired and you fall asleep at the wheel.
- You have been driving for too long without a break and lose concentration.

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must not drive your vehicle when tired as you may become unable to control your car.

(Article 10.7, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Take a Break in Your Driving

It is time to stop and have a sleep if you notice any of the following starting to occur:

- You are constantly yawning.
- You are starting to drift across the lane.
- Your eyes are closing or your eyesight is getting fuzzy.
- You are having trouble keeping your head up.
- Your speed is going up and down without you meaning it to.
- You do not remember driving along the last few kilometers of road.
- You start day-dreaming.

Plan Before You Drive

If you are driving on a long trip, make sure you:

- Get plenty of sleep before the trip.
- Share the driving whenever possible.
- Plan ahead and rest overnight.
- Take regular breaks.
- Do not start a trip after a long day's work

....Drowsy drivers die

Driving when Angry

Drivers do not always do the right thing and often make mistakes on the road. Some people get angry because of a mistake or action of another driver and become violent.

You can avoid becoming a victim of another driver's anger easily:

- If you make a mistake when driving, show that you know you've made a mistake.
- Keep calm and keep your distance from other vehicles.
- Drive cooperatively and consider other people on the road.
- Treat other drivers as you would like them to treat you.

Floods in Dubai

Flooding in Dubai occurs very rarely as heavy rains are not very common. But when heavy rains come, heavy flooding also happens in many areas of the city.

Drivers need to be extra cautious when driving through flooded areas as it is difficult to guess how deep the water really is. You can only see the surface of the water, you can not see if there are hidden dangers in the path you are taking like sharp objects or deep holes.

To be safe and if at all possible, it is best to avoid driving through floods. But if you must drive through flood, do so carefully keeping in mind the following:

- For regular saloon cars, check if the flood water is above 50% of the tire height and if this is the case, do not drive through. There is a very good chance that water may enter the exhaust pipe and stall the engine.
- Do not drive through fast moving water even if the water level is at or below 50% of the tire height. The force of the flood water may sweep your car away.
- Engage low gear, drive slowly while maintaining smooth acceleration and revving the engine (by slipping the clutch) to prevent the water from entering the exhaust pipe.
- Show courtesy. Driving at speeds through flood can cause water to splash on the sides and soak other motorists or pedestrians.

Driving in Sand Drifts

Sand on the roads can be dangerous, as tyre grip is reduced and it can be more difficult to work out where the edge of the road is. Dust from vehicles coming towards you may hide unexpected hazards, such as other vehicles, a dip or a corner. Dust thrown on to windows can also stop you from being able to see. Slow down and keep a safe distance from the vehicle in front.

Drive at a speed that is safe for the road conditions, because you may need longer time to come to a stop.

Driving in Congested Traffic

The increasing popularity of Dubai as both a work and tourist destination has seen an increase in the number of vehicles on the roads. Increased traffic means there are times when the traffic becomes congested or blocked.

You may choose to avoid heavy traffic by planning to drive at times that are less busy. If you must drive when the traffic is heavy, you should plan to take the least busy route. Allow more time for your trip at busy times, stay calm and be courteous to other drivers who may not be as patient as you.

Congested Traffic is a challenging environment especially for new drivers. The frequent stopping and accelerating can cause impatience among drivers. This can lead some drivers to suddenly change lanes without indicating. Pedestrians may emerge from areas obstructed by other vehicles. Be patient, take extra precautions and allow for unexpected actions of other road users.

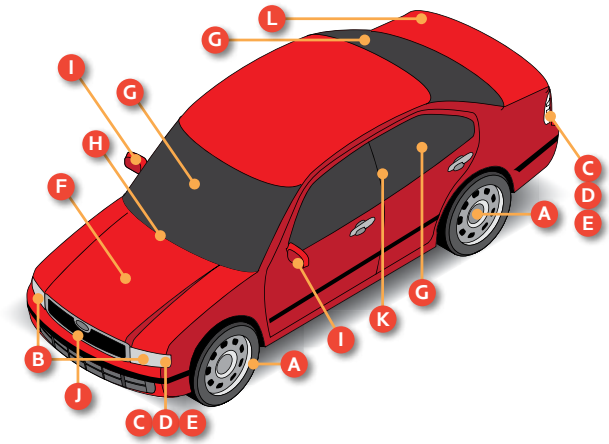
Plan well ahead so you know which lane you will need to get into to reach your destination. Allow yourself plenty of time to move into the appropriate lane. Take extra care checking your blindspots as you may be changing out of a lane at the same time as another driver is planning to move into your lane.

When cars are waiting to merge from side streets, it may be difficult for them to find a gap in the traffic to allow them to merge. Sometimes these drivers become impatient and push their way into the direction of the traffic. You will need to be alert for this so that you can react in time. Be courteous. Allow drivers to enter the lane of traffic at least one vehicle at a time.

Vehicle Maintenance

Carrying out simple checks on your car may save your life and will also save you money. You must check that your vehicle is safe to drive.

You should do a simple check of your vehicle each week.



Check that the following parts of your vehicle are in good working order		
A	Tyres	Tyre pressure and tread depth need to be checked and maintained at safe levels. Safe tyres should have at least 1.5mm of tread depth. Always check tyres when cold.
B	Headlights	Check that both high and low beam work.
C	Tail lights, Brake lights Reverse lights Parking lights	Check that both lights work.
D	Indicator signals	Check that front and rear signals work.
E	Hazard lights	Check that front and rear lights work.
F	Engine oil level, Engine coolant level, Brake fluid level, Automatic transmission fluid level	Check that levels are just below the maximum level indicated on the reservoir or measuring stick. You will need to check in your owner's manual where to find these, as all cars are different
G	Glass areas – windows, windscreens	Clean surfaces and check for cracks and scratches that may make it difficult for you to see when driving.
H	Windscreen wipers	Check that both wipers are in good condition and that they work.
I	Mirrors	Check that mirrors, inside and out, are clean and are not cracked.
J	Horn	Check that the horn works,
K	Seat belts	Check that the seat belts are in good condition. The straps should not be worn or twisted and the clips should work.
L	Emergency equipment	Check that your spare wheel and the tools for changing a wheel are in good condition.

IMPORTANT RULE!

Your vehicle must not be driven unless it is in good mechanical condition.

(Article 34, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Driver Assistance Systems

Modern vehicles are becoming ever more sophisticated and include an increasing number of driver assistance systems. Whilst these systems are intended to decrease driver workload, drivers must remain alert and in full control of the vehicle at all times.

Building more automation into vehicles aims to increase road safety, reduce congestion and increase the efficiency of transportation. At present, the human driver of a vehicle fitted with assistive technology remains fully responsible for the safe control of the vehicle at all times. To enable drivers to react quickly in situations where an assistive system may fail, drivers should always keep their hands on the steering wheel.

Drivers need to prepare for handling and monitoring vehicles with more and more built-in driver assistance technology. Because Driver Assistance Systems vary from manufacturer to manufacturer, **it is extremely important to refer to the vehicle manual to understand the specific design features, operating conditions and limitations of the system.** Whether buying or leasing a vehicle, ask for a **familiarisation** with the driver assistance systems of the vehicle you are buying/leasing. **For the system to work properly, sensors need to be clean, unobstructed and not damaged.**

The following provides a basic introduction to some driver assistance systems that are currently available in the market.

Conventional Cruise Control (CCC)

Purpose: A comfort system that enables the vehicle to travel at a constant speed and relieves the driver of the physical task of keeping their foot on the accelerator pedal

How it works: CCC is engaged by pushing a set-button when driving at the desired speed or by pushing buttons to increase/decrease the current speed to the desired speed. Once engaged, the vehicle maintains the set speed and the driver can ease off the accelerator.

CCC has five operational modes: off, on, cruising, driver override and standby. In the cruising state, the vehicle maintains a constant speed set by the driver. If the driver brakes, the system is put into standby mode, leaving the vehicle under manual control until the driver resumes cruise mode or resets the cruising speed. If the driver accelerates, the system automatically resumes cruise mode once acceleration stops.

Operating conditions: CCC usually only works above a certain minimum speed. CCC is best suited to driving on long, sparsely populated roads without frequent stops or turns (e.g. highways). It should not be used in dense traffic or hazardous weather conditions.

CCC can be useful to drivers who want to avoid violating speed limits.

Adaptive Cruise Control (ACC)

Purpose: Designed to increase driver comfort and decrease workload. ACC slows down and speeds up the vehicle automatically to maintain a target speed whilst maintaining a safe distance to the vehicle ahead.

How it works: The system uses a small radar unit behind the front grille of the vehicle or under the bumper. Some units employ a laser or a camera-based system. Irrespective of the technology, ACC works day and night.

The driver engages the system by pushing a set-button at the desired speed, which the system will maintain on an empty road (top speed). If the system detects a vehicle driving ahead the distance, it automatically adjust its speed (slow down or speed up) to maintain a specific headway to the vehicle in front. ACC system settings can vary in terms of (a) time headway (short, medium and long) and (b) deceleration characteristics (weak to strong).

ACC was not designed as a collision avoidance system and therefore will not apply full braking power, unless combined with a stop function. The driver may still have to brake manually to avoid collisions with vehicles in front.

Operating conditions: ACC is particularly suited to motorway driving in semi-dense or fluid traffic conditions. It is not suitable on city streets, where traffic conditions are constantly changing, or on winding roads with sharp curves and in bad weather.

ACC may not detect people, animals or small vehicles like bicycles and motorcycles. It may also not react to slow moving, parked or approaching vehicles, or stationary objects. The driver has to remain ready to take full control of the vehicle at all times.

Intelligent Speed Assistance (ISA)

Purpose: A safety system designed to support drivers with keeping their speeds within the recommended limits.

How it works: The system uses camera-based image recognition of speed signs and displays the current speed limit so that the driver is always aware of the maximum speed allowed on that road. Some ISA systems determine the location of the car through global positioning (GPS) navigation and cross-reference it with a digital road map that contains speed limit information for each road. The system provides audible or visible warnings when the driver exceeds the posted speed limit.

ISA can be fitted with a **speed limiting function**. If ISA is used as an **active speed limiter**, it can physically prevent the driver from exceeding the posted speed limit by reducing the throttle signal going to the vehicle's computer.

Operating conditions: GPS based systems require sufficiently precise GPS data for navigation and road speed recognition.

Lane Support Systems

Purpose: A safety system to alert the driver when the vehicle unintentionally leaves the lane or changes lane without indicating.

How it works: The system uses camera, laser or infra-red sensors mounted on the front of the windshield or under the vehicle to monitor continuous or broken road markings on one or both sides of the lane, or the trajectory of lead vehicles, as well as the vehicle's own trajectory and speed.

Variations of the system include:

- **Lane Departure Warning,** which provides a warning to the driver when the vehicle drifts near, or over the lane marking. The driver must steer the car back to the middle of lane.
- **Lane Keep Assist,** provides a warning to the driver and reactively guides the vehicle away from the lane marking.
- **Lane Centering Assist,** proactively tries to keep the vehicle centered in the current lane. The system works as long as the vehicle senses the driver's hands at least lightly on the steering wheel and as long as curves are not too sharp.

Warnings can be delivered as audible, visual or vibration (steering wheel or driver seat) alerts.

In active assist systems, the driver can cancel steering corrections by holding or turning the steering wheel against the system's correction.

Operating conditions: Lane Departure Warning systems typically start to engage at speeds above 50km/h.

The system does not work if the road has no lane markings and will send an alert to the driver before shutting down.

It may not work well, if the lane markings are faded or when the markings are raised dots instead of lines. Adverse weather conditions (rain or snow) in which the camera cannot identify road markings can also lead to system failure.

On highway exits, where the markings veer off, systems that rely on road markings on both sides of the lane may fail when the line on the right veers off at the exit. Occasionally, the system may provide false alerts.

Blind Spot Monitoring

Purpose: A safety system to warn drivers of vehicles in their blind spot.

How it works: Blind Spot Monitoring uses ultrasonic or radar sensors or cameras, mounted on the sides of the vehicle in the vicinity of the external rear view mirrors or near the rear bumpers.

The system tracks vehicles approaching from behind or alongside the driver. If another vehicle in the blind spot is detected, driver is alerted by flashing a light in the driver's peripheral vision (e.g. in the rear outside mirror), and/ or providing an audible alert or vibrations of the steering wheel. The alert stays active until the car in the adjacent lane is clearly visible to the driver.

In advanced systems, the system may steer the vehicle gently back into the safe lane.

Forward Collision Mitigation

Purpose: A safety system to prevent collisions with vehicles ahead.

How it works: Variations of the system include:

- **Forward Collision Warning (FCW)** uses radar, camera or laser-based technology to identify potential collision partners ahead of the vehicle. If, based on the vehicle's own trajectory and travel speed a potential collision is detected, the FCW system provides a visual, audible, and/or vibration warning to the driver. FCW systems do not brake autonomously to avoid a collision.

- Autonomous Emergency Braking (AEB), uses the same sensor technology, but goes a step further by applying the brakes if a critical situation is detected, and the driver does not take action after a warning has been issued. Some systems apply full braking force, others an elevated level. Either way, the intention is to reduce the speed with which a collision takes place. Some systems deactivate as soon as they detect avoidance action being taken by the driver.

Operating conditions: The functionality of both systems can be affected under the following conditions:

- The road has sharp bends
- Visibility is poor due to adverse conditions (heavy rain, snow, fog)
- Bright light (sunlight or headlight from oncoming cars)
- Obstruction of the sensors

Parking Assistance

Purpose: A driver comfort system that moves a vehicle from a traffic lane into a parking spot to perform parallel, perpendicular, or angle parking.

How it works: Automatic parking systems use ultrasonic sensors, radar or cameras typically installed on front and rear bumper of the vehicle to detect open parking spaces and objects around the vehicle. The parking maneuver is completed by coordinated control of the steering angle and speed, which takes into account the actual situation in the environment to ensure collision-free motion within the available space.

When the system is engaged, the vehicle scans for a suitable spot at a low speed and subsequently alerts the driver, who can stay in the vehicle or get out and use a remote to finish the parking job. The car then backs itself in to the parking space. The car automatically switches gears, accelerates, steers and brakes.

Operating conditions: The driver should monitor the safety of the maneuver and intervene, if necessary.

Anti-Lock Braking System (ABS)

Purpose: A safety system that prevents the wheels of a vehicle from locking up when braking and enables vehicle control even during harsh braking.

How it works: The system uses wheel speed sensors, hydraulic valves within the brake hydraulics and a central Electronic Control Unit (ECU). The ECU monitors the rotational speed of each wheel and activates hydraulic valves or brakes if it detects that one wheel may be rotating more slowly (wheel locking) or faster (wheel spinning) than the vehicle's speed. This repeated process of wheel speed adjustment during harsh braking can be felt by the driver as a brake pedal pulsation. By preventing wheel lock, ABS increases vehicle control and decreases stopping distances on dry and some slippery surfaces.

Operating conditions: Whilst still improving steering control, ABS may significantly increase braking distances on loose gravel, snow- or ice-covered surfaces.

Electronic Stability Programme (ESP)

Purpose: A safety system that improves the vehicle's stability by detecting and reducing the loss of traction.

How it works: ESP continuously compares the driver's intended direction to the vehicle's actual direction and intervenes when it detects a probable loss of control, e.g. through skidding. ESP estimates the direction of the skid, and then applies the brakes to individual wheels asymmetrically in order to create torque about the vehicle's vertical axis, opposing the skid and bringing the vehicle back in line with the driver's commanded direction. Additionally, the system may reduce engine power or operate the transmission to slow the vehicle down.

Operating conditions: ESP can work on any surface, be they dry, wet or frozen. However, because the system does not increase traction, it does not enable faster cornering.

Because stability control can be incompatible with high-performance driving (i.e. when the driver intentionally loses traction as in drifting) the system should be switched off during such driving.

Electric Vehicles

Electric vehicles include cars, transit buses, trucks of all sizes, and even big-rig tractor-trailers that are at least partially powered by electricity.

Electric cars fall into three main categories:

- Battery electric vehicles are powered by electricity stored in a battery pack.

- Plug-in hybrids combine a gasoline or diesel engine with an electric motor and large rechargeable battery.

- Fuel cell vehicles split electrons from hydrogen molecules to produce electricity to run the motor.

Why electric vehicles?

Electric vehicles are saving the climate – and our lives.

The largest source of climate pollution is Transportation which contribute to climate crisis. Electric vehicles help in solving this crisis through more efficient use of energy.

Electric vehicles have a smaller carbon footprint than gasoline-powered cars, no matter where your electricity comes from.

Electric vehicles can be charged up at home or anywhere with a charging station.

One advantage of electric vehicles is that many can be recharged wherever there is a charging station, whether that is your home or a carpark or workplace.

Cheaper than fuel.

Electricity is also cheaper than gasoline or diesel fuels. Electric cars typically cost one-third the cost of gas-powered vehicles to run. Many electric vehicles also use regenerative braking to add to the energy the car needs to run, which is completely cost-free.

They Require Less Expensive and Less Frequent Maintenance

Without the use of an engine, electric cars do not need engine oil. This means no more oil changes and periodic maintenance associated with engines of traditional vehicles. Electric cars are typically easier on brakes as well leading to fewer brake replacements.

They Are Quieter Than Gas Vehicles

Electric cars run very quietly, especially when running fully on battery power.

There are incentive for Owners of Electric Cars*

DEWA has successfully installed numerous charging stations across Dubai.

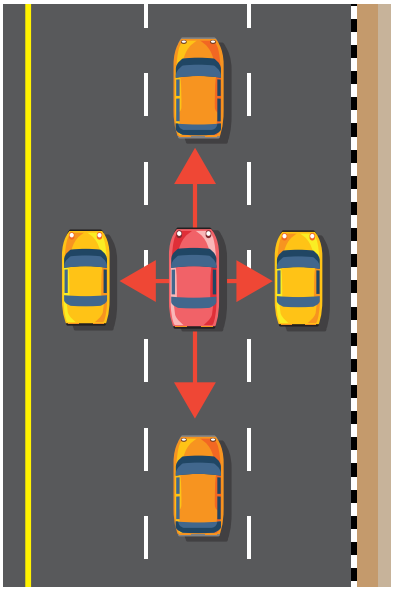
- Free designated green parking in Dubai.
- 14 locations across emirate with free parking. (electric vehicle sticker is mandatory to avail this facility)
- Free Salik Tag
- Free vehicle registration and renewal.

* Subject to changes from time to time.

Reducing Your Risk of a Crash

There are a number of simple things you can do which will help you reduce your risk of a crash.

As you are still building your experience, you cannot expect to be able to anticipate as well as drivers with more experience. You need to be able to think ahead and respond in the right way. **Slow down by a few kilometers per hour to give yourself time to react to the unexpected.**



The above diagram shows the 'safety margin'.

Give Yourself Some Space

Allow enough time to react to mistakes, including mistakes made by other drivers, by leaving plenty of distance between your vehicle and the vehicles around you. Giving yourself more room can make the difference between stopping in time and crashing.

In good road and weather conditions, you should be at least two seconds behind the vehicle in front. You can check this by a simple test.

Focus on a marker in the distance, such as a signpost or tree, and note when the vehicle in front passes the marker, then count the number of seconds before your vehicle passes the same marker. You may also do this with your driving instructor during your lesson in an appropriate area. If your count is not at least two seconds then you are too close.

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must leave enough distance between your vehicle and the vehicle in front to allow you to stop if the front vehicle suddenly decreases its speed.

(Article 50, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

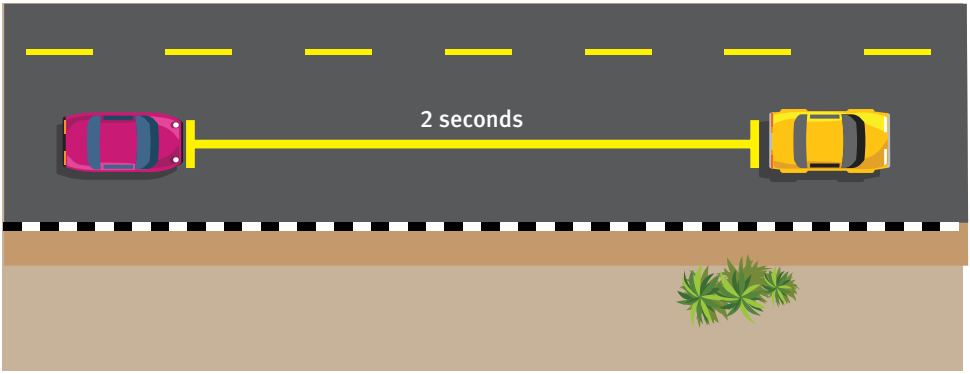
There are times when you may need more than two seconds. This includes:

- When visibility is poor. (ex: when you are driving at night).
- If conditions are wet or slippery.
- When you have heavy load.
- The road is unmade or there are road works.
- Over time and with lots of driving practice, you will be able to better judge the distance you need for different speeds so that you can react and stop safely.

The 'safety margin' is the space in front, behind and to the side of your vehicle.

Driving too close to the vehicle in front of you makes other driver nervous. This is known as tailgating. It is extremely dangerous. The driver in front might react in an unexpected way. He may brake or swerve suddenly or try and change lanes where there is no room. It could cause a very serious crash involving both you and other drivers.

Give yourself the time and space to act on the unexpected actions of others and remember to allow a longer gap where possible.



Think Ahead

Remember when you are driving to keep your eyes moving and to scan the traffic scene. Look well into the distance, to both sides and in your mirrors. This takes a lot of practice. You also need to think about what other road users may do.

Plan your trips before you start out and where possible, use roads that are familiar to you. Use a street directory to plan ahead if you are traveling somewhere that is not familiar to you. This helps to reduce your stress while driving.

Mobile Phones and Other Driver Distractions

Mobile Phones

Drivers using mobile phones are four times more likely to have a collision. Hands-free kits do not make drivers safer.

Mobile phones distract drivers and can cause them to make mistakes that they would not otherwise make or to react too slowly. Common errors are:

- Straddling lanes on a multiple lane road or veering across the road.
- Driving inconsistently, speeding up or slowing down without reason.
- Having difficulty in maintaining appropriate following distances from vehicles in front.
- Displaying mistakes in judgement and awareness of safe gaps in traffic.

Make it a habit to only use mobile phones when you are parked. When you are driving have a passenger answer your phone, or allow your phone to go to voice mail instead of taking the call.

Other Distractions

Many cars today also have built-in navigation systems, high quality audio systems, TV and DVD players. All of these electronic devices create distractions for drivers, which can cause crashes.

Taking your eyes off the road to change the radio station, adjust the navigation system display, scroll through your mobile phone's numbers looking for a name to call or sending an SMS all take time. In that time you may have missed a hazard which could have resulted in a serious crash.

Plan your route before you leave so that you do not have to adjust the navigational system or read a map. Preset your radio, CD and air-conditioning system and do not engage in complex or emotional conversations. All of these things will help you to arrive at your destination safely.

Part 4: **Road User Safety**

Road User Safety

Crashes do happen. The crash rate for Dubai is still high.

Speeding, drink driving and not obeying the road rules also contribute to many of the crashes on Dubai's roads.

In Dubai 2019 accidents statistics reveal 2664 occurred, 2023 resulted to injuries and 132 fatalities. Nineteen percent (19%) out of the 2023 injuries were pedestrians (397).

You Can Help Make Road Travel Safer

Our roads are busy with cars, taxis, buses, trucks, motorcycles, cyclists and pedestrians. People from all around the world use Dubai's roads everyday. Unfamiliarity with Dubai roads may cause some drivers to drive in an unexpected way. As well trained drivers, we should be able to anticipate all driving situations and react in a manner that ensures safety for all.

Everyone has the right to be safe. But with this comes the responsibility to share the road with others.

Heavy vehicle drivers, motorcycle riders, pedestrians and other motorists use the road in different ways. Unprotected road users like pedestrians and cyclists are especially vulnerable. Anticipate their next moves and adhere to set rules to remain safe, because they do not have any protection. There are road rules for all road users, but not everybody does the right thing.

Attitude in Driving

Our attitude influences the way we drive and react to other drivers. Many dangerous traffic violations – such as beating the red light, tailgating, over speeding and weaving in and out of traffic without indicating – are not the result of bad driving skills. They are due to the bad attitude of the driver. Aggressive driving style is not only dangerous, it also increases fuel consumption, adds to traffic congestion and makes driving more stressful.

Attitude is a complex mental state involving our beliefs, feelings, values and our tendency to act in certain ways.

Unacceptable Driving Behaviors

The way we drive may show how we think and behave. When driving, some behaviors are dangerous and unacceptable:

- Driving too fast for the situation. It gives you very little time to react to avoid a crash.
- Tailgating or driving too close to the vehicle in front. This usually causes other drivers to be distracted or become tense or suddenly change lanes which increase the risk of a crash.
- Flashing headlights or honking the horn to intimidate other drivers. It creates tension among other drivers on the road.
- Cutting-in in front of other drivers or jumping the queue just to get a few meters ahead. This causes annoyance among other drivers and aggravates the traffic situation.
- Not signaling lane changes - It increases the crash risks as other drivers are not prepared for the unexpected lane change.
- Driving slowly in the fast lane - this practice is equally dangerous as over speeding as it requires other drivers in the fast lane to brake or change lanes to avoid the slow vehicle. Always use the slow lane and use only fast lane only when overtaking.
- Ignoring priority rules - When give way and stop signs are prominently posted but drivers disregard them or when suddenly entering the main road without regard to the other drivers already in it or when ignoring the presence of pedestrians crossing the road.
- Intentionally pushing in or blocking other drivers signaling to turn or change direction. This causes tension among drivers.
- Using a mobile phone while driving (even with hands-free kit) – this reduces the driver's concentration from the driving task. This may also cause the car to slow down or speed up (for no reason), wander across road lanes, make sudden turns without indicating.
- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. There is zero tolerance for drink driving in Dubai. You risk being fined, jailed or your license confiscated and your vehicle impounded. You also compromise your safety and the safety of others.

Role Model Driving Behavior

Driving in a safe manner is something that all drivers are capable of doing. It is a matter of choice. We can drive in a way that can be a role model for other drivers by doing the following:

1. Driving within the speed limit or at a speed appropriate to the situation.
2. Driving at a safe distance from the vehicle in front, of at least 4 seconds, in normal traffic. Increase following distance if driving condition is bad. Use the height of your vehicle to see farther and anticipate hazards early.
3. Allow for extra travel time. This will avoid over speeding or sudden changes in your directions. You will in turn arrive at the destination more relaxed and fresh.
4. Focus on your driving. Avoid using the mobile phone or doing any other activities that may cause distraction while driving.
5. Use the indicators properly when changing lanes or changing directions. This will give other drivers more time to react appropriately.
6. Show consideration to other road users and obey traffic rules. This improves traffic flow and avoids conflict with other drivers or pedestrians. There may be times when you need to give way even if you have the priority just to avoid conflict with those who ignore the rules.
7. Allow for the mistakes of others. If other drivers make mistakes and cause inconvenience to you, do not retaliate. Remain calm and drive cooperatively with other drivers.
8. Drive at the slow lane. You will be able to drive relaxed, you will not be forced to speed up and you avoid conflict with those who want to travel at higher speeds.
9. Plan journey in advance. Knowing exactly where you are going will help make your journey safer and more pleasant and allow you to reach your destination in time.
10. Drive at your best condition. Driving safely demands alertness of the mind and quick reflexes of the body. This is badly affected if the driver is under the influence of any intoxicating substance or is tired or sleepy.

Remember, if you drive aggressively, it is likely that you will intimidate other drivers simply because of the size of your vehicle.

Most importantly, it is likely that you will get into a situation that you will not be able to get out of. You will not have time to stop or take evasive action, which might result in a major crash causing serious injury or even death.

Littering

'Throwing waste from vehicles onto roads' is an offence in Dubai.

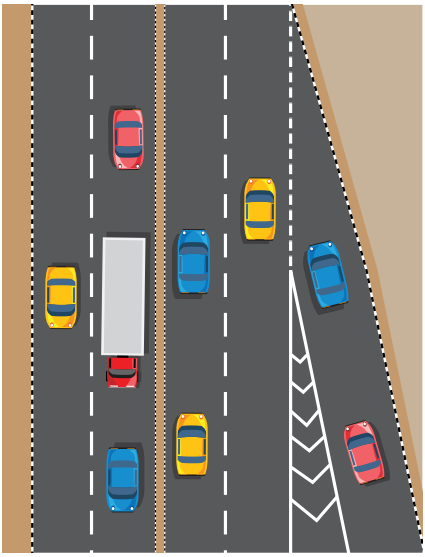
It may appear a simple act of flicking a cigarette but, if it lands on a motorcyclist, cyclist or even vehicles with goods, this act becomes dangerous.

Any debris on the road that we run over or avoid, can create serious damage to the vehicle and unpredictable reaction by other road users. A chain collision can happen.

The fine for such an act is Dhs 1000 and 6 black points.

We also want our Dubai roads to be clean for the image of a world class city.

Merging



When merging onto the main road, signal your intention and adjust for appropriate speed once you enter the slip road leading to main stream of traffic.

Check traffic on the main road

When safe to do so, build up your speed to match the speed of the vehicles already on the main road. Check your mirrors, judge the speed of other vehicles ensuring that you can safely merge. Confirm safety by checking the blind spot and merge smoothly.

Whenever possible, do not drive to the end of the slip road and merge in. The distance on the slip road is meant to give you room to accelerate and merge smoothly without disrupting the flow of traffic. If you start to accelerate from the end of the slip road, you may disrupt the flow of traffic and force other drivers to perform evasive maneuvers.

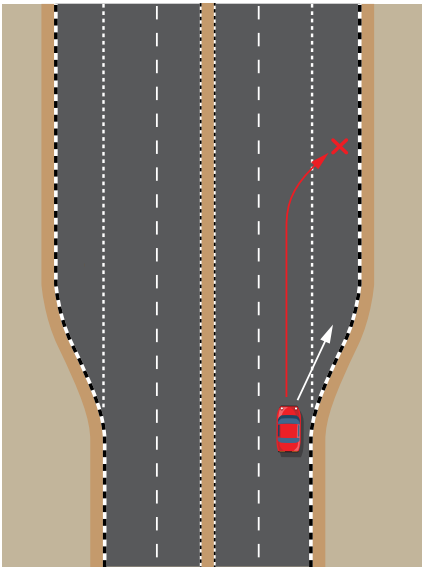
If it is not safe, you should stop at start of the slip road.

When leaving the main stream especially at freeways where there are slip roads.

Signal your intention to leave the traffic. Enter the slip road early (beginning of slip road) and reduce speed when you are inside it. This will not slow down traffic who are going ahead.

Do not leave the main road by cutting in at the end of the slip road or drive over the chevron markings. This will disrupt the smooth flow of traffic and endanger other road users as they may apply hard braking to avoid you which can result loss of control or collision.

If you miss the exit, never reverse your vehicle to enter the slip road. Serious crashes may occur. Move on and take the next exit.



Slow Down in Busy Traffic Areas

Always be on the lookout for and give way to pedestrians, cyclists, taxis, buses, trucks and motorcycles, even if they do not have priority. This is part of driving defensively. Avoid crashes at all costs.

Driving in heavily congested traffic can be particularly dangerous. Slow down and watch for hazards. People wanting to cross the road often walk in front of and behind vehicles that are at a standstill or moving slowly.

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must not expose pedestrians to any danger whatsoever. You shall also stop whenever required, in order to avoid danger to any road user.

(Article 10.9, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Dealing With Vulnerable Road Users

Pedestrians, School Children, People of Determination (Disabled), Cyclists, Scooter Riders

Safely deal with vulnerable road users - remember to apply the 3 SSS:

- Space - ensure there is enough space of at least 1.5 meter when passing them
- Speed - lower your speed, ensure you can give way or stop well in advance if necessary.
- Sound - lightly tap on the horn to communicate your presence. Do this only if you feel the road user may come into your path.

Pedestrians - important Information

- Pedestrians have priority
- They do not have any protection (unlike drivers or passengers in the car)
- While they have designated path and crossing areas, they may cross from anywhere.
- They may be difficult to see especially at night
- They may not be aware of the traffic rules
- They may not be aware of vehicular speeds
- They may be new to the area.
- They may have different orientation of traffic
- Some may have impaired hearing or vision

Do's and Dont's when dealing with Pedestrians

Do's:

- Give priority to pedestrians, always
- Give way or stop if necessary
- Look carefully if passing a stopped vehicle in front of you. That vehicle may be giving way to a pedestrian who is trying to cross the road
- Be more cautious when driving at night
- Anticipate sudden movements or change of direction

Dont's:

- Assume the pedestrian has seen you.
- Blast your horn in their presence.
- Rev up or speed up where there are pedestrians or on busy streets.
- Ignore the priority rule.

School Children - important Information

- School children have the priority
- Due to their size, they may be difficult to see
- They are not able to judge the speed of vehicles
- They are not yet aware of traffic rules
- They may move without care of the surrounding
- They are playful and carefree
- Due to their size, they are most vulnerable in case of collision

Do's and Dont's when dealing with School Children

Do's:

- Give priority to school children
- Exercise more caution when near school areas or school children, or even at residential areas
- Anticipate sudden movements especially around school buses

Dont's:

- Assume they know how to behave in traffic.
- Blast your horn in their presence.
- Rev up or speed up where there are school children or at school areas or near school buses.
- Ignore the priority rule.

People of Determination (Disabled) - important Information

- People of Determination (Disabled) have priority
- Due to their condition, they may move slower.
- They may have impaired vision or hearing.
- Their reactions to things may be slower or exaggerated.
- They may be easily agitated or startled.
- At parking areas, they may be difficult to spot if they are using wheel chairs.

Do's and Dont's when dealing with People of Determination (Disabled)

Do's:

- Give priority to People of Determination (Disabled)
- Exercise more caution when near them – especially when reversing at parking areas
- Be patient. Expect minor delays due to their slower movements.

Dont's:

- Rush them.
- Assume they will move quickly.
- Blast your horn in their presence.
- Rev up or speed up where there are school children or at school areas or near school buses.
- Ignore the priority rule.

Cyclists - important Information

- Cyclists have priority
- They do not have any protection (unlike drivers or passengers in the car).
- They may be difficult to see especially at night.
- On busy streets, cyclists may ride counter to your direction.
- On bumpy roads or sandy road surface, the cyclist may wobble and fall on your path.
- Like pedestrians, cyclists may also be unpredictable
- Cyclists may come from any direction, even between parked cars.
- They may have different orientation of traffic.
- Cyclists speed may reach up to 20 kph.
- There are designated bike lanes in many areas across Dubai.

Do's and Dont's when dealing with Cyclists

Do's:

- Use caution when turning.
- Check your mirrors before opening your door (if you are exiting your vehicle).
- Give priority, give way or stop if necessary.
- Be more cautious when driving at night.
- Stay out of bike lanes.
- Anticipate sudden movements or change of direction.
- Hold steering firmly with two hands for better control of your vehicle.

Dont's:

- Assume the cyclist has seen you.
- Blast your horn when so close to the cyclist.
- Rev up or speed up where there are cyclists on busy streets.
- Ignore the priority rule.

Scooter Riders - important Information

- Scooters have priority
- They do not have any protection (unlike drivers or passengers in the car).
- They may be difficult to see especially at night.
- On busy streets, scooters may ride counter to your direction.
- On bumpy roads or sandy road surface, the scooters may wobble and fall on your path.
- Like pedestrians, scooter riders may also be unpredictable.
- Scooters may come from any direction, even between parked cars.
- Scooter riders may have limited understanding of traffic.
- Scooters' speed may be higher than those of cyclists - up to 40 kph.
- There are designated shared bike and scooter lanes in many areas across Dubai.

Do's and Dont's when dealing with Scooter Riders

Do's:

- Use caution when turning. Also, when accelerating on a T-junction coming from a stop sign
- Check your mirrors before opening your door (if you are exiting your vehicle)
- Give priority, give way or stop if necessary
- Be more cautious when driving at night
- Stay out of bike/scooter lanes
- Anticipate sudden movements or change of direction
- Hold steering firmly with two hands for better control of your vehicle

Dont's:

- Assume the scooter rider has seen you.
- Blast your horn when so close to the scooter riders.
- Rev up or speed up where there are scooter riders on busy streets.
- Ignore the priority rule.

Sharing the Road With Other Vehicles

Heavy Trucks, Buses, School Buses, Emergency Vehicles (Police, Ambulance, Fire trucks, Convoy Vehicles, Motorcycle Riders)

Safely deal with other vehicles on the road - remember to apply the 3 SSS:

- Space – ensure there is enough space of at least 1.5 meter when passing them
- Speed – lower your speed, ensure you can give way or stop well in advance if necessary.
- Sound – lightly tap on the horn to communicate your presence. Do this only if you feel the other vehicle may come into your path.

Heavy Trucks - important Information

Trucks are heavy, they accelerate more slowly and need more space to stop. Trucks take more space when making turns. When turning, the rear tires will follow a shorter path than the front tires. When making a left or right turn, trucks will first position close to the opposite side of the intended direction. On congested roads, they will need more space to maneuver. They may sound louder than other vehicles. Trucks have more blind spots; the driver may not see you especially if you are too close to it. When reversing, the view of the truck driver is even more limited. On highways, trucks create turbulence around it that can affect the stability of smaller vehicles near it. The driver may be tired due to long working hours.

Do's and Dont's when dealing with Heavy Trucks

Do's:

- Keep a longer following distance when driving or stopping behind them. Your view will be obstructed with their large size.
- Exercise patience if you are following a slow-moving truck. Its load may be too heavy for it to move faster.
- Allow more space especially when trucks are turning into your way especially at T-Junctions
- Position yourself where the truck driver can easily see you.
- Consider the truck driver's condition (driver could be tired due to long working hours)
- Hold your steering firmly when passing a truck on a highway (in the same direction).
- Expect to feel some shaking on your steering due to turbulence around the vehicle. If possible, pass one extra lane away from the truck.

Dont's

- Stop in front of truck suddenly. The truck may not have enough time to stop for you.
- Drive continuously in their blind spot.

- Pass on their right side. Driver may not see you.
- Argue with the truck driver. He may be tired due to long working hours.
- Blast your horn with intention to force the truck to drive faster

Buses/Public Transport Buses - important Information

In Dubai, 45% of accidents involving public transport buses are when joining the public road while exiting from the lay-by or bus stops. UAE Federal Traffic Law require private vehicles drivers to slow down and stop to facilitate safe boarding of passengers to public bus. Buses are heavier and longer with slow acceleration and need more space to stop. Buses carry passengers that need to be transported with comfort and safety. Buses take more space when making turns. When turning, the rear tires will follow a shorter path than the front tires. When making a left or right turn, buses will first position close to the opposite side of the intended direction. On congested roads, buses need more space to maneuver. When loading and unloading passengers, buses will take more time. Buses have more blind spots; the driver may not see you especially if you are too close to it. On highways, buses create turbulence around it that can affect the stability of smaller vehicles near it. The driver may be tired due to long and odd working hours.

Do's and Dont's when dealing with Buses

Do's:

- Slow down and give way to Public Transport Buses that are exiting from the lay-by or bus stops.
- Exercise patience when dealing with buses that's loading and unloading passengers.
- Allow more space especially when buses are turning into your way especially at T-Junctions
- Position yourself where the bus driver can easily see you.
- Consider the bus driver's condition (driver could be tired due to long working hours)
- Hold your steering firmly when passing a bus on a highway (in the same direction). Expect to feel some shaking on your steering due to turbulence around the vehicle. If possible, pass one extra lane away from the bus.

Dont's

- Stop in front of a bus suddenly. The bus may not have enough time to stop for you.
- Drive continuously in their blind spot.
- Pass on their right side. Driver may not see you.
- Argue with the bus driver. He may be tired due to long working hours.
- Blast your horn with intention to force the bus to drive faster

School Buses - important Information

School buses carry children of different ages and sizes. They need to be transported comfortably, safely and on time. School buses may stop for several minutes especially if several students are boarding or alighting at certain locations. When school bus stops, students may suddenly cross the road. Young students especially the small children maybe unpredictable when they alight from or approach the school bus. School buses have more blind spots, the driver may not see you especially if you are too close to it. Over speeding or sudden stops may scare off students that may cause them to run and cause danger to themselves or others. Drivers shall come to a full and complete stop behind (and in front on a two-way single carriage way road).

Do's and Dont's when dealing with School Buses

Do's:

- Exercise extra caution when there are school buses traveling nearby
- Exercise patience and do not pass a school bus that stops with the flashers and stop arm working.
- Allow more space especially when buses are turning into your way especially at T-Junctions.
- Position yourself where the driver can easily see you.
- Consider the school bus driver's condition (driver could be tired due to long working hours)
- Hold your steering firmly when passing a bus on a highway (in the same direction). Expect to feel some shaking on your steering due to turbulence around the vehicle. If possible, pass one extra lane away from the school bus.

Dont's

- Stop in front of the school bus suddenly. This will force the driver to brake hard which may injure the students onboard.
- Drive continuously in their blind spot.
- Pass a school bus with stop arm working. This is against the law.
- Argue with the school bus driver. He may be tired due to long working hours.
- Blast your horn with intention to force the driver to drive faster

Emergency Vehicles (Police, Ambulance, Fire trucks, Convoy Vehicles) - important Information

Emergency vehicles have priority when their siren is on and the lights flashing. They need to reach their destination without delay. If your position on the road may be blocking the path of the emergency vehicle, please follow the proper procedures depending on the situation:

• Emergency vehicles use the left lane when driving on main roads and highways, so please give way by moving to the right.

• In case of congestions, emergency vehicles use the road shoulders if any.

• On internal roads, emergency vehicles make their way between vehicles. Please give way by moving to the left or right.

• At intersections, emergency vehicles make their way between vehicles. Please give way by moving to the left or right.

• If the traffic signal is red, emergency vehicles may cross and proceed after a brief stop. Please give way by moving to the left or right without crossing the red signal. In this case, the vehicles on the other roads with green traffic signals must stop completely and wait.

• Emergency vehicles enter the roundabouts cautiously then proceed, help give way by not entering the roundabout.

• If you are already inside the roundabout, keep moving, exit the roundabout and move to the right lane at the earliest opportunity

The fine for not giving way to Emergency and Convoy Vehicles:

AED 3,000.00, 6 Black Points and 30-Day confiscation period of the violating vehicle.

Dont's

• Do not follow emergency vehicles.

• Do not use the road shoulders at all times.

• Do not use the pedestrian crossing area when you see or hear emergency vehicles approaching.

• Do not cross the red signal when you see emergency vehicles approaching.

Motorcycle Riders – Important Information

• Motorcycles and the rider are much smaller in profile compared to cars and trucks. As such, you can easily misjudge their speed and distance, and even not realizing their presence. This may result in you failing to give way when they have the right of way.

• Motorcycles are entitled to the full size of the lane as other vehicles. Motorcycle riders have less protection as car drivers. Having only 2 wheels, their stability is also limited compared to those vehicles with 4 wheels. Due to smaller size, they may be difficult to see especially at higher speeds and in bad weather condition. When you are turning, especially at T-Junctions, be more alert for motorcycles that may be coming at you. A motorcycle that is following a taller vehicle cannot be easily seen when you are turning at a T-junction or changing lane. Most collisions involving motorcycles occur at intersections.

• If you need to pass a motorcycle, pass in the same way as you would pass a car by providing enough space. The turbulence created by a speeding car can make the motorcycle unstable and even lose control. Small obstacles on the road like humps, small stones and potholes may cause the rider to make sudden evasive maneuvers which can affect you.

• Be aware that motorcycles may be able to accelerate and/or stop faster than a car. This is important if you are following a motorcycle that may be able to stop suddenly in case of emergency and cause you to run into it.

Do's

• Look out for motorcyclists. If you do not, you may not see them.

• Provide ample space and check your blind spots for motorcycles especially when changing lanes or turning at T-junctions.

• Provide increased following distance, allowing the rider time to maneuver safely in case of emergency.

• Signal your intention when turning and keep a good look out for motorcycles

• Anticipate the motorcycle's maneuvers especially when approaching a busy area. The rider may change lane to prepare for upcoming traffic and road conditions.

• Watch carefully at intersections and be more of certain of the rider's intention before making your move.

Dont's

• Share the space with motorcycle in a lane

• Pass too close to the motorcycle

• Tail gate a motorcycle, this may intimidate the rider and may result to loss of control.

• Turn without indicating and confirming it is safe for all road users.

GIVING WAY TO EMERGENCY VEHICLES

Give Way - Give Hope

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must immediately give way to emergency vehicles which have either a siren sounding or flashing red and blue lights by keeping to the right side of the road, reducing speed and stopping if necessary. Priority must also be given to military vehicles when they proceed as convoys.

(Article 4, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

On Highways

Emergency vehicles use the left lane when driving on main roads and highways, so please give way by moving to the right.

In case of congestions, emergency vehicles use the road shoulders if any.

ON INTERNAL ROADS

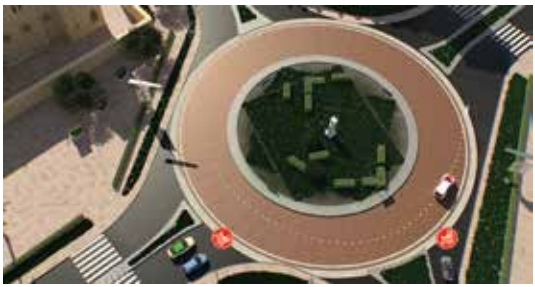
On internal roads, emergency vehicles make their way between vehicles. Please give way by moving to the left or right.

At intersections, emergency vehicles make their way between vehicles. Please give way by moving to the left or right.

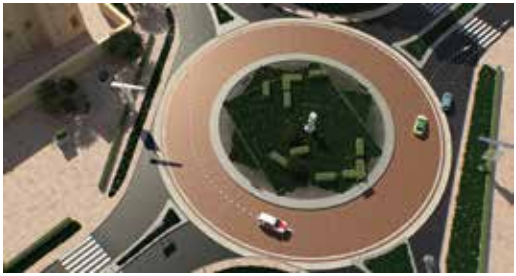
If the traffic signal is red, emergency vehicles may cross and proceed after a brief stop. Please give way by moving to the left or right without crossing the red signal. In this case, the vehicles on the other roads with green traffic signals must stop completely and wait.

AT ROUNDABOUTS

Emergency vehicles enter the roundabouts cautiously then proceed, help give way by not entering the roundabout.



If you are already inside the round-about, keep moving, exit the round-about and move to the right lane at the earliest opportunity.



GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Do not use the road shoulders at all times.

Do not follow emergency vehicles.

Do not cross the red signal when you see emergency vehicles approach-ing.

Do not use the pedestrian crossing area when you see or hear emergency vehicles approaching.

Dealing with Cyclists on the roads

The Roads and Transport Authority of Dubai (RTA) stated that the overall bicycle tracks across Dubai would be extended.

With this plan, we can expect more bicycles in our roads and this comes as a challenge of keeping our roads safer.

Cyclists are vulnerable group of road users. In the event of a crash, they may suffer injuries and even death.

Drivers can play a big role in reducing these accidents and paving the way for peaceful coexistence. It is a two-way street, of course. Cyclists have responsibilities, too.

Here are 10 rules of the road for driving near Cyclists.

1. Bicyclist Vulnerability and Rights.

A car weighs 2 tons or so, while the average bike is a mere 15 kilograms.

In any collision, any physical interaction between car and the bike, the bicyclist always loses. It is never a collision where the bike rider came out less injured.

Bicycles in the road are considered vehicles and should behave as though they were vehicles on the street, riding in the same direction as other traffic that is going their way and following the same traffic rules. As we know, this not always the case.

Respect the right of way of Cyclists because they are entitled to share the road with you. Motorists tend to think of cyclists as "in their way," Rather, they should think of them as equals, just as entitled to the roadway as drivers are.

2. Considerations on the Road, Intersections and Roundabouts.

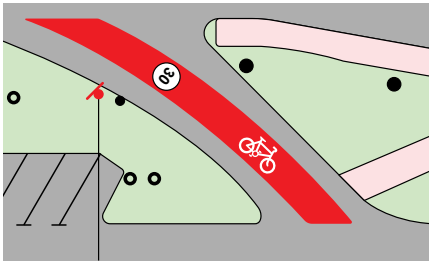
If drivers only expect other cars on the road, they are setting themselves up for dangerous interactions.

When you see this sign...

You can expect bicycles on the road. This portion of the road or portion of the road ahead is set for shared cyclist and vehicles

Take note of the starting and ending of 'Bicycle Shared Marking' on the road.

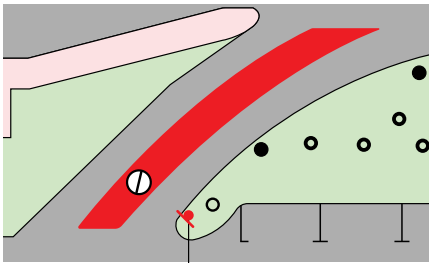
'Bicycle Shared Starting' Marking



This indicates that the road or portion of the road ahead is set for shared cyclists and vehicles.

'Bicycle Shared Ending' Marking

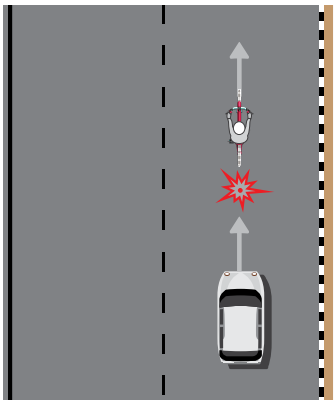
Indicates that the road or portion of the road ahead is no longer set for shared with cyclists and vehicles



a) The driver may collide with the cyclists at the rear end. Why?

• Lack of visibility. When the driver could not see you in front, this situation can occur. The common ones are due to dark clothing, the absence of bright rear bike lights or the sun is shining directly into the driver's eyes.

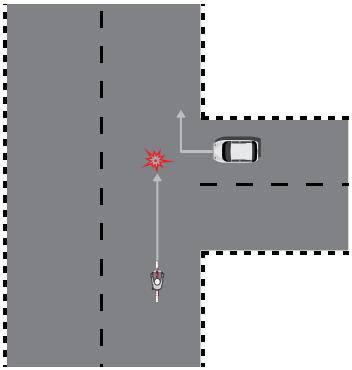
• Lapses in concentration or recklessness by the driver. When the driver is being distracted or when the driver is drunk thereby driving carelessly it can lead to a situation like this.



b) When drivers making right turns should watch out for cyclists.

– A cyclist on your right side. He may be planning to ride straight ahead. If you are not careful and did not give way to him, you could wind up hitting each other.

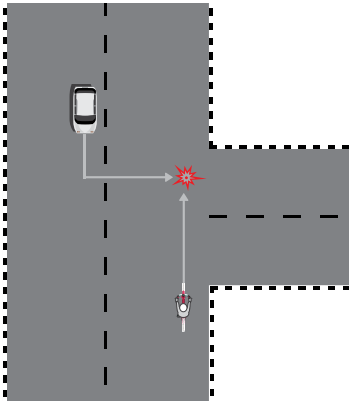
c) Right turn from the side road. However, you did not notice the cyclist on the main road. He is not visible. Why?



- He is small in profile.
- No headlight
- No reflective vest
- You misjudged his speed and distance.

Do not turn in a hurry. Ensure you check and double check before making the right turn, you will see the cyclist.

d) Beware when making the Left-turn or U-turn:

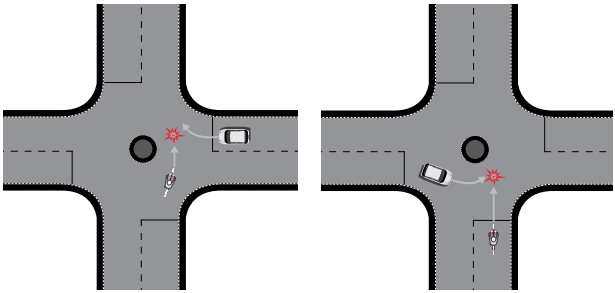


A driver trying to make a left turn sees an oncoming bicyclist, but the driver thinks he has plenty of time to complete the turn.

After a collision, a driver often says he did not realize the cyclist was going that fast. A bike can easily get to 25 – 30 km/h speed. If in doubt, give way or stop. Exercise the same caution as you would for an approaching vehicle.

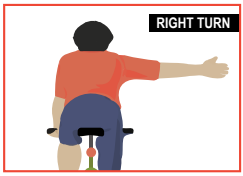
e) At roundabouts, lookout for them.

When cyclists are in the roundabout, like any other vehicles, they have priority. With traffic merging into a traffic circle, it requires every road users' attention. Sometimes cyclists enter the roundabout without giving way to vehicles in the roundabout. Stop and watch out from them.

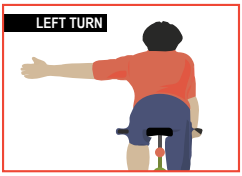


3. Look out for their hand signals. Understand a cyclist who is planning to turn, slowdown or stop.

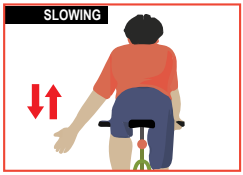
Right turn: He may extend right hand to signal for a right turn.



Left turn: He may extend his left hand.

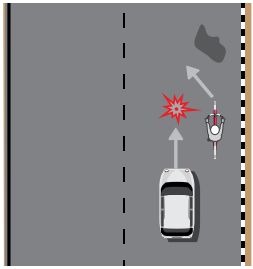


Slowing down



Stop: he may raise his hand 'square'

4. Anticipate Cyclist Behavior: Forecasting their actions could save lives. Not all cyclists are experienced riders. They may not be aware of the traffic rules and dangers of the road.

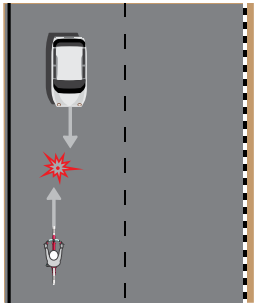


It is common for cyclist to avoid sand patches, potholes and puddles. This means that they appear to travel straight but suddenly swerves to your path at the last minute to avoid them.

Approaching a cyclist and if he turns his head to the left a few times. It could be that he intends to move to the left.

Cyclist on footpath and next moment approaches a roadway; he could be entering the roadway suddenly.

There are situations where cyclists' travels against the flow of traffic and even wobbling with a passenger on the bike. Of course, this not permitted.



At night or in darkness, you may encounter Cyclists without any lights and reflective vest. It is difficult to spot them. You must anticipate their actions and prevent collision.

5. Give Cyclists Safe Clearance: it is necessary for motorists to give bicycles on the road at one and half (1.5) meter of space. Cyclists really appreciate this comfort zone.

It gives cyclists that breathing room and it is best for drivers to pass them slowly and smoothly.

The motorist's tendency is to speed up and get by the cyclists as quickly as possible. It is quite nervous when you are on a bike and a car accelerates.

6. Group of cyclists. These cyclists may be riding a breast to each other or in a single line. Perhaps occasionally they may be overtaking one another.

Do not try to pass a group of cyclists without careful considerations particularly in these situations.

- When there is on-coming vehicle. Wait until the on-coming vehicle passes and it is clear ahead.
- In a blind turn or while approaching an uphill. Pass only when you have a clear view ahead.

7. Refrain from using the horn to the cyclists, except in emergencies.

When inside our vehicles, the horn seems a small matter because we are insulated from the outside world. However, when a cyclist riding pass at the moment, it can be very alarming and causes unexpected reaction from the rider. This can cause all sorts of accidents. Refrain from using the horn, unless necessary. Be calm and do not express your anger with it

8. Do Not Look at Your Phone:

On many occasions, the driver who have hit cyclists usually say: "I never saw him before I hit him."

We all know that under no circumstance should we be making phone calls or texting while behind the wheel. The slight distraction can cause not only risking the lives and safety of others but also to cyclists.

9. Use your indicator in good time.

Always use your indicators, as this not only helps other drivers but cyclists too.

Cyclists will not know your intended action if you do not warn them, so give them and all others the signals they need to stay safe.

10. Look Before You Leave Your Car:

When a rider pedaling along next to a row of parked cars, suddenly, a driver flings the door open. The impact can send the cyclist flying, and riders could have died when they have been thrown into traffic.

Before you open the door, look out the side view mirror on the driver side and be sure no one is approaching. While the driver can take a few seconds to look in the rear-view mirrors or a cyclist is approaching, a cyclist has no sure way to anticipate whether a driver inside a parked car is about to open the door.

In conclusion, drivers need to practice these general rules when approaching cyclists.

- Always obey the posted speed limit.
- Slow down and stop for cyclist at crosswalks.
- Yield to cyclists when turning.
- Be careful when passing them

Violations and Fines Related to using cycles

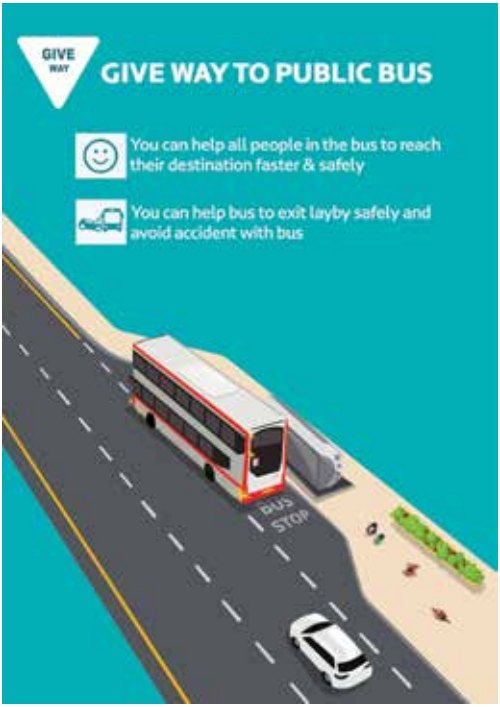
(Executive Council Resolution no. 13 of 2022 – Regulating the use of cycles in the Emirate of Dubai)

	Violations	Fines
1	Failure by a cyclist to comply with the obligations to ride his cycle only in the cycle lanes determined by the RTA	200.00
2	Riding a pedal cycle or an electric bike on a road with a speed limit of more than 60 kph	300.00
3	Riding a cycle in a manner that endangers life and safety of the cyclist or other persons	300.00
4	Riding or leaving a cycle on a lane designated for walking or jogging	200.00
5	Using an electric scooter, or any other type of cycles determined by RTA, without first obtaining a rider's permit	200.00
6	Carrying a passenger on a pedal cycle or an electric bike that is not fitted with the required equipment, or failure by a cyclist or passenger to wear the required vest or helmet	200.00
7	Failure to comply with the speed limits prescribed by the RTA for cycle lanes	100.00
8	Carrying a passenger on an Electric Scooter	300.00
9	Failure by a cyclist to meet the security and safety requirements stipulated in this resolution and the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof	200.00
10	Riding a bicycle which does not meet the technical requirements stipulated in this resolution and the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof	300.00
11	Parking at Other than the parking places designated for this purpose, or parking a cycle in a manner that obstructs the traffic of vehicles or pedestrians or in a manner that constitutes hazards to road users	200.00
12	Failure to comply with the instructions displayed on the information signs on roads and cycle lanes	200.00
13	Riding a pedal cycle by a person who is under the age of twelve (12) years without being accompanied by a cyclist who is aged at least eighteen (18) years.	200.00
14	Failure to dismount a cycle when on a pedestrian crossing	200.00
15	Failure by a cyclist to report to RTA, the Dubai Police or the ambulance service any accident caused or sustained by him which results in any injury or damage	300.00
16	Using the left-hand side of the road when riding a pedal cycle or an electric bike, or failure to ensure that road is clear before changing lanes	200.00
17	Riding against traffic	200.00
18	Parking or driving a vehicle, or attempting to obstruct traffic on a cycle lane	300.00
19	Having a cycle towed by a vehicle or using the cycle for towing	300.00
20	Failure by an entity, supervising group training to obtain the RTA's prior approval of the training	300.00 Per person
21	Undertaking independent training	100.00 per person

Bus & Taxi Lanes in Dubai

Priority Lanes for Public Transport Buses and Taxis

Roads & Transport Authority has taken bold steps in improving the mobility of public transportation in Dubai. Among those steps taken is the allocation of exclusive lanes for Dubai registered Public Transport Buses and Taxis. The only other vehicles allowed to use these exclusive lanes are the police cars, ambulance and other emergency services vehicles.



Locations of Exclusive Buses and Taxis Lanes

Currently, there are Eight(8)areas designated for exclusive use by buses and taxis.

- Al Khaleej Road
- Khalid Bin Waleed Road
- Al Ghubaiba Road
- Al Mina Road
- Naif Road
- Mamzar Interchange (Al Ittihad Road)
- Mankhool Road
- Jumeirah Lake Towers

These lanes are clearly marked and segregated by solid yellow lines on both sides of the lane close to the edge on the extreme right. Large Arabic and English text that read ONLY BUS TAXI. You will also see signs at the beginning and at the end of the designated bus and taxi lanes with blue background, white lines and white text that contain image of bus and taxi. At the bottom of the sign, it reads “Bus/Taxi Lane Begin or Bus/Taxi Lane End”.

Trucks and Buses

Trucks and buses are bigger, longer and heavier. They need longer distance to stop. Deal with them accordingly.

You need to know where a truck or bus driver's blind spots are:

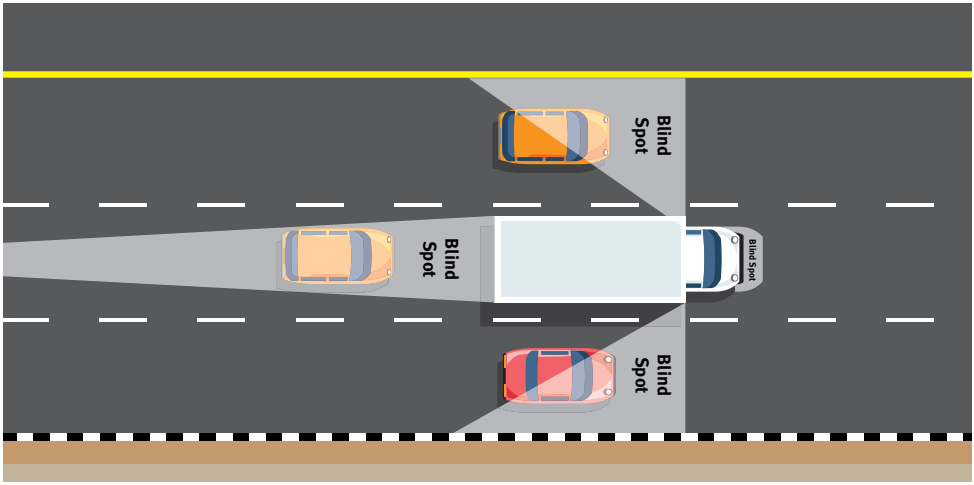
- Beside the truck's left door.
- Directly behind the truck for quite a distance – if you cannot see the truck driver in the truck's mirror, then the truck driver cannot see you.
- Immediately in front of the truck.

Avoid driving on a blind spot of a truck or bus driver. Move to a position well in front of or behind the truck or bus, where the driver can see you.

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must slow down or stop if necessary to allow the school buses or public buses to stop when passengers get in or get off the bus. You must not impede them or drive between them and the footpath.

(Article 66, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law, Number 21, 1995)



Stopping Distances

Avoid driving on a blind spot of a truck or bus driver. Move to a position well in front of or behind the truck or bus, where the driver can see you.

Trucks and Buses Turning

Be aware that a long vehicle, such as a truck or a bus, will need more room to turn and may take up more than one lane.

Do not attempt to overtake a truck or a bus on the inside that has indicated that it is turning right.

When a truck or any long vehicle is turning right at a sharp corner or into a gateway or driveway, it actually positions itself further towards the centre of the road than other vehicles would before it commences the turn.

Trucks on Roadside Shoulders

Be aware that slower trucks often use the roadside shoulder to allow other trucks to overtake them, but then need to move back into the traffic lanes. You need to watch out for this as other trucks may be blocking your vision. This is particularly the case along designated truck routes where truck traffic is heavy.

Overloading of Pick-up Trucks

Overloading upsets the balance of your vehicle, can seriously damage it and is dangerous for the driver, passengers and other road users. Overloading can cause your vehicle to tip over and spill its load on to the path of other vehicles, possibly causing a crash. It will also make the vehicle more difficult to control.

A truck is only as strong as its frame. Make sure that the load you carry is not more than the maximum weight the truck is designed to carry. The load includes the combined weight of occupants, cargo, options and additional equipment. Distribute your load evenly over the cargo area to avoid overloading axles. If any of the load is removed, re-check the distribution of the remaining load, as load shifting could cause an axle overload or the load to become insecure.

Take the Time to Secure Your Load

Do not rely on the weight of items to keep them in your truck. Bumps, turns and sudden stops can dislodge even heavy items such as furniture, tools, and equipment.

Never overload your vehicle. It will make it difficult to control and will increase the likelihood of a crash.

Consider buying a cover if you do not often haul large bulky items in your truck. It doesn't take long to secure a tarpaulin or cargo netting over a pickup truck bed. Not only do covers improve fuel economy and keep your goods clean and dry, they keep your load secure.

Modified Vehicles

Drivers should be aware that modified vehicles can be dangerous for drivers and passengers. For example, vehicles with raised suspension and over-size tyres can become unstable, difficult to brake and prone to rollovers. Other modifications pose similar risks. Auto manufacturers warn against modifications in owners' manuals, and some spare parts companies include warnings with their products.

Towing a Trailer

Towing a trailer will change the way your car performs. Acceleration will be slower and stopping will take longer, particularly when going downhill. The car may not go around bends as well and the trailer will cut in more on tight corners. Side winds and passing traffic (particularly large trucks) may affect stability as may bumps in the road. As a result, towing a trailer can be more stressful and tiring for the driver.

When towing a trailer you should:

- Avoid using fast lanes.
- Make sure that your trailer is fitted with brake lights and that they are in good working order.
- Maintain a greater space to the vehicle in front to allow for the longer stopping distance.
- Provide extra distance when overtaking other vehicles as this will take much longer.
- Select a lower gear on long or steep downhill grades to increase control and conserve the brakes.
- Avoid sudden lane changes or swerving to reduce the risk of the trailer developing uncontrolled sideways movement (sway).
- Not apply the brakes (except as an absolute last resort) if the trailer starts swaying.

If your trailer starts swaying a steady speed or slight acceleration should be maintained until the sway has ceased. Alternatively, if the trailer brakes can be applied independently, gentle application of the trailer brakes will restore stability.

Take more frequent rest breaks or driver changes, and check the condition of the car and trailer.

Overloading a trailer can cause serious injury or equipment damage.

Dubai Tram and Dubai Metro

Tram is a rail vehicle which runs on tracks along public urban streets. This is a great addition to the modern transport system of Dubai. To ensure safe and smooth movements of this tram, road users must observe the signs, markings and rules that are especially created to ensure safe operations of the tram.

Priority Tracks for Tram Movement

When dealing with a moving Tram, all road users including pedestrians must give priority to Tram movement. The only exceptions to this priority rule are emergency vehicles.

IMPORTANT RULE!

All users of the road shall give priority to the movement of the Tram in the Tram Right of Way. Exceptions to this rule:

- Emergency vehicles (fire engines, ambulances, police and civil defense vehicles)
- Official escorts
- Army vehicles when moving in convoy.
- Unless permitted by law,
- No person may obstruct a Tram in the Tram Right of Way.
- No person may carry out an activity in the vicinity of the Tramway which is likely to cause the obstruction of a Tram in a Tram Right of Way.

(Article (13) – Rights & Responsibilities of drivers of other vehicles and pedestrians)

Littering and Causing Obstructions to Tramway Line

Persons, road users or otherwise must refrain from any activity that may obstruct the movement of the Tram whether directly or indirectly.

IMPORTANT RULE!

No person may:

- Place or cause litter to be placed on the Tramway line.
- Put up advertising materials on the Tramway or in the vicinity of the Tramway other than advertising materials authorized in accordance with the law.
- Interfere with any infrastructure, except in emergency to avoid damage or injury.

Crossing and Entry Restrictions

Due to the nature of the Tram, pedestrians are restricted from crossing and/or entering Tramway lines except where permissions are clearly stated.

IMPORTANT RULE!

No pedestrian may cross the Tramway line except:

- At a clearly marked crossing point.
- In the area designated in accordance with a By-law under this Regulation as an area where crossing is allowed.
- No person may enter a restricted area unless that person has the valid prior authorization of an operator or some other legal right to enter.

Accidents with Tram

In the event accidents happen involving the Tram, those involved are required to remain at the scene.

IMPORTANT RULE!

Any pedestrian or driver of a vehicle other than a Tram who is involved in an accident must remain at the scene and await the relevant authorities, unless there is reasonable justification for the person to leave the scene, in which case the person shall report to the nearest police station as soon as practicable.

In case of minor accident (without serious damage to the tram or to the infrastructure of the Tramway and without serious injuries), the Dubai Police personnel will direct the persons involved to the Tramway depot for issuing the initial accident report.

Signs and Markings Related to Dubai Tram

Regulatory Signs

This sign indicates that the road or portion of the road ahead is set aside for trams only.

No other class of road users shall use the road or portion of the road indicated by this sign.

Warning Signs

TRAM OR RAILWAY CROSSING TO THE RIGHT	TRAM OR RAILWAY CROSSING TO THE LEFT	TRAM CROSSING AHEAD
These signs warn the driver of vehicles that if they intend to turn right or left they will cross a tram route or railway line. A supplementary plate may be attached below the signs indicating the distance to the tram or railway crossing		This sign warns the driver of vehicles that there is a tram route ahead and that trams may cross from right-to-left, or left-to-right. The plate below the sign indicating the distance to the tram crossing.

Tram or Railway Level Crossing

Single tram or railway line crossing over road

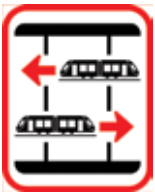
2 lines

Two or more tram or railway lines crossing over road.

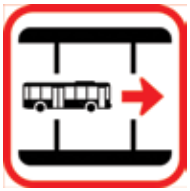
The plate below the sign displaying a text message such as "2

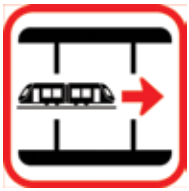
lines" indicating the actual number of lines to be crossed.

Pedestrian/Bus or Tram Crossing



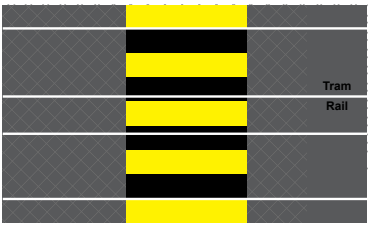
This signs warns pedestrians that they are about to cross a bus or tram right-of-way respectively. They must look in both directions, to right and left, to ensure that no trams or bus is approaching before proceeding to cross the tram or bus route.





A bus or tram route may involve a single loop line with one direction of travel. If it is intended that a single bus or tram line may be used in either direction, then this signs may be provided to indicate the actual direction of approach of the next bus or tram.

Regulatory Markings



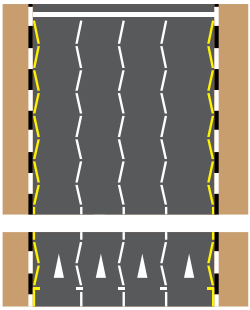
Tram Line Pedestrian Crossing

This marking warns pedestrians wishing to cross one or more tram lines to be aware of the direction from which a tram may approach, observe any pedestrian traffic signals and cross line(s) with caution.

Pedestrian Safety near the Dubai Tram

The tram runs on ground level so stay alert to approaching trams. As you approach the station, pay attention to the tram signals. The tram also has priority on the roads, so pay attention to the tram signals, Keep a safe distance at all times, the track may not look wide but the tram here is. Look for designated pedestrian crossing points when crossing the tram tracks Avoid using headphones or talking on your mobile phones near the tracks as they may distract you follow instructions from tram officials, they know what's best for you.

Tram Line Pedestrian Crossing



Zig-Zag Zone Line marking is used to inform drivers of specific zones where it is mandatory that:

- They shall not stop or park their vehicles adjacent to the line marking, EXCEPT to give right of way to pedestrians and or cyclists at a pedestrian and/or cyclist crossing, or to stop behind such other vehicle(s) as are complying with this mandatory requirement; AND
- They shall not change lanes within such zig-zag zone; AND it informs pedestrians and/or cyclists that they shall not cross a zig-zag zone except at PEDESTRIAN CROSSING.

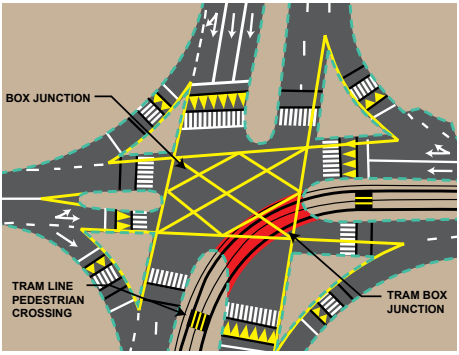
Tram Box Junction

Tram Box junction shall consists of a continuous red surface area including tram line(s) alignment across the road way.

It may be located at a signalized junction, normally in junction with BOX JUNCTION located over the road junction. It may also be located at un-signalised accesses where crossing of the lines may occur.

Tram Box Junction informs drivers of vehicles that they shall not enter the colored surface box unless the exit from it is clear.

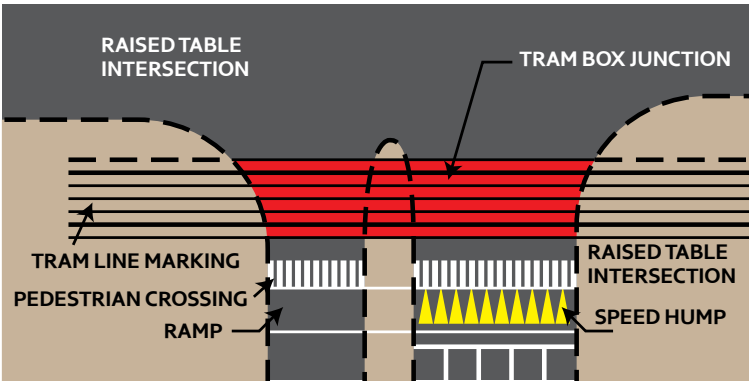
Drivers, whose vehicles enter the box marking when other stationary vehicles are preventing them from leaving it, are committing an offence.



Drivers Safety Near Dubai Tram

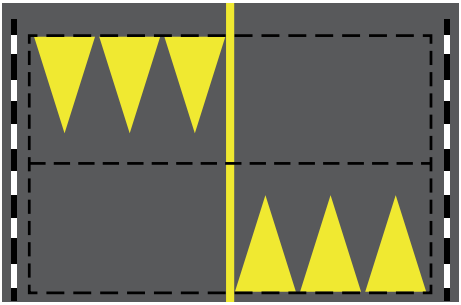
You must not stop or park your vehicle where it could get in the way of a tram or other drivers Do not enter a junction when traffic lights are yellow or red - doing so is a serious and punishable offence. As trams have their own signals, be extra careful where the tram crosses a road.

Always give way to trams when they signal to pull away from stations or at intersections Look out for pedestrians, especially children running to catch the tram or getting off a bus.



Warning Markings

Warning pavement markings warn road users of the existing hazardous or potentially hazardous conditions. Warning markings do not carry a mandatory requirement for specific action. However, these markings do convey a message of warning and willful disregards of those warnings may constitute a violation when road users fail to maintain adequate and safe control of their vehicle.



Speed Hump Marking

This is to warn drivers of the presence of a speed hump in the roadway.

The SPEED HUMP marking comprise of yellow triangular areas arranged at the entry up slope of the speed hump and the long axes of the triangle are aligned in the direction of travel.

The RAISED TABLE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING is usually combined with the SPEED HUMP marking.

Railway or Tram Level Crossing Ahead

This marking is to provide warning to drivers that the lane in which they are traveling is about to cross railway or tram line(s), or that after turning from the lane in which they are traveling they will cross railway or tram line(s).

Driver should exercise high degree of care and

Important Traffic Sign for Tram

Offence: Causing an accident leading to death

Fine: Up to AED 30,000 plus withdrawal of driving license for up to 1 year

Offence: Causing an accident leading to bodily injury

Fine: Up to AED 15,000 plus suspension of driving license for up to 6 months

Offence: Driving through a stop (red) light without causing an accident

Fine: Up to AED 5,000 plus suspension of driving license for up to 3 months

Parking under the metro viaducts (bridges) is illegal. Your vehicle may be towed.

Don't park here, park and ride instead.

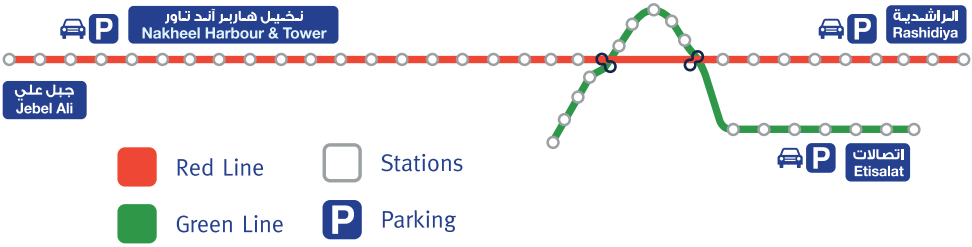
Park for free at Nakheel Harbour, Rashidiya or Etisalat and ride the metro

Park and Ride.

Using the Metro is easier than ever. With over 5,700 parking spaces at Nakheel Harbour & Tower, Green line and RED line, you can just leave your car behind. Along with the traffic.

Facebook:
Road and Transport Authority Dubai – Group

YouTube:
www.youtube.com/rtadubaigov



Part 5: **Rules and Responsibilities**

Being a Responsible Driver

Driving a vehicle comes with important responsibilities to ensure the safety of all road users. It is critical that you understand the road rules contained in this section. This handbook provides you with the basis for preparing to be a safe driver with the assistance of your driving instructor. Put this knowledge into practice and you will be setting a good example to other drivers and assist in improving overall road safety in Dubai.

An important part of being a responsible driver is driving courteous and respectful to other road users.

Disciplined Driving

Driving is a complex task. You are interacting with many other road users, particularly when you are driving in busy cities, such as Dubai. Safety depends on driving in an orderly, disciplined way.

Planning

You need to know in advance where you are going before you start your journey. Spend some time planning your route so that you know what turns you should be taking and what lanes you should be traveling in.

Observing

Once you know where you should be going, keep an eye out for landmarks and most importantly directional signs. These will tell you well in advance what lane you should be traveling in to make your next turn. Many of these signs are positioned close together, so anticipate where they are likely to be and be ready to look at them closely.

Making Decisions Early

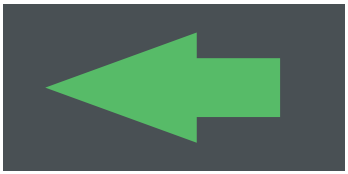
When you have noticed a sign which lets you know the correct lane for your journey, make sure that you start positioning your vehicle in that lane as soon as you can.

Thinking Carefully

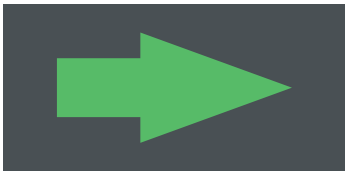
Think carefully as you approach intersections or roundabouts with or without traffic lights. Correct positioning is very important depending on your intended direction. The best position is one that requires minimal or no lane changes as you make your turns towards your planned route.

Signal Your Moves

When turning or changing lanes, first check and confirm safety then use the indicators. Use indicators at the right time and the right place for the benefit of other road users. Indicators must be turned off once turn is complete. This will avoid confusion with other drivers. Remember that not using indicator properly is violation of the UAE traffic law.



Left Signal



Right Signal

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must drive carefully to prevent exposing other vehicles to any harm. You must indicate clearly your desire of changing direction by using the vehicle indicators when leaving or entering traffic, changing lanes right or left, turning right or left, making a U turn or reversing.

You must ensure that you do not expose yourself or others to danger Take into consideration all other road users

Let other road users know of your intention of changing lanes by hand signals or with the vehicle indicators

(Article 59, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Typical situations where you must use your indicators include:

- Turning to the right or left. Changing lanes.
- Overtaking. Making U-turns.
- Driving into and out of parking spots. Leaving a roundabout.
- Moving into or out of a parking bay.

Look out for the indicators of other vehicles to see what they are doing and react accordingly.

Using Your Brake Lights

Every time you push down on the brake pedal, brake lights get activated telling other drivers you are slowing down or stopping. In the same way, watch out for the brake lights of the vehicle in front and react accordingly. Be safe and give lots of warning by braking early and slowing gradually.

Ensure that your indicator is turned off after you have made your turn or lane change. It may not turn off by itself. If it is left on, other drivers will think you are going to turn. Use indicators even if you think there is no-one else around. You may not have seen someone and it could be dangerous if you do not use your indicators.

Using Your Headlights and Tail Lights

Headlights and tail lights help others to see you in poor light conditions. Your headlights and tail lights must be on between sunset and sunrise. They must also be on in dangerous weather conditions, such as fog, rain, smoke or sand storms, where it is hard for other drivers to see you.

Using Emergency Signals

If your vehicle breaks down on the road, make sure other drivers can see your vehicle and are able to stop in time.

Turn on your hazard lights to warn other drivers. Lift your bonnet or boot lid to show other drivers that you are in trouble.

If possible, pull right out of the traffic flow. If you cannot get right off the road, try to stop where people can easily see you and your vehicle. Do not stop just over a hill or just around a curve if it can be avoided.

Always use your hazard lights to warn other drivers. This is particularly important on higher speed roads such as freeways, where drivers need plenty of warning so that they can take action to avoid your vehicle. In these situations you and any passengers should not sit in your vehicle while you are waiting for assistance, even though it may be very hot outside. Staying in your vehicle could be very dangerous if another vehicle is unable to avoid you and crashes into your stationary car. To remain safe, you and any passengers should stand as far away as possible from traffic. Do not stand in front of your vehicle.

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must use either spot lights or a three-dimensional warning triangle when parking at night if the road is not equipped with street lights or the visibility is poor.

(Article 64, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995

You must use a reflective triangle or spot lights to warn other drivers. Once your vehicle is positioned safely, or can no longer be moved, you should place a warning triangle 50m away from your vehicle in the direction from where traffic is approaching.

Warning Others of Your Approach

Your horn is a form of signal. It is an important form of communication. However, it must be used sensibly. You must only use your horn if it is necessary to warn other road users of the approach or position of your vehicle. There are signs which tell you not to use your horn in some areas. It is not to be used near hospitals, schools, worship places or in a local area between 12.00am and 6.00am.

What are Road Rules?

This section of the handbook will help you to learn the road rules. Read it when you are preparing for your test. Then go back and read the handbook again when you are having driving lessons, and again when you have obtained your license.

Road rules are traffic laws that are there to help you and other road users stay safe on the roads. Knowing the rules of driving is very important and you must obey them. There are many hazards when driving. If you are not careful, you could crash or someone could crash into you, leading to serious injury or death

IMPORTANT RULE!

The provisions of the law are applicable to all road users. You must obey the laws and rules of the road.

(Article 2, UAE Federal Traffic By-Law Number 21, 1995)

Road Signs

Road signs provide visual information to help control and regulate the flow of traffic and help to keep you and other road users safe.

This is very important in Dubai as:

- Road networks are becoming more complex.
- Traffic volumes are increasing.
- High number of visitors in Dubai may be unfamiliar with the area.

Road signs are placed on, over or next to a public road where they:

- Fulfill an important need. Command attention.
- Provide a clear and simple message.
- Provide sufficient time for road users to respond appropriately.

IMPORTANT RULE!

Every road user must respect the traffic regulations and standards, follow the signs, signals and instructions of the police officer and behave cautiously, so his conduct will not harm others, expose them to danger or block their movement.

(Article 1, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Road signs provide information to road users in three ways:

- As a regulation or road law (which must be obeyed by law).
- As a warning.
- As a guide.

Regulatory Signs

Regulatory signs are used to control the actions of road users. They tell you what you must or must not do. Failure to obey a sign is an offence.

The types of regulatory signs are:

- **Control signs** – show right of way priority or direction of travel.
- **Mandatory signs** – indicate actions that must be taken.
- **Prohibitory signs** – indicate prohibited actions or objects.
- **Parking control signs** – regulate parking and stopping.
- **Freeway control signs** – indicate roads classified as freeways.

You are breaking the law if you do not follow these signs. The only exception is when a police officer is directing traffic and he must be obeyed. Regulatory signs can be blue and white or red and white.

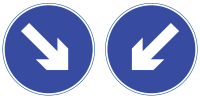
Control signs

Control signs are used to assign right of way priority or direction of travel. Here are some examples of control signs:

You must give way to pedestrians	You must give way	You must not enter this road	You must stop
Give way to cyclists	**You must go this way**	**You must go this way**	**You must go this way**

Mandatory Signs

Mandatory signs are used to indicate to road users actions which they must take. Here are some examples of mandatory signs:

Ahead only	Turn right only	Pass either side	Keep right Keep left
			
60km/h minimum speed limit – freeway	Roundabout. Travel in the direction of the arrow	Buses Shall Keep Right (Use of Qualification Plate)	Road for buses use only
Reserved for Buses or Buses	Taxis Only	Goods Vehicle Only	Goods Vehicles with maximum 10 tonnes
Switch Head Lamps On	Cars Only	Pedestrians Only	Road is shared with cyclists
Cyclists Only	Pedestrians and Cyclists	Pedestrians and Cyclists– Segregated	Cycle Lanes Only

Prohibitory Signs

These signs are used to indicate to road users actions that they must not take, or which are prohibited. Here are some examples of prohibitory signs:

You must not turn left	You must not turn right	You must not exceed 80km/h speed limit	You must not overtake
No Hazardous Materials	No Goods Vehicles	No Pedestrians	No Cyclists
Prohibition of vehicles exceeding the maximum gross weight indicated	No 'U'turn	You must not use your horn	Maximum Height Limits
No overtaking	No Goods Vehicles exceeding 10	Maximum Length 15m	No entry for buses
No taxis allowed	Axle Mass Load Limit - 2 tonnes	No Motorcycles	No Goods Vehicles During Certain Times (Use of Qualification Plate)

Parking Control Signs

These signs are used to control and regulate stopping and parking, where you may park or must not park or stop and provide time restrictions. They may be referred to as 'no stopping' sign. You must not park in this area, even if you are sitting in the vehicle. Here are some examples of parking

Parking is limited to the times shown

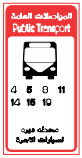
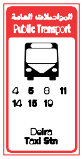
Tow Away Zone (For Illegal Parking)	Parking Time Limit		Parking for People of Determination (Disabled	Parking for Bicycles

Parking for the People of Determination (Disabled)

The blue sign below shows an area reserved for parking by People of Determination (Disabled). The parking bay will also be marked. People of Determination (Disabled) must obtain a permit and display this. If you do not have a permit, you must not park in People of Determination (Disabled) parking spaces.

Parking area for People of Determination (Disabled) drivers only	Meter Parking on Right Side

Parking Prohibitions

These areas are reserved for taxis only.	These areas are reserved for Public Transport Buses (Bus Stops)		These areas are reserved for vehicles that are loading or unloading at specific times. Unless you are driving a commercial vehicle and are loading or unloading you must not park here during those times.	
				

No Stopping

These signs tell you that you must not stop at the curb for any reason. You must obey the signs.

You must not wait or park in the areas shown by the arrow(s).	You must not wait or park in the areas shown by the arrow(s) during the times shown on the sign.

Freeway Control Signs

Freeway control signs are used to indicate to road users which roads are classified as a freeway. They show the start and end of freeways.

The beginning of a freeway	The end of a freeway

Important Rules on Freeway:

Beginning of Freeway Sign shall mean that "Except in case of Emergency", no person shall:

- Operate a non-motorized vehicle on or near the freeway. Be on foot on or near the freeway.
- Stop or reverse a vehicle on the roadway.
- Stop, park or drive on a shoulder, median or roadside area.
- Drive at a speed less than 30 kph less than the prevailing/posted speed limit on the freeway.
- End of Freeway sign removes all the above restrictions.

Warning Signs

Warning sings alert road users to potentially hazardous conditions. Sometimes these hazards are hidden. Warning signs are divided into 3 groups:

- Advance warning signs
- Hazard marker signs
- Diagrammatic warning signs

Advance Warning Signs

These signs provide road users with an early warning of hazards or por potential hazards.

Traffic signals ahead	Give way sign ahead	Stop sign ahead	Junction ahead (you will merge with other traffic)
Roundabout ahead	Bicycles crossing ahead	T-intersection ahead (you will need to stop)	Intersection ahead (slow down and prepare to stop)
Pedestrian crossing ahead	Two-way traffic	Maximum headroom at hazard ahead	Beware edge way soft

Advance Warning Signs

Dual carriageway ends (two lanes join – beware of oncoming traffic)	Curve in the road to the left (slow down)	Curve in the road to the right (slow down)	Curves or bends in the road (drive carefully)
Low flying aircraft ahead (do not be distracted)	U Turn ahead	High Voltage overhead cable ahead	Opening bridge ahead
Road works ahead	Tunnel	Quayside or river bank ahead	Loose chippings
Slippery Road	Speed Hump	Risk of falling rocks	

Advance Warning Signs

Two-way traffic crosses one-wayroad ahead	Road narrows onthe left ahead	Road narrows onboth sides ahead	Right lane ends ahead
Other dangers ahead	Uneven road	Diversion to oppositecarriageway ahead	Left-hand laneclosed ahead
No through road	Steep hill downwards ahead	Steep hill upwards ahead	Right-hand lane closed ahead
Maximum Headroom	U-Turn Ahead - Except for Heavy Vehicles	Maximum length with	Maximum Width

Tram or Railway Crossing to the Right	Tram or Railway Crossing to the Left	Railway Crossing Ahead	A Road may be closed by a Gate

Uphill – Slow Moving Vehicles	Downhill – Slow Moving Vehicles	Sand Dunes Ahead	Crosswind Ahead

High Visibility Warning Sign Combinations of oversized signs for locations with extreme hazards and documented high crash rates. Maximum Speed at 40kph. Children Crossing Ahead	Dead End Chevron

Take extra care when driving near schools, especially at times when children are arriving to start the school day or leaving at the end of the day.

IMPORTANT RULE!
You must slow down when passing schools.
(Article 39, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic law Number 21, 1995)

Children do not have a strong sense of road safety, especially when they are very young. They may cross the road without looking or may already be crossing as you approach. Be aware of the speed limit in the area. It is likely to be lower than the surrounding roads. Flashing lights will also tell you that you are approaching a school.

A sign showing a picture of an animal, such as a camel, warns drivers that animals may be on the road. The symbol on these signs may also represent sheep or goats. Domestic animals are regularly herded across roadways and temporary signs may be displayed leading up to the area where the animals will cross.

Slow down when you see these signs and watch out for animals on the road. Leave as much space as possible to allow for their unexpected movements.

Never use your car horn around animals – it may frighten them and could cause them to run and cause a crash.

Hazard Marker Signs

Hazard marker signs identify physical hazards, such as a bridge structure, guardrails or traffic islands. The signs below provide some examples of hazard marker signs.

Hazard Plate	Hazard Marker	Single Chevron Right	Single Chevron Left

Multiple Chevron Right	Multiple Chevron Left	T-Junction Chevron

Diagrammatic Warning Signs

These signs are used where the triangular advance warning sign does not allow enough room for a picture, or are not big enough to draw attention to the hazard ahead.

They are usually on high speed roads and fall into the following general categories:

- Traffic movement is affected by an obstruction (the obstruction may be real or anticipated)
- An additional lane is ahead
- The use of the lane is regulated (for example a lane for trucks only) Lanes merge

Here are some examples of diagrammatic warning signs:

Right lane closure ahead	Additional lane added	Lane use is controlled (trucks not permitted in left lane)	Five lanes merging to four lanes
Lane use control directional restriction	Beginning/End of median	Beginning/End Median	Joining lanes
Joining Lanes	Sharp curve lanes ahead	Sharp curve lanes ahead	Sharp curve lanes ahead

Guide Signs

Guide signs provide direction. They include information about route numbers, street names and destinations and are generally in both Arabic and English. These signs:

- Enable drivers to find their destinations.
- Avoid confusing drivers with too much information.
- Present drivers with predictable information.
- Give drivers advance notice so that directional changes can be made safely.

The colors that are used in the background of guide signs are:

- **Blue** – located on national routes and include the Emirates route emblem.
- **Green** – located on local Dubai routes and include the Dubai route emblem.
- **White** – these show local points, roads or destinations.
- **Brown** – provide additional information including symbols to describe the destination.

The signs below are examples of the emblems used on guide signs:

Emirates route emblem

Dubai route emblem

Trailblazing Guide Signs

Trailblazing signs have distinctive and recognizable symbols on them and are placed along a route to guide and reassure drivers that they are on the correct road to reach their required destination. This is known as 'trailblazing'. A picture of an aeroplane is an example of a trailblazing symbol.

Trailblazing signs are only used in certain destinations. There are six types of trailblazing guide signs used in Dubai:

Dubai routes	City Centre Central Business District:-	Emirates routes
Dubai International Airport	**Freeways**	**Tourist destination descriptions**

Exit Directions Signs

The sign below is an example of an advance guide sign including the route emblems, trailblazing symbols and directional information. The meaning of the sign is explained below.

To Umm Suqeim. Turn left.	To Jumeira, via Dubai route 94. Drive straight ahead.	To Umm Suqeim and Umm Al Sheif, via Emirates route 11, turn right.

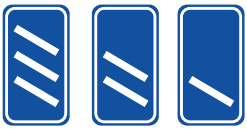
The signs below are examples of exit directions sign to guide drivers on the proper lanes to take prior to exit.

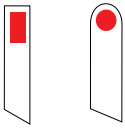
The white exit panel means that particular lane is to be dropped and is moving away from the main line carriage way.

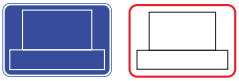
Two Lane Exit: With one Lane Drop: Two Exit Route Numbers	Two Lane Exit: With Two Lane Dropped: Two Exit Route Numbers

Other important Traffic Signs

No turning for lorries	Road clear	No through road	Priority over vehicles from opposite direction

Parking	Hospital	300m 200m 100m Count-down markers	Supplementary information signs (normally with sign No.212)
			

Parking for Diplomat Cars Only	Diversion of traffic route	Other supplementary information signs	Reflective marker posts indicating edge of carriage way
			

Authorized Vehicle Only	Qualification Plate signs	No Cyclist	Pick & Drop Only
			

Lane ahead open	Lane ahead closed	Reduce speed now

Reservation Signs

Lane Reserve for high Occupancy Vehicle (HOV)	Lane Reserved for Cyclists	Road is reserved for construction vehicles	Buses Only or Reserved for Bus

Comprehensive Signs

End of Tunnel	Beginning of Neighborhood	End of Neighborhood

Multiple Regulatory High Visibility Signs

Road Markings

Road markings provide visual information to road users to help control and regulate the flow of traffic. As with roads signs, road markings help to keep you and other road users safe on the road and must be obeyed where required.

Road markings will be either yellow or white.

There are three types of road markings:

- Regulatory – these road markings must be obeyed by law.
- Warning – these road markings should be observed appropriately as they serve as warnings of hazardous driving conditions ahead.
- Guidance – these road markings help guide your travel.

IMPORTANT RULE!

Every road user must respect the traffic regulations and standards, follow the signs, signals and instructions of the police officer and behave cautiously, so his conduct will not harm others, expose them to danger or block their movement.

(Article 1, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic law Number 21, 1995)

Regulatory Road Markings

These road markings tell you what actions you can or cannot do. They will be either white or yellow.

You must obey these road markings. You are breaking the law if you do not.

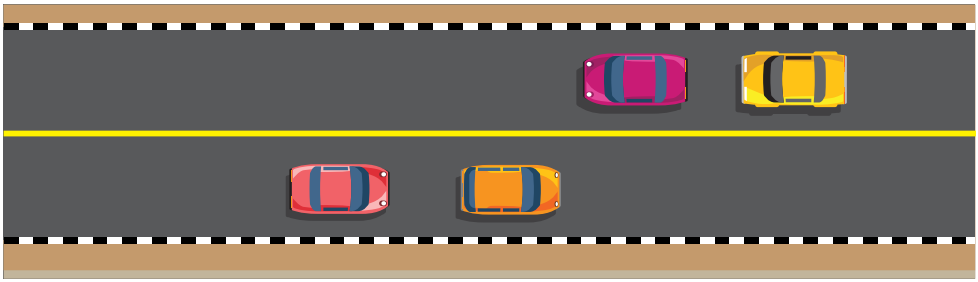
IMPORTANT RULE!

You must not cross a single solid line on the road which is dividing traffic.

(Article 58, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic law Number 21, 1995)

No Passing Line

This is a solid line on the road as shown in the diagram below. You must not cross this line to overtake another vehicle or to turn (except in the case of an emergency).



Stop Line

If you are approaching an intersection with a Stop sign or traffic signals, you will also have a white Stop line painted across your lane. In the case of a Stop sign and Stop line, you must come to a complete stop before the line. In the case of traffic signals and a Stop line, you must not cross this line unless you have a green traffic signal. Always make sure the intersection is clear and it is safe to proceed before doing so.

Give Way Line

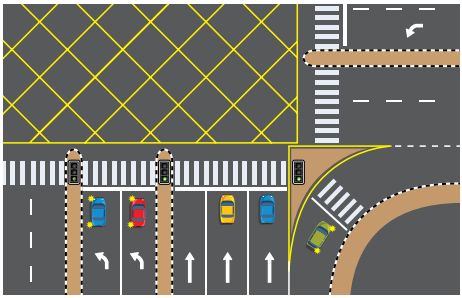
Where there is a Give Way sign, there will also be a broken white line across the path of approaching traffic. You must 'Give Way' to any vehicle or pedestrian crossing your path. Slow down and stop if necessary to avoid a collision. Always make sure the intersection is clear and it is safe to

IMPORTANT RULE!

a pedestrian crossing indicated by road markings and traffic lights or a police officer. If you are not allowed to pass, you must stop before the crossing, and when the signals indicate that you may go, you must wait until the crossing is clear. Where there are no pedestrian crossing signals or police officers at a crossing, you must slow down while approaching and give the way to pedestrians.

(Article 35, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

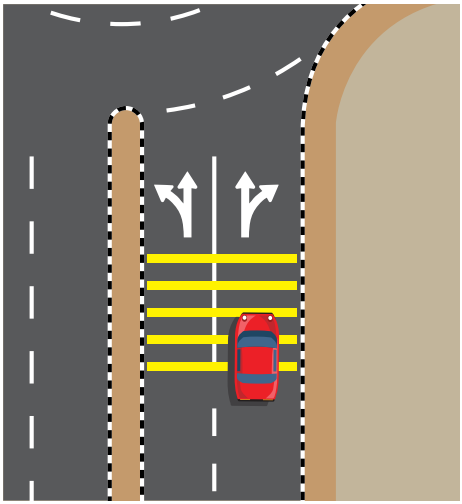
Pedestrian Crossings



Pedestrian crossings are marked with thick white lines across the crossing to make the crossing clearly visible to pedestrians and drivers. You must give way to pedestrians crossing at a pedestrian crossing.

Box Junctions

Large intersections are marked with a large yellow box with diagonal squares. This is known as a box junction. It is to indicate to drivers that they must not block the intersection when traffic is heavily congested. Signs will warn drivers not to queue across the intersection.



Warning Road Markings

Warning road markings advise drivers of potentially hazardous conditions.

Rumble Strips

Lines painted on raised strips across the road, known as 'rumble strips', warn drivers that they are approaching a hazard such as a roundabout or pedestrian crossing. Drivers can see the rumble strips, hear a rumble and feel a vibration if they drive over them. This acts as a warning and is helpful for drivers on a long drive, who may be feeling tired or sleepy if they have not had a rest.

Speed Humps

Broken yellow lines completely across the full width of the road and shoulder warn motorists that there is a speed hump in the roadway. Speed hump warning signs will be used to give advance warning about the speed hump.

Be alert for pedestrians, as they may use this as a crossing point.

Guidance Road Markings

These road markings help drivers understand the paths vehicles should follow through intersections or roundabouts.

Lines in the Centre of the Road

Many roads are painted with broken white lines or single continuous lines in the centre of the road. Stay in your lane and be aware of what you can and cannot do when you are faced with these lines. Here are some examples.

Broken Yellow Lines

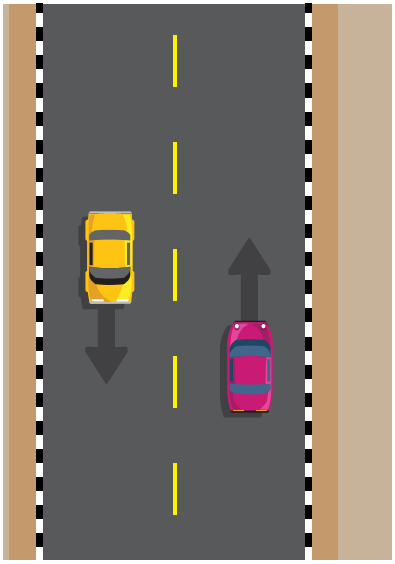
If you are driving on an undivided road where there are two lanes in opposite directions, the broken lines down the centre of the road will be painted yellow. Keep to the right of the lines and drive close to the right side of the road. Take care when you cross these lines and only do so if the road ahead is clear and it is safe to do so.

In some areas of the UAE, two way roads will have white broken lines, so be aware when you drive and remember to treat these white lines in the same way as if they were yellow broken lines.

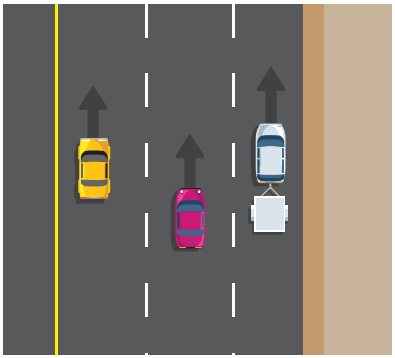
Broken White Lines

Broken white lines separate two or more lanes of traffic traveling in the same direction. Drive your vehicle completely within one lane.

You will also notice longer white broken lines (or longitudinal white lines). These lines are used in areas where changing or crossing lanes is not permitted, for example when you are approaching an intersection or pedestrian crossing.

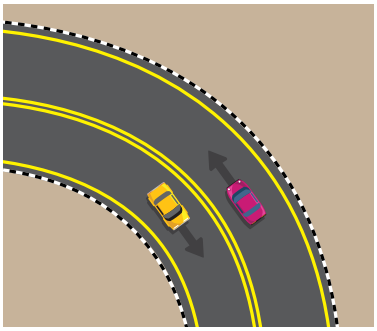


In some areas of the UAE, two way roads will have white broken lines, so be aware when you drive and remember to treat these white lines in the same way as if they were yellow broken lines.



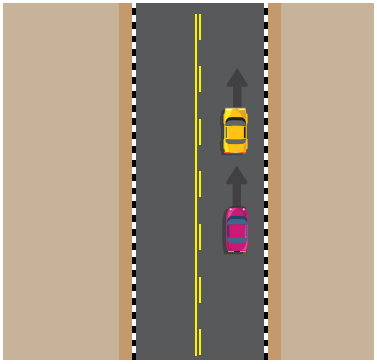
Solid Lines – Single or Double

You must always keep to the right of these lines. You must not cross a double yellow line in the centre of the road. You will see these lines in areas that are particularly hazardous (for example, around a bend where you cannot see the traffic approaching from the opposite direction).



Double Yellow Lines, Solid on One Side and Broken on the Other

You can only cross these lines to overtake another vehicle, or to enter or leave the road, if the broken line is on your side. You must not cross these lines if the solid line is on your side.

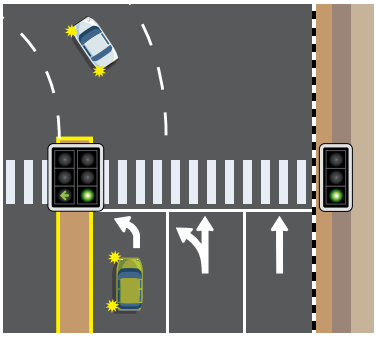


Traffic Lane Arrows

Arrows are painted on the road in the middle of lanes at some intersections. They show the direction in which traffic in these lanes must travel.

Traffic Control at Intersections

Your driving experience in Dubai will include traveling through many intersections, both large and small. These intersections will be controlled by traffic signals or signs or, in the case of a blackout, may not have traffic signals or signs operating. Some intersections, such as those with large roundabouts, have flashing yellow signals to warn drivers of the danger and to tell them to be particularly careful.

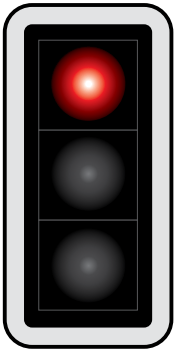


IMPORTANT RULE!

If there is not a policeman organising traffic, or any traffic sign for the same purpose on junctions or crossroads, the priority of crossing must be given to vehicles coming from a main road. Where there is a roundabout, priority shall be given to whoever is coming from the left.

(Article 6, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Traffic Control Signals

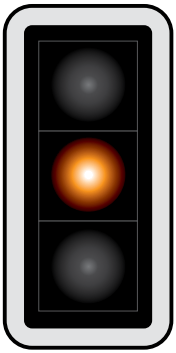


Traffic signals regulate the flow of traffic by giving priority to different traffic streams, including pedestrian road users.

However, as we have learned, many drivers and other road users make mistakes, so you need to stay alert at any intersections, even those controlled by traffic signals.

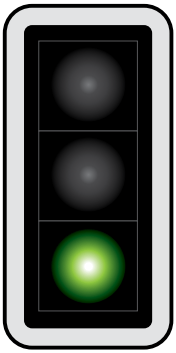
You must obey the traffic signals.

A red signal means you must STOP. Do not enter the intersection.



In Dubai, GREEN traffic lights will blink a few times before turning to YELLOW and then to RED. With blinking green light, you are not yet obliged to stop. It simply inform drivers that yellow light will follow very shortly. Depending on your speed and distance from the traffic light, you decide whether to stop or proceed. If you decide to stop because you can see that the exit is already blocked, avoid sudden stops so that the vehicle following you gets plenty of warning.

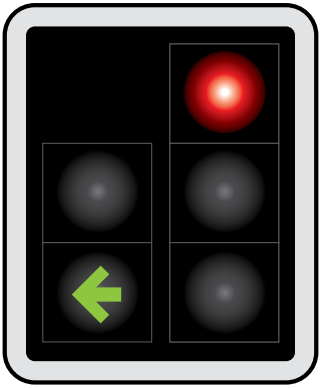
If you decide to proceed, make sure you are not crossing the red light or cause the intersection to be blocked.



Once the light turns GREEN at an intersection, confirm that other vehicles from other direction are stopped or are stopping before proceeding. Other drivers may run the RED light and hit you as you accelerate. Proceed on GREEN only if safe to do so.

Traffic lights with arrows make turns easier, because:

- You must stop if the arrow pointing in the direction you want to go is red.
- You may proceed through the intersection if the arrow pointing in the direction you want to go is green, if it is safe to do so and there is space for you on the other side.



Traffic Control Signs

Stop and Give Way signs are used for safety control at many intersections and other places. These signs must be obeyed. Roads are also marked with Stop and Give Way lines.

You must give way.	You must stop
Give Way means you must slow down or if necessary to give way to vehicles or pedestrians to avoid a crash	

Do not force your way in. Remember, safety is more important than priority.

Speed Limits

Speed limit signs tell you the maximum and, in some cases, the minimum speeds you can drive when driving condition is good.

Current Dubai rules for speed limits are as follows, unless you see a sign that tells you otherwise:

- Parking area or service road - 25km/h. Urban single carriageway - 40 km/h.
- Urban dual carriageway - 60km/h or 80km/h (as signed).
- Rural roads - 100k/mh.
- Freeways - 120km/h (light vehicles), 80km/h (heavy vehicles). Minimum speed 60km/h.

You must choose what is the safest speed within the limit and the driving conditions you are faced with.

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must not drive a vehicle at a rate of speed greater than the one shown on the sign. Respect the speed limit in any situation and be capable of slowing down and stopping safely.

(Article 38, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Note: Posted speed limits on the road are overruled by speed limits shown on the Variable Message Sign (VMS) on that same road

Giving Way to Pedestrians

People living in Dubai come from all corners of the world. Some pedestrians may actually look at the wrong direction when crossing the roads. This might be because they are used to cars coming from the right side of the road instead of left side. The rate of pedestrian fatalities in Dubai is high.

Pedestrian Traffic Signals

As a road user, pedestrians must obey the pedestrian traffic signals. As a driver, you need to watch out if pedestrians do not obey the traffic signals. Be careful of pedestrians who try to beat the traffic signals and cross when it is not safe for them to do so.

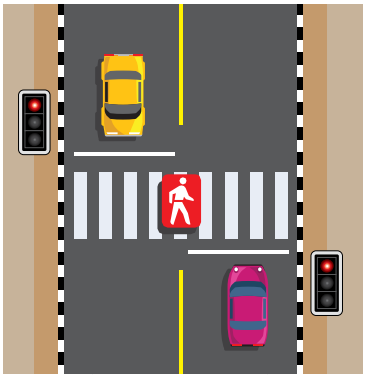
IMPORTANT RULE!

Drivers must always give way to pedestrians who are crossing the road you are turning into.

(Article 36, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law No 21, 1995)

At Pedestrian Crossings

Flashing yellow lights are used at some pedestrian crossings. When you are faced with a flashing yellow light, proceed with caution and look out for pedestrians who may want to cross the road. The lights will change to red when the pedestrian approaches



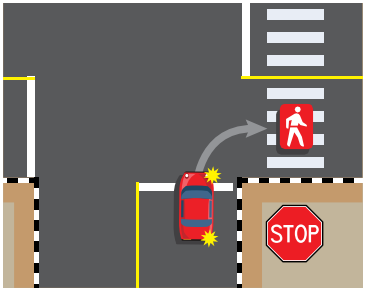
IMPORTANT RULE!

You must slow down while approaching a pedestrian crossing indicated by road markings and traffic lights or where a police officer is controlling movement of traffic.

In the case that there are neither signals nor police officers, you must stop and give way to pedestrians.

(Article 35, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

At Intersections



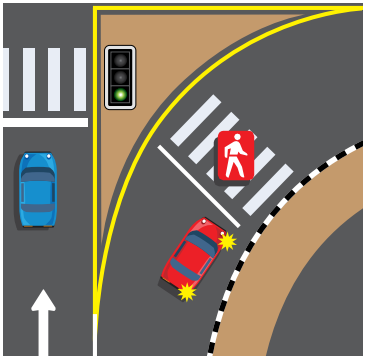
IMPORTANT RULE!

When turning left or right at any intersection, you must give way to any pedestrians crossing the road you are turning into.

(Article 36, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

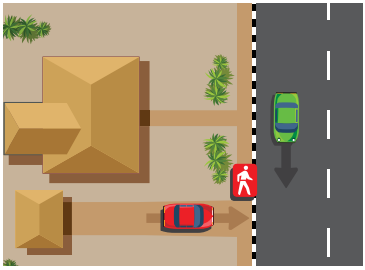
In Slip Lanes

You must give way to pedestrians using a crossing on a slip lane.



A slip lane is an area of road for vehicles turning right that is separated from other parts of the road by a traffic island.

On the Footpath



IMPORTANT RULE!

You must give way to pedestrians who are walking on a footpath if you are going to turn across it.

(Article 36, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Turning

Plan early whether turning or changing lanes. Decide in advance the correct position your vehicle needs to be in prior to the turn or lane change. Remember to confirm all around safety and use your indicators correctly.

Remember to confirm safety and use indicators when making the turn. Look for safe gap among other vehicles, do not force your way in. This will avoid conflict with other drivers.

Making Left Turns on Single Lane Roads Without Traffic Lights

Approach the intersection as close to the centre of the road as possible.

If there is a Stop sign or line, or a Give Way sign or line, at the intersection you must give way to any vehicle in or entering the intersection, or coming towards you except:

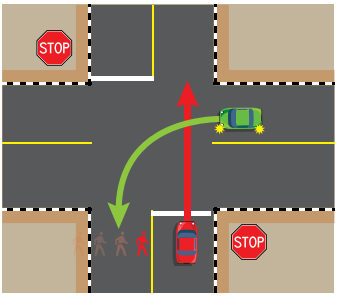
- A vehicle turning right using a slip lane
- A vehicle coming towards you which is turning left if that vehicle is also facing a Stop or Give Way sign or line.

If there is no Stop or Give Way signs or lines the following rule applies.

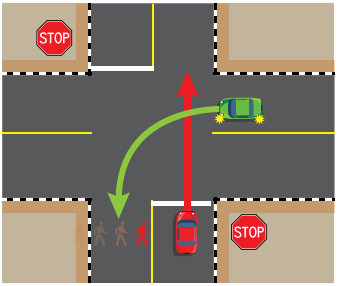
When the road is clear, turn just left of the centre of the intersection.

Be careful and keep scanning for hazards. On-coming traffic making a left turn may be blocking your view of other traffic coming through the intersection, if you are also making a left turn. Make sure that the road

is clear before you complete the turn. You must also give way to pedestrians crossing the road that you are turning into.



Red vehicle must stop and give way to **green vehicle**, which is not facing a Stop or Give Way sign



The turning **Green vehicle** must give way to the pedestrian

IMPORTANT RULE!

When the movement of traffic is not controlled by signs or police officers, you must give way to:
The vehicle coming from the left if the roads are of equal classification.
The vehicles coming from a main road to a minor road.

(Article 36, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

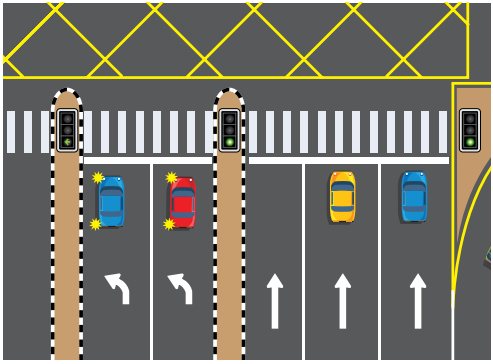
Left Turns on Multiple Lane Roads

On some multiple lane roads, arrows painted on the road will show you if left turns may also be made from other lanes. If road markings show how a turn is to be made, you must follow the road markings.

Left Turns at Traffic Lights

Most intersections in Dubai that have traffic lights have special left turn lanes that show you where to turn. There are sometimes two or three left turning lanes, particularly at very busy intersections. It is important that you think about which lane you will need to be in after you have completed your turn. You must carefully decide which lane you will be in as you approach.

If you need to turn right soon after you have completed your turn, you will need to choose the right hand turning lane. You should turn into the right hand lane of the new road, ready for your next change of direction.



If you will be turning left soon after completing your turn, you should choose the left hand turning lane.

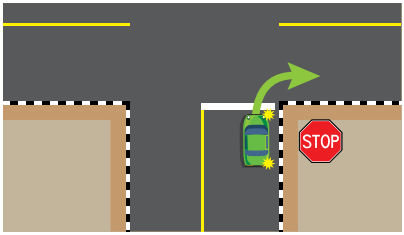
You should turn into the left lane of the new road. This will put you in the correct position for making the next turn.

If you want to go straight ahead after completing your turn, you should choose the either the left hand or the right hand turning lane. If you choose the left hand turning lane you should turn into the left lane of the road you are turning into. If you choose the right hand turning lane you should turn into either the centre or right hand lane.

Think about what you are doing and make the correct decisions.

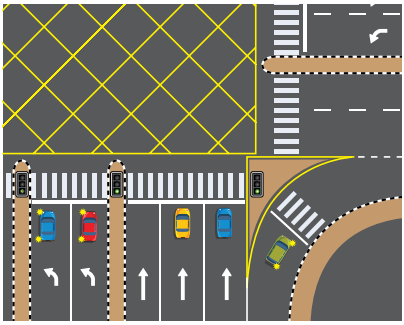
A wrong decision can not only be confusing to other drivers, it can also be very dangerous.

Making Right Turns



Again you need to prepare properly. You must know exactly where you are going, so that you are in the correct lane ready for the turn.

To make a right turn you should approach the intersection, keeping to the right of your lane and looking out for cyclists on your right who may be going straight ahead.



Where there is a slip lane, you should turn using the slip lane. Make sure that you give way to any pedestrians who may be using the pedestrian crossing.

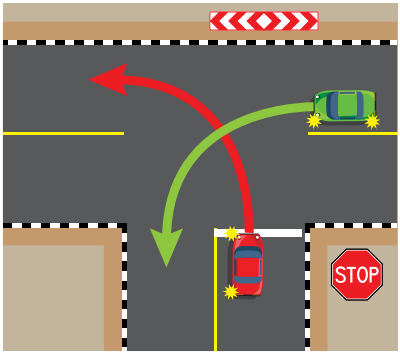
For a multiple lane road, arrows painted on the road will show you if right turns may also be made from another lane. If this is possible, make your decision to use the lane which will best suit you as you proceed past the intersection. If you intend to turn left soon after turning, you should choose the left hand turning lane. If you intend to turn right soon after turning, you should use the right hand turning lane. If you will be proceeding straight ahead, you may use either lane, but be sure that you turn into the corresponding lane of the road you are turning into.

Remember, you must give way to vehicles and pedestrians on the road that you are turning into.

Turning at T-intersections

The way that you approach a T-intersection is the same as when you are approaching any other intersection. You need to know where you are going and choose the correct lane well in advance. If there are no traffic signals and you are entering the cross road from the road that ends, you must give way to vehicles traveling along the cross road.

T – intersection is where two roads meet and one of them ends. T-intersections may not always form a regular T.



In this illustration, the red vehicle must give way to green vehicle.

U-turns

Drivers wishing to make a U turn will face either traffic signals which will direct their movement, or a Stop sign with a solid line on the road. In the case of a Stop sign and a solid line on the road, drivers must stop and must give way to other vehicles and pedestrians already on the carriageway you are turning into.

Before you make your turn, you must:

- Signal your intention for a reasonable time.
- Move into the turning lane at the earliest opportunity.
- Stop before the stop line.
- Have a clear view of traffic in either direction.

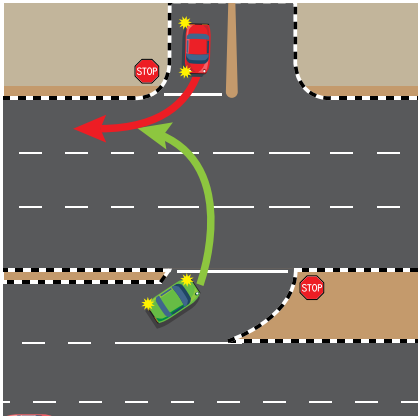
Where there is no central divider, it is advisable that the U-turn be made from the right side of the road. Remember to watch out for traffic approaching from behind you

Open U-turns

There will usually be three lanes, so carefully scan the intersection and, when safe to do so, proceed with caution. You should commence your turn from the left turning lane next to the central divider and turn into the right-hand lane of the carriageway you are turning into.

Before turning, you must give way to vehicles in the carriageway that you are turning into. Right turning traffic in the street opposite you should give way to you..

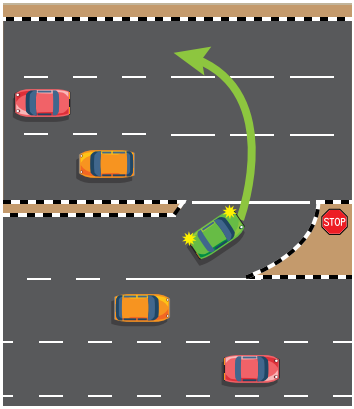
An open U-turn is where a U-turn is being made opposite another road.



With an open U-turn you will be facing a stop sign and entering a main road. You need to signal your intentions so others know what you intend to do. Then move into the turning lane, gradually reduce your speed and stop at the stop line.

Closed U-turns

With a closed U-turn you will be facing a stop sign and entering a main road. There will usually only be two lanes so you must give way to any vehicles or pedestrians already on the main road. You should commence your turn from the right side of the turning lane and turn into the right lane of the carriageway you are turning into. This will allow any vehicle on your left that you may not have seen to turn into the centre or left hand lane.



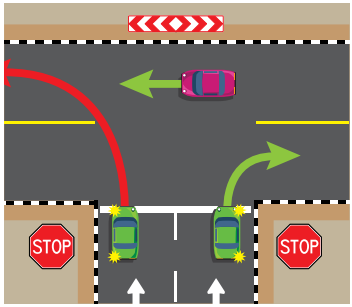
A closed U-turn is where no road is located opposite the U-turn area.

You must not make a U-turn:

- Over solid lines or where there is a No U-turn sign.
- At a No Left Turn sign, unless there is a U-turn Permitted sign.

Turning from One-way Roads

When turning left or right from a one-way road into a two-way road, you must turn from a position close to the side in the direction you are turning.



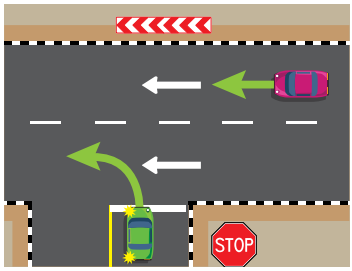
Turning into One-way Roads

Turning into One-way Roads

When turning left or right from a two-way road into a one-way road, it is advisable to turn into the nearest lane. This is to allow vehicles traveling straight ahead on the one way road to use the furthest lane.

Entering the Traffic Stream

Whenever you enter the traffic from a parked position, or through a gap in a central divider strip, you must give way to all vehicles traveling on the road you are entering. Only enter/join the main traffic stream if you can do so safely and without forcing the vehicles to slow down



Roundabouts

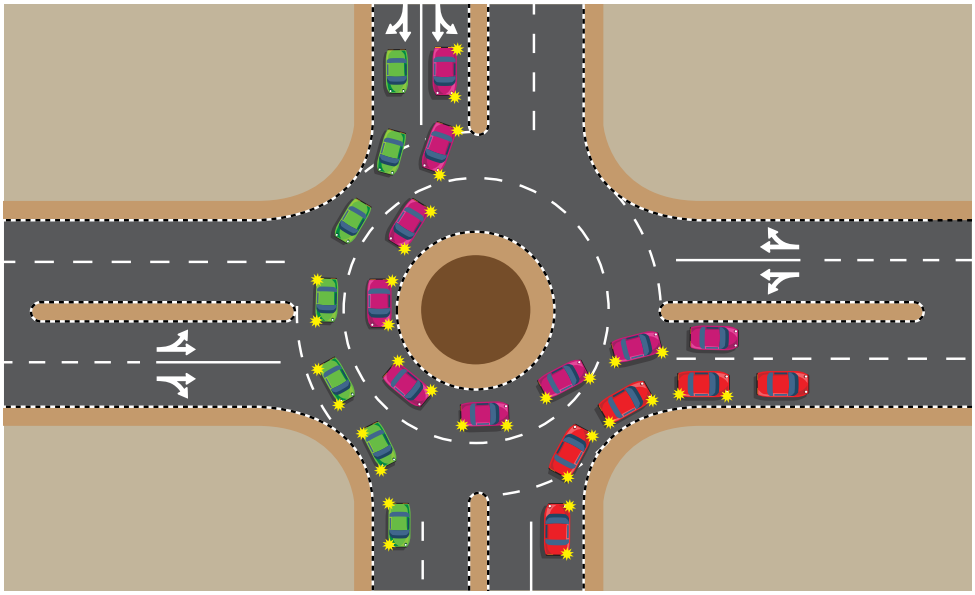
A roundabout is an intersection with a roundabout sign at each entrance, a central island and one or more marked lanes, or lines of traffic. All vehicles have to travel in the same direction. You should always keep to the right of the central island.

As with other turning manoeuvres, good planning is important when there is a roundabout on your route. They can be complex and you must know where you are going. It is important that you select the correct lane as you approach a roundabout and be clear which lane to take for exit. Check the directional signs along the route. Know exactly which lane you should be in to reach your destination and move into this lane early.

This sign means you must travel around the roundabout in an anti-clock wise direction.

Once you have selected the correct lane and are about to enter the roundabout, you must give way to all vehicles already in it moving towards you from the left. Only enter the roundabout when it is safe to do so.

In roundabouts, good steering control, correct speed, indicators and mirrors are very important so you do not confuse other drivers about where you are intending to travel. If lanes are painted on the road, it is critical that you stay in the correct one for your intended position after the roundabout.



Here are some procedures for specific types of roundabouts.

Two Lane Roundabouts

Turning Right

Approach in the right lane and stay in that lane.

Signal right on the approach, check the traffic on your left. Give way if there is traffic approaching. Keep the signal on until you have left the roundabout. Leave in the right hand lane.

Going straight ahead

Approach the roundabout in the lane that will lead you to the one that you need to be in after proceeding through the intersection. Make this decision early, and maintain lane discipline while inside the roundabout.

If you intend to turn right soon after leaving the roundabout you should choose the right hand lane to enter and leave, being careful to stay within the lane as you move around it. If you intend to travel straight ahead once you have proceeded through the roundabout, you may choose the left hand lane, making sure that you stay in the corresponding lane as you travel around the roundabout and as you leave it.

As you enter the roundabout, check for traffic on your left. Give way if there is traffic approaching. Proceed when it is clear and signal right after you have passed the first exit to let other drivers know that you will be leaving at the next exit.

Turning Left

Always approach the roundabout in the left lane or as shown by arrows on the road. Keep in the same lane as you travel around the roundabout and follow the corresponding lane as you leave. Signal right after you have passed the second exit to let other drivers know that you will be leaving at the next exit Check for vehicles on your right as you are about to exit.

Decide whether you are going to turn right, left or go straight before entering the roundabout, so that you can choose the correct lane on entry.

Decide whether you are going to turn right, left or go straight before entering the roundabout, so that you can choose the correct lane on entry.

Three Lane Roundabouts

Turning right

The procedure here is the same as that for a two lane roundabout. Approach in the right lane and stay in that lane.

Signal right on the approach and check the traffic on your left. Give way if there is traffic approaching. Keep the signal on until you have left the roundabout. Leave in the right hand lane.

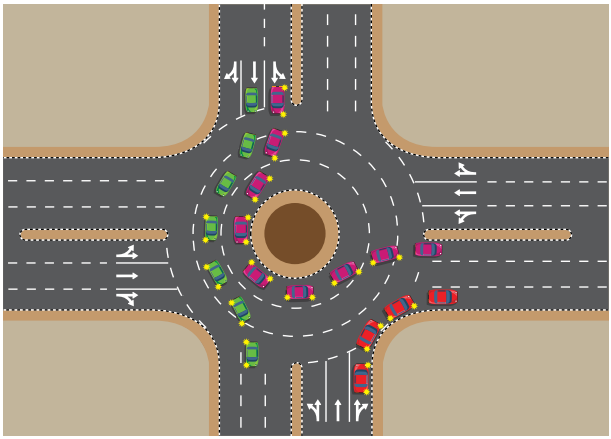
Going straight ahead

The procedure is similar for a two lane roundabout. The choice of lane will depend on what you need to do after you proceed through the roundabout. This will determine whether you choose the right hand lane or the centre lane. If you need to do something on the right once you leave, choose the right lane, otherwise you can choose either the right lane or the centre lane. Do not choose the left hand lane as that lane should only be used by left turning vehicles.

Check for traffic on your left as you enter the roundabout and give way if there is traffic approaching. Proceed when it is clear, stay in the corresponding lane as you travel around the roundabout and as you leave, signal right after you have passed the first exit to let other drivers know that you will be leaving at the next exit. Check for vehicles on your right as you are about to exit.

Turning Left

This procedure is also the same as that for a two lane roundabout. However, planning is even more important here. Make sure that you check the directional signs and road markings very carefully. They will direct you into the correct lane. Keep in the same lane as you travel around the roundabout and turn into the corresponding lane as you leave. Signal right after you have passed the second exit to let others know that you will be leaving at the next exit. This is particularly important for three lane roundabouts as you may be crossing two lanes of traffic as you leave. Make sure that you check for vehicles on your right as you are about to exit.



Changing Lanes and Overtaking

The roads you drive on will vary. You may drive on a two way road with traffic heading in opposite directions. At other times you will drive on multiple lane freeways where there are a number of lanes of traffic headed in the same direction.

When you are driving on these roads, there will be times when you may want to change lanes, for example to exit from a freeway or to overtake a slow moving vehicle.

Crashes may occur if you do not take the time to plan ahead. Think about what you want to do before you do it and plan for it.

IMPORTANT RULE!

You must make sure that there is sufficient space in front of you to see whenever you intend to over-take a vehicle, a person, an animal or a traffic blockage. You must also use indicators alert others of your intention to overtake.

(Article 10.2, UAE Federal Traffic Law, Number 21, 1995)

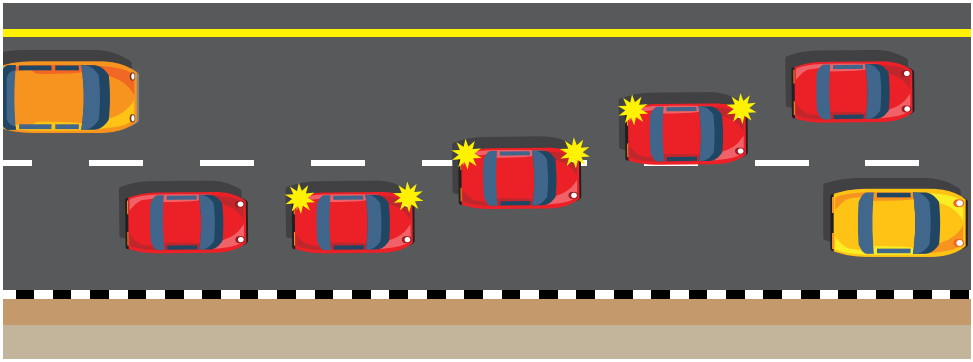
Plan ahead when you want to change lanes or overtake.

Changing Lanes

There are many multiple lane roads in Dubai, with more being built to cope with increased traffic demand. Changing lanes on these roads must be performed carefully.

To change lanes you need to:

- Plan what you are going to do well ahead.
- Check the position of vehicles ahead, behind and to your sides.
- Signal early, as this warns other drivers and allows them to plan what they need to do.
- Be aware that the driver in the vehicle in front of you may signal to change lanes at the same time. In this case, you should wait until the driver in front completes his move to another lane.



When you have checked that it is safe to change lanes make sure you:

- Check your mirrors.
- Signal to the right or left giving sufficient warning to other drivers of your intentions.
- Check your mirrors again.
- Check your blind spot by doing a headcheck to the right or left.
- Control your speed as you may need to maintain, increase or decrease your speed depending on the traffic conditions.
- Steer smoothly and gradually, as this allows other drivers to let you in.

Once you are completely in the new lane remember to check your mirrors again and cancel your indicator.

In making a headcheck to check your blind spot, do not take your eyes off the road ahead for more than a second.

The rules for changing lanes also apply whenever you cross any broken line marked on the road which indicates that a lane ends – for example when merging into freeway traffic.

Maintain your vehicle's position and do not cut into other lanes. If you want to change lanes in slow moving, heavy traffic, check your mirrors and perform a head check to ensure that there is sufficient space for you to change lanes safely. When you are satisfied that it is safe to change lanes, signal your intentions before moving.

Whenever you change lanes from one marked lane or line of traffic to another, you must give way to vehicles already in that lane or line of traffic.

Overtaking on a Two Way Road

Overtaking on a two way road is very similar to a lane change, except much more dangerous because:

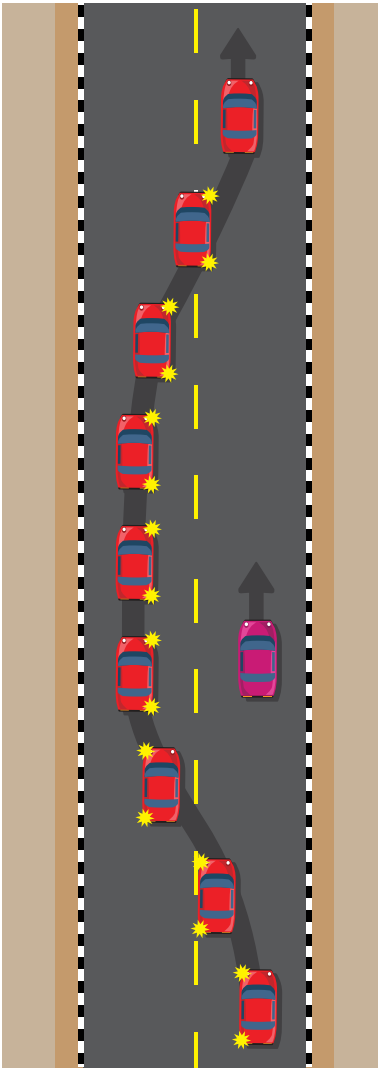
- You will need to drive on the wrong side of the road for quite a long time Vehicles traveling in the opposite direction are now directly ahead of you and are moving very quickly toward you.
- It is not safe to overtake on bends, at junctions or on the crest of a hill. So before you overtake, ask yourself:
- Do I really need to overtake?
- Will it make a difference to my journey if I just stay in my lane? Am I permitted by law to overtake?
- Will my overtaking cause other traffic to alter speed or position? Is it safe?

There are two parts to overtaking:

- Pulling out on to the other side of the road
- Moving back on to the correct side of the road.

Overtaking a Vehicle by Pulling Out to the Other Side of the Road

- Check the road markings to make sure you are permitted to overtake.
- Make sure you can clearly see any oncoming traffic and there is enough space to overtake safely. Remember, it is hard to guess the speed of oncoming vehicles.
- Make sure you are at least two seconds behind the vehicle you are about to overtake.
- This gives you better vision and room to build up your speed to pass.
- Check that there are no other hazards ahead, such as hills, driveways or intersections.
- When it is safe to pull out, use your left indicator to let others know you are about to overtake. A vehicle behind may want to overtake both you and the vehicle in front.
- If you move slightly to the left it will help you see ahead.
- Ensure that you check your mirrors before you move.
- When it is safe to pull out, check your mirrors and check your blind spot.
- Move far enough on to the other side of the road so that you do not overtake the vehicle in front too closely.
- You should be moving your vehicle faster than the vehicle you are overtaking.



Remember, the less time you are on the wrong side of the road, the less chance something can go wrong.

Moving Back to the Correct Side of the Road

- Make sure it is safe to move on to the correct side of the road. You will need to allow enough space between your vehicle and the vehicle following to be able to brake safely if necessary.
- Check your mirrors and signal right, giving sufficient warning to other drivers.
- Check your mirrors again and check your blind spot.
- Maintain your speed so as not to hinder the vehicles around you.
- Steer smoothly and gradually. This allows other drivers time to let you in. Once your vehicle is completely in the new lane, remember to cancel your signal.
- Check your mirrors again and adjust your speed if necessary.

IMPORTANT RULE!

If someone is overtaking you, you must slow down and keep to the right.

(Article 54, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

When overtaking, if you are not sure you have enough time, just wait.

A few seconds or minutes could save your life. Make sure there is a clear space between you and the vehicle you have overtaken - allow at least a 2 to 4 second space. You need to be able to see both headlights of the vehicle you have overtaken in your rear vision mirror before starting to move back in.

Overtaking Vehicles on the Right

You may not overtake in the right lane. Wait until the vehicle in front has returned to the right lane and then overtake on the left.

IMPORTANT RULE!

A driver must only pass other vehicles traveling in the same direction on the left.

(Article 10.5, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Overtaking Where There are Hills and Curves

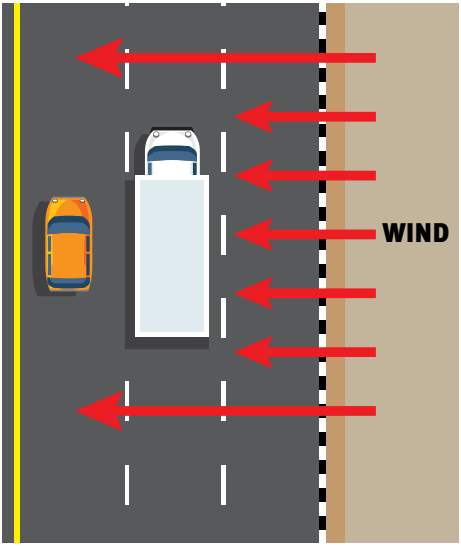
Do not pull out if your view is blocked. Remember, you must not overtake when there is a solid double white line or a solid single white line.

Overtaking Trucks

It is always best if the truck driver knows you are there so, slow down until you can see the driver in the truck mirrors. Keep your distance until it is safe to overtake.

Avoid cutting in too closely in front of a truck after you pass it. Wait until you see the whole of the truck in your rear vision mirror. Otherwise, the truck may not have room to stop suddenly if the need arises. It takes about 25 seconds to overtake a large truck on the open road. That is a long time if you are on the wrong side of the road.

Be aware that, on open highways, strong winds can be dangerous when overtaking a big truck.



IMPORTANT RULE!

You must not overtake at the following places:

- Where the road is not clearly visible
- When the movement of traffic in the opposite direction doesn't allow you to proceed safely.
- At intersections and roundabouts.
- When vehicles stop due to movement of traffic obstruction or due to a stop sign.
- On curves, crests of hills, slippery roads, next to pedestrians crossings and roads with solid long lines.
- In places where the signs forbid drivers to overtake.

(Article 55, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Driving on Freeways

A freeway is a high-speed multiple laned road. Traffic, traveling in opposite directions, is separated by central dividers and there are ramps for entry and exit.

Speed limits are usually higher on freeways and traffic can be heavy, so driving is demanding and can be dangerous.

When traveling on a freeway, ensure that you maintain your position in your lane at all times. When traffic is light, you should drive in the far right lane unless you have to overtake a slower motorist. In heavier traffic, you may travel in the centre lane. Never travel in the left lane unless overtaking. Once you have overtaken the slower moving vehicle, return to the centre lane. You must not overtake on the hard shoulders of the road.

The maximum speed limit for cars on freeways is 120km/h where signed. For trucks, the maximum speed limit will be 80km/h if signed. Where signed, there is a minimum speed of 60km/h.

Unfortunately, many vehicles using these roads travel at speeds well above the legal speed limit. As a safe driver you will not be doing this, but you need to realise that these vehicles will approach you very fast, seemingly from nowhere. It is critical that you are checking your mirrors constantly to look out for them. They represent a very significant danger.

As traffic is moving at high speed, it is important to keep scanning the road to see what other vehicles are doing. Use your mirrors frequently and make sure that you check your blind spot before changing lanes.

Freeway speeds can be dangerous - never change lanes without checking your mirrors first.

Except in the case of an emergency you should not:

- Operate a non-motorised vehicle on or near a freeway. Walk on foot on or near the freeway.
- Stop or reverse your vehicle.
- Drive at a speed unsafe for the lane you are traveling in.
- Stop, park or drive on a shoulder, central divider, or roadside area.

If you must stop, move to the edge of the road and put on your hazard warning lights to alert other drivers

IMPORTANT RULE!

Vehicles must not be driven below the set minimum speed or at an unnecessarily slow speed which will impede or block the normal and reasonable movement of traffic.

(Article 40, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

To safely return to the freeway after pulling on to the shoulder or central divider area in an emergency, wait until there is a large gap in the traffic. Then increase speed while still on the shoulder, check your mirrors, signal and check your blind spots for other vehicles. Move into the nearest lane when it is safe. You will need to increase your speed to that of the freeway traffic as soon as safely possible.

Entering a Freeway

When on the entry ramp, you should signal your intention early and check mirrors and your blind spot to merge safely.

Ensure that you keep a safe space behind other traffic as they may stop suddenly.

As you drive along the entry ramp, you may need to increase your speed so that you are traveling at the same speed as the freeway traffic. Time your merge so that you do not cause any other vehicle to have to alter its path or speed. Once you have completed the merge, ensure that you cancel your indicator.

Take note of the signs and plan ahead for your exit

There are a number of signs on freeways that provide information about exits, routes, travel distance and destinations. Road markings will assist in making sure you are in the correct lane for where you want to go. Do not make unnecessary lane changes.

Leaving a Freeway

Exit signs are there to assist you to choose which lane to drive in depending on your destination. Be in the correct lane well before your exit and signal your intention to exit the freeway.

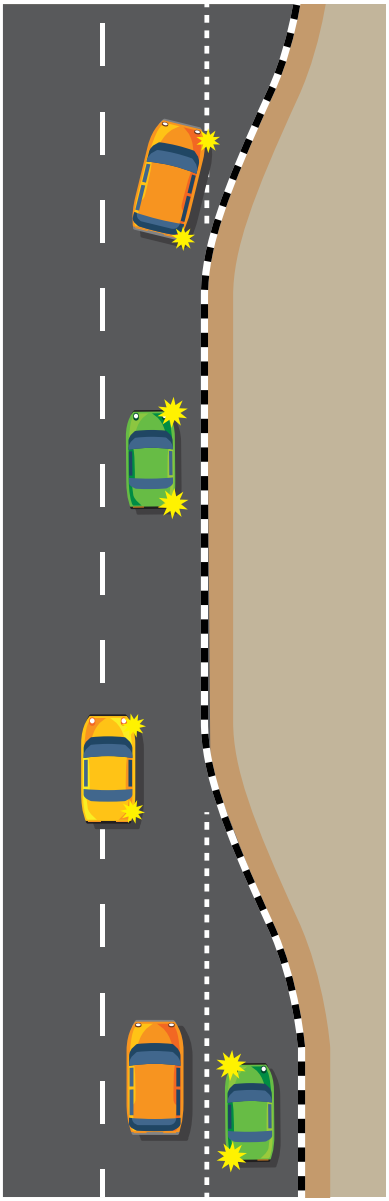
Once you are on the exit ramp, you should slow down and obey the speed limit that applies to the road you are entering.

Ramp exits on Emirates Routes have a numbered system, which shows the approximate kilometers of that exit from the starting point of the route. This may help you with planning.

If you have missed your exit, stay calm and keep driving on the freeway until you reach the next exit. Remember, this is a high speed road, so you must never reverse on a freeway. It is extremely dangerous and you are also breaking the law.

Plan ahead, obey the speed limit and watch out for signs and road markings that will help you to reach your destination.

Interchanges



Interchanges in Dubai are often complex and can be confusing to new drivers. Here some tips on how to deal with interchanges:

- Plan ahead. Check a map before you travel, so you know exactly which exit to take.
- Check the overhead directional signs and position your vehicle carefully.
- As with any other situation, signal your intentions early.
- Watch the traffic movements and make appropriate adjustments. Check mirrors and blind spots.
- Whether exiting or entering, ensure you do so safely by focusing on the driving task.
- When you exit, make sure you signal early to indicate you will be moving into a lane of the main stream of traffic. Move into your lane as quickly as you can do so safely, making sure that you do not interrupt vehicles moving across from the main stream of traffic to enter the interchange, at the same time as you are exiting.

In the diagram on the right the following critical points need to be considered depending on which car you are driving:

- Green car entering the freeway: Use your indicators to signal your intentions early. Allow the orange car to pass and merge at a speed which does not disturb the flow of traffic.
- Orange car on the freeway: Maintain your speed. Be mindful of the green car on your right and the yellow car trying to change lanes.
- Yellow car changing lanes to exit the freeway: Keep your signals on. Check your mirrors and do a headcheck so that you are
- aware of the orange car behind you in the adjacent lane. Control your speed and be ready for the green car suddenly slowing down or stopping.
- Orange car exiting the freeway: Keep your signal on as you exit the freeway and adjust your speed according to the traffic flow.

Safe behavior and your responsibilities in the event of a collision

Step 1: Scene - Initial Actions

1. All vehicles involved in a collision must stop in the safest place immediately. If possible, do not obstruct traffic and move your vehicle off the live carriageway. In Dubai, those who do not move vehicles that is still drivable will be fined.

2. Turn your hazard lights on and get out of your vehicle carefully, if possible, through the doors that are away from live traffic lanes. Unless somebody is injured or trapped, or it is not possible to get out of the vehicle safely, do not remain in the vehicle. Wear high-visibility jackets, if available in your vehicle.

IMPORTANT RULE!

If you are involved in a collision, regardless of severity or apparent blame, you are required to stop and notify the Police of the collision within six hours. You must also give assistance and care to the victims of a collision, especially those who are injured.

(Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

3. Check with the other people involved whether anyone is injured. Only administer first aid if you are qualified to do so. Do not attempt to move injured accident victims, as this can make certain injuries worse and may lead to legal issues for untrained first aiders. Never remove an injured motorcyclist's helmet.

You may detect signs and symptoms of shock in collision victims. This could include paleness, blue/ grey, cold and sweaty skin, rapid and shallow breathing, a rapid and weak pulse, nausea and thirst. Cover accident victims with signs of shock with a jacket or blanket to keep them warm. Try to keep them conscious by talking to them, but do not aggressively keep them awake. Do not allow shock victims to drink, eat or smoke.

4. If possible, move to a place of safety, preferably behind a crash barrier or other solid object. Keep watching the approaching traffic and be prepared to move if necessary. You should never stand in front of your vehicle, or immediately behind it, especially at night when you may obscure the rear lights.

Step 2: Alert the authorities

1. Dial 999 and ask for the Police. Request an ambulance if anybody is injured. Follow the acronym "LINE" to supply information to the emergency services:

- Location, including area, street name, landmark, e.g. building name or number, feature or intersection
- Incident, i.e. what happened Number of injured
- Extent of how serious the injuries are. If you can, describe: The mechanism of injury

- The area of injury and how bad it looks
- The level of consciousness of the injured and The estimated age of the injured.

2. If the accident is minor and does not involve any injuries, the Police may direct you to report the accident at a police station or via the Mobile App.

3. Make sure that you have your driving license, car registration card, and Emirates ID or passport ready for inspection by the authorities.

4. If you can, take some pictures of the damage to your car. Avoid taking pictures of the occupants of another vehicle or bystanders (you need permission to take photographs or video of other people). Any photographs or video you take which do have other people in them, should only be shared with the Police. Do not post them on social media.

5. In the event of another driver leaving the scene of the accident, make a note of their license plate number and hand this to the police when they arrive.

Step 3: Stay calm and follow instructions given to you by the authorities

1. Do not, under any circumstances, lose your temper, appoint blame, or engage in an argument. If the other driver (or even another passenger) is yelling at you, remain calm and insist that the Police will take due action when they arrive.

2. When the Police arrive, remain calm and wait until you are spoken to. The Police will decide who is at fault and will issue the Police Report in Arabic, as is standard practice. Copies of the report are issued in different colors:

- **Pink form**: issued to the driver at fault
- **Green form**: issued to the not at fault driver
- **White form**: issued when neither party is accused, or if the other party is unknown.

No repairs of any damaged vehicle may be undertaken without the Police Report. Follow any instruction that the attending Police Officer issues. The Police may decide to take the driving license of any of the drivers involved.

Part 6: **Driving in Dubai**

Salik in Dubai

Salik, meaning open or clear, is Dubai's electronic toll collection system launched in July 2007. This is part of Dubai's traffic congestion management system utilizing the latest technologies to achieve free flow operation with no toll booths, no toll collectors, no impact on traffic flow, allowing vehicles to move freely through the tolling point at highway speeds.

Each time you pass through a Salik tolling point, a toll will be deducted from your prepaid toll account using advanced Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology.

Currently, there are seven (7) Salik Gates around Dubai.

Salik Toll Gates	Toll Fees
Al Barsha	AED 4.00
Al Garhoud	AED 4.00
Al Maktoum Bridge	AED 4.00- Free 10pm Thursday to 6am Saturday
Al Mamzar South	AED 4.00 - When Passing through Al Mamzar South and North gates in the same direction within an hour you will be charged only once
Al Mamzar North	AED 4.00
Al Safa	AED 4.00
Airport Tunnel	AED 4.00
Jebel Ali	AED 4.00

You can open a Salik prepaid toll account at most Petrol Stations in Dubai, or selected Petrol Stations at the other Emirate. Just purchase a Salik Tag and complete the Account Opening Application form. A fee of AED 100 is charged per vehicle, of which AED 50 is to pay for the Salik Tag and AED 50 is your first prepaid toll amount. Full instructions on how to install your Tag are provided with the Tag.

Recharge salik account:

Recharge Salik Account: you can recharge your salik account through: salik website

- petrol station-Dubai smart government website and application E-pay/Mpay, Kiosk Machines, E-Voucher, Banks: Emirates NBD Bank - RAK Bank - Abu Dhabi

Commercial Bank - Mashreq Bank - National Bank of Abu Dhabi - Standard Chartered Bank - Sharjah Islamic Bank - Dubai Islamic Bank - Al Hilal Bank - Commercial Bank of Dubai - First Gulf Bank - Citi Bank - Ajman Bank - United Arab Bank - Noor Bank

Also you can buy your Salik Tag online through salik website (www.salik.gov.ae) with additional 20 Dhs. as delivery fees, and the tag will delivered to the customer on the specified location, however the delivery will be within the covered areas with the courier in U.A.E.

Salik Violations:

If you drive through a Salik Gate without a Registration in Salik or without sufficient balance in your account the following fines apply:

Insufficient Funds in your account AED 50.00.

Non Registered vehicles in Salik as Follows:

- First Trip AED 100.00.
- Second Trip AED 200.00.
- Third and succeeding Trips AED 400.00.

Maximum violation amount per calendar year AED 10,000.00, Customers may file dispute within120 days from the date of salik violation.

For a trouble Free Salik Account:

- Your Salik Tag should ONLY be used on the vehicle assigned to your Salik account.
- Never transfer your Salik Tag to another vehicle.
- If you sell your vehicle, you must deactivate and remove its Salik Tag. Advise Salik if you change your Vehicle plate number or mobile number.
- Buy a new Salik Tag for each new vehicle; using the old owner's Tag will result in violations.
- Sms notifications in an added value service provided by RTA customers are requested to top-up & follow up their account as it is their responsibility.

Visit www.salik.ae or call 800-Salik (72545) for a more complete information about Salik.

Variable Message Signs (VMS)

VMS are information signs to assist drivers to know about conditions ahead. This may be to do with choice of lanes, road opening times, and advice on bad weather conditions, heavy traffic, crashes or construction works on roads. If the VMS shows speed limit, that speed takes priority over the speed limit posted on that particular road for that particular time.

Parking

As a driver, you will need to park your car. This may be in your own driveway, outside your place of work, at the shopping centre or at your place of worship.

Parking is not as easy as it seems. You may need to park your car in a quiet residential street or on a heavily congested road.

IMPORTANT RULE!

A person must not cause a hazard to any person or vehicle by opening a door of a vehicle or leaving a door of a vehicle open.

(Article 9, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Take note of the important points described in the road safety message below.

You must obey parking signs and road markings in that area that tell you how to park your car and how long you can stay there. This will help to prevent you from being a hazard to other road users or getting a parking fine.

Before you park, ask yourself:

- Have I chosen a safe and legal place to park?
- Can I park my car safely without blocking or hindering other traffic or road use Do I have a clear view of the traffic coming from behind as well as the traffic traveling alongside the left of my vehicle?
- Can I be seen by other drivers?

Stopping and Parking Rules

There are a number of places where you must not stop or park your vehicle. If you do park in these areas you could be a hazard to other road users and will be fined.

Driving in heavily congested traffic can be particularly dangerous when you want to park or leave a parking space. People often walk in front of and behind vehicles that are at a standstill or moving slowly to cross the road. Watch for hazards.

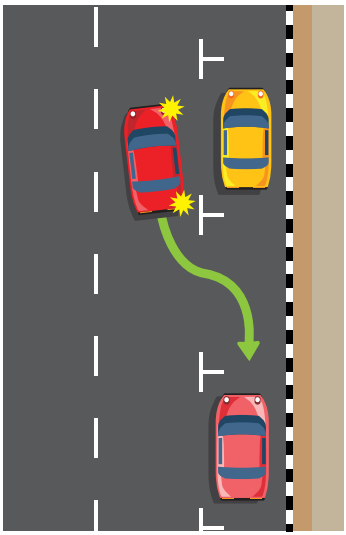
IMPORTANT RULE!

You must not park a vehicle:

- At places where there is no permission to park.
- At pedestrian crossings, on the footpath, on bridges, viaducts or in tunnels.
- Next to curves, on crests of hills or next to solid centre lines which cannot be crossed.
- Where it will impede any traffic signals, signs or road markings.
- In front of the entrance to houses, parking areas, petrol stations, hospitals, emergency stations, fire stations, police stations, military areas, schools or educational institutions.
- Places where you will block stationary vehicles from proceeding.
- Residential areas (if driving a heavy vehicle or heavy mechanical vehicle) unless they are used for construction.
- 15 metres from intersections or in front of public transport stations.

(Article 49, Executive By-Law, UAE Federal Traffic Law Number 21, 1995)

Parallel Parking



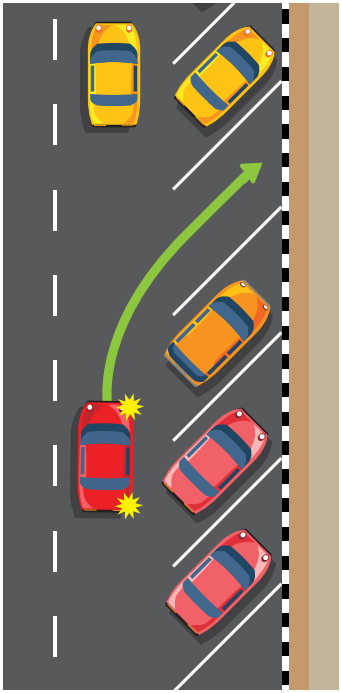
This is the usual way to park unless signs tell you otherwise. You must park completely within the parking bay, in line with and close to the curb or edge of the road.

Most parking spaces or parking bays are clearly marked on the road surface to fit one vehicle. If you are choosing a parking space that is not marked, you must firstly identify that there is enough room for your vehicle. As a simple guide there should be a space of no less than one and a half times the length of your vehicle.

If parking bays are not marked, you should:

- Leave one metre between you and the vehicles in front and behind, so there is room for you and the other vehicles to move in and out.
- Park with your vehicle facing the direction of travel.
- Not block the path of other vehicles or pedestrians.

Angle Parking



Angle parking is usually on the right side of the road. However, there are occasions where it is also available on the left, for example at shopping centres.

You must park at the angle indicated by the signs or marked bays.

Most angle parking bays are at 90° or 60° to the road.

If you are parking in a 90° angle parking bay, you can either drive in forwards or reverse in. If you are reversing in, you will have a better view of the traffic when you leave.

If you are parking in a 60° angle parking bay, you need to drive forwards into the parking bay and reverse out when you leave.

Whenever you are parking, remember to give way to all pedestrians and other vehicles!
Do a headcheck on both sides if you are reversing out, in case there are people close to your car that you have not seen.

Paid Parking in Dubai

Roads & Transport Authority (RTA) implements a systematic paid car parking management in Dubai.

Parking Locations:

Some strategic areas in Dubai are allocated for paid parking. These areas are clearly identified at the entrance by a large signage which indicates that the area is a paid parking zone. The signage also indicates the time parking payment is required.

Types of Paid Parking Locations:

Code	Description	Charging hours	Parking Fees (AED)					
			30 minutes	1 hour	2 hours	3 hours	4 hours	24 hours
A	First category - Side parking	8 am - 10pm	2	4	8	12	16	-
B	First category - Plots parking	8 am - 10pm	-	3	6	9	12	20
C	Second category -Side parking	8 am - 10pm	-	2	5	8	11	-
D	Second category - Plots parking	8 am - 10pm	-	2	4	5	7	10
F	Dubai Knowledge Village, Dubai Media City and Dubai Internet City	8 am - 6 pm	-	2	5	8	11	-
G	Burj Khalifa, Marasi Bay area and Dubai Health Care City area	8 am - 10 pm	-	4	8	12	16	-
H	Dubai Silicon Oasis	8 am - 10 pm	2	4	8	12	16	-

Code	Description	Charging Hours	Parking Fees (AED)								
			30 mins	1 hr	2 hrs	3 hrs	4 hrs	5 hrs	6 hrs	7 hrs	8-24 hrs
I	Jumeirah Lakes Towers (JLT)	8 am -10:00 pm	-	10	20	30	-	-	-	-	-
J			2	4	8	12	-	-	-	-	-
K			2	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32
L	Al Khail Gate	24 hrs	-	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16

Fines for violations of parking lots

Violations and fines of the dutiable parking lots (side parking lots, and squares parking) pursuant to the Executive Council Resolution No. (5) of 2016 and on regulating the use of public parking in the Emirate of Dubai.

Ways to Pay Parking Fees

There are several ways to pay the parking fees.

SMS - Now, vehicles with plate numbers issued from other emirates or GCC countries can pay through SMS directly without the need to register in RTA website.

Emirate/Country	codes	SMS Format
Abu Dhabi	AUH	Emirate/country code followed by the plate code<>plate no.<>and duration in hours For example: AUH13 12345 335A 1 SHJ2 12345 335A 2 KSA 123ABC 335A 4 For motorcycle, the message will be started by B B AUH14 00000 335A 1 *Provided that you use the numbers of local telecom companies (Du or Etisalat)
Sharjah	SHJ	
Ajman	AJM	
Umm Al Quwain	UAQ	
Ras Al Khaimah	RAK	
Fujairah	FUJ	
Saudi Arabia	KSA	
Kuwait	KWT	
Bahrain	BAH	
Oman	OMN	

Simply use the unique codes as shown:

NOL Card - mainly used for public transport in Dubai but also usable for paying parking fees. Note: Red NOL card cannot be used in Parking meters.

Seasonal Parking Card - Customers may apply for seasonal parking permits via RTA website (www.rta.ae), RTA Smart Apps, customer happiness centers and self-service kiosks.

Type of Permits	1 month	3 months	6 months	Yearly
My Parking "General" Codes A, B, C, D)	AED 500	AED 1400	AED 2500	AED 4500
My Parking "Area" Codes B and D)	AED 250	AED 700	AED 1300	AED 2400
My Parking "Multistory"	AED 700	AED 2000	AED 4000	AED 8000
Al Khail Gate Zone (Code L)	N/A	AED 600	AED 1000	AED 1600
Silicon Oasis Zone (Code H)	N/A	AED 1400	AED 2500	AED 4500
Silicon Oasis Zone Limited (Code H) Note: This service enables you to register in the public parking of limited areas at Dubai Silicon Oasis (backside parking spaces with low occupancy rate).	N/A	AED 1000	AED 1500	AED 2500
For the multistory parking, the following tariffs apply: Working time: 24 hours, 7 days, AED 5.00 per hour, AED 40 for full 24 hours				

Smart Parking Application – Parking fees can be paid by creating a special new account for parking. This applies to all licensed vehicles' owners in the country. This account can
be recharged with credit in different ways including E-Pay Credit Cards and Dubai Smart Government M-Pay Gateway, and can be used to pay fees without calculating or deducting additional service fees that apply to payments made by SMS. Smart Parking Application also enables its users to select an area code and number by using a smart map that includes all codes and numbers of areas in Dubai where parking fees are applicable, in addition to saying the names of these areas to help users ensure their vehicles are parked in the right area, and to facilitate buying. There are now 2 types of parking machines (orange and blue colors). The orange machines issue paper tickets that need to be displayed on the dashboard of the car.
The blue machine is a digital version with touch screen capability allows the user to enter the vehicle details. There's no need to display the on the dashboard. Both these machines accept payments by coins and NOL card.
To register for using m-parking service, please visit **www.mpark.rta.ae** or
free call 8009090.

Fines for violations of parking lots	
Parking a vehicle without paying applicable parking fee or failing to display the parking ticket in a prominent place at the time the fine is issued.	150
Exceeding the maximum duration for using a public car park	100
Using a car park after expiry of the parking ticket	100
Committing any act that may disrupt the use of public car park	200
Driving or Parking a vehicle on a pavement	200
Parking a vehicle in a no parking area in a public car park	200
Parking a vehicle that does not bear a number plate in a public car park	1000
Parking at parking spaces reserved for others	1000
Parking a vehicle in a public car park spaces designated for (People of Determination) without a permit or after expiry of the permit, or failing to display such permit in a prominent place at the time the fine is issued	1000
Parking in a public car park space reserved for others, or failing to display the reservation permit in a prominent place at the time the fine is issued	1000
Displaying a vehicle for sale or rent without a permit	1000
Building a shade for a public car park space without a permit	1000
Causing damage to a Public Car Park; or causing damage to or tampering with a Parking Fee collection machine or a Public Car Park sign	1000
Note: Users are requested not to park any vehicle without number plates (whether on paid or free parking areas) to avoid being towed. This is in addition to the AED 1,000 fine listed in fine number 7 on the above table.	

Eco Friendly Driving Habits

Put Your Money in the Bank Instead of the Fuel Pump!

There are obvious maintenance tasks you can do to minimise your fuel use. Keeping your car tuned, changing you air slip and keeping your tyres properly inflated, all add to savings at the pump through reduced fuel use.

Eco friendly driving means driving in a way that saves fuel so that there is less harm to the environment. It can also save you money.

But did You Know that Another Huge Fuel Saver will not Cost You Anything at all?

That is right, it is free, and you can start right now. This important change involves your everyday driving habits. Believe it or not, the way you act behind the wheel can really affect how much fuel you use.

Saving fuel while you drive involves a less aggressive attitude behind the wheel. It is also a safer way to drive.

Harsh acceleration and braking can use up to 30% more fuel and can cause increased wear and tear on the vehicle. Careful motorway driving will improve safety and traffic flow.

These Easy Tips Can Really Make a Difference

- Accelerate more gradually. The harder you press the accelerator, the more fuel you are pouring down the hole. A smooth driving style can save up to 10% of fuel used.
- Braking. Any use of the footbrake should be smooth and positive. By looking well ahead, you are able to see things happening which would require you to brake. Be prepared. Take your foot off the accelerator and start braking early.
- Change gears earlier. If your car has a manual transmission, try changing gears at a lower engine revs or move to a higher gear earlier. Move into higher gears reasonably quickly. The higher your engine revs, the more fuel it burns. Cars with manual gears are generally more fuel-efficient than automatics.
- Engine speeds should be kept relatively low. An engine speed of around 3000 rpm can save a lot of fuel.
- Keep your speed down as driving at 80-100 km/h means your emissions will be lowest. Driving over 110 km/h will rapidly increase your emissions. It can cost you up to 25% more in fuel to drive at 100 km/h compared to 80 km/h. Keep to all legal speed limits and plan well ahead for changes.

- Try not to beat the lights. The chances are that if you stop at a red light and then try to beat all the following lights, you will use more fuel and may still have to stop. If you drive at a more sedate speed you will usually find that by the time you reach the next light it will have turned green again.
- Take the time of day into consideration. If possible, stagger your work hours to avoid rush hour traffic. Sitting in stop and go traffic is the biggest waste of fuel there is. Try leaving home for work a little earlier. You will avoid some traffic and impress your boss.
- Maintaining the correct air pressure in your tyres saves fuel and money. One thing you can do to stretch your fuel is to check your tyre pressures. Low tyre pressure will make the tyres drag and use more fuel. Look in your owner's manual and see what the recommended tyre pressures are. Check them every time you fill up with fuel. Think of it as adding an extra 2 litres to your tank for free.
- Keep your engine tuned. Keeping your engine well tuned is another good way to stretch your fuel costs. An engine that grinds for ten seconds before firing up wastes enough fuel to take you four kilometers. Maybe it is time for a new set of spark plugs and a new air filter. Now is a good time to go get them.
- Make sure you use the correct fuel. Use the recommended fuel to get the best performance from your car. Check your owner's manual to see what the recommended fuel is.

JOIN THE DRIVE FOR GREENER MOTORING

Test Yourself Questions

The RTA Theory Driving Test is an important part of the Dubai Driver Licensing Process. Students must pass this test and complete the mandatory theory classes before starting the on-road practical driver training.

Prepare for this test by attending classes at the driving institutes or by using the RTA Theory Practice App. Just download this App free of cost from the App Store or Play Store.

Have difficulty in taking this exam in English? There is option for translation in a language of your choice. Ask your driving institute about the Remote Interpretation Service (RIS). There are over 195 languages to choose from.

The following are sample questions with answers. Please contact your lecturer at your driving institute if you want to discuss the answers to these questions.

Q1 Dangers in driving in fog can be minimized by:

A Keeping windows and mirrors clean.

B Listening to the radio for alerts.

C Using the maximum capacity of the vehicle's headlights.

Q2 Foggy driving conditions call for change in driving style, it maybe:

A To slow down to 40 kph only.

B To remain in one lane only throughout the journey.

C To reduce distractions inside the car.

Q3 You are driving vehicle A. How should you complete your turn?

A You should enter the intersection and complete your left turn.

B You should enter the intersection slowly and give way to the pedestrian.

C You must not enter the intersection until the pedestrian has completely crossed the road.

Q4 Each of these vehicles is about to turn right at the roundabout, which vehicle is in the correct and safer position to turn right?

A Vehicle A only

B Vehicle B only

C Both vehicle A and vehicle B

Q5 Driving in a safe manner means.

A driving at posted speed always.

B allowing for mistakes of others.

C maintaining 2-second gap always.

Q6 When you have developed the skill to control your car you will then know

A all there is to know about driving.

B how to drive safely on the road.

C only one of the many driving skills.

Q7 Extra care must be taken when driving near schools because

A Young kids may cross the road without looking

B Speed limits are different in these areas

C Young kids are playing in these areas.

Q8 Driving slowly on the fast lane is

A equally dangerous as over speeding

B a normal and acceptable driving

C a sure and safe way to drive

Q9 Driving at your best condition means

A not driving when sleepy or tired.

B choosing the best routes.

C not driving when in doubt of way.

Q10 Drivers must use of indicators appropriately while driving.

A This is required by the UAE traffic law.

B This is not required by the UAE traffic law.

C This is required by the transport industry.

Answers: Q1A, Q2C, Q3B, Q4B, Q5B, Q6C, Q7A, Q8A, Q9A, Q10A

Traffic Violations, Fines & Black Points

All traffic violations will result in some form of penalty. Penalties include blackpoints or fines that you must pay. Some might also involve your license being suspended or cancelled for a period of time. The blackpoint system was introduced to encourage safer driving practices.

Serious violations are listed in the following pages. For information about other violations visit the RTA website: **www.rta.ae**

Bear in mind that for some traffic violations, the court will decide on the type of punishment that will be rendered depending on the severity of the violation.

No.	Violation	Fine	Black Points	Confiscation Period
1	A. Driving in a way that poses danger to a driver's life or lives, and safety of others B. Driving in a way that harms public or private properties	2000	23	60 days
2	Driving under the influence of alcohol	Decided by court	23	60 days
3	Driving under the influence of narcotic, psychotropic or similar substances	Decided by court	24	60 days
4	Driving a vehicle without number plates	3000	23	90 days
5	A. Driving a heavy vehicle in a way that poses danger to driver's life or lives and safety of others B. Driving a heavy vehicle in a way that causes harm to public or private properties	3000		
6	Jumping a red signal by heavy vehicles	3000		
7	Heavy vehicle driver causing his or another vehicle to overturn	3000		
8	Heavy vehicle not abiding by lane discipline	1500	12	
9	A. Loading a heavy vehicle in a way that poses danger to others B. Loading a heavy vehicle in a way that causes harm to the road	2000	6	
10	Heavy vehicle prohibited entry	1000	4	

No.	Violation	Fine	Black Points	Confiscation Period
11	Falling or leaking of a heavy vehicle's load	3000	12	
12	Not fixing reflective stickers at the back of trucks and transport vehicles	500		
13	Operating industrial, construction and mechanical vehicles and tractors without permission from licensing authority	1500		
14	Failure to raise exhaust pipes in trucks	1500		
15	Not covering trucks' loads	3000		
16	Failure to abide by loading or unloading regulations in designated areas	1000	4	
17	Overtaking from a prohibited place by trucks	3000		
18	Driving a heavy vehicle that does not comply with security and safety standards	2000	6	
19	A. Driving against traffic B. Entry from a prohibited place	600 1000	4 8	7 days 7 days
20	Driving a noisy vehicle	2000	12	
21	Driving a vehicle that causes pollution	1000	6	-
22	A. Driving a vehicle without insurance B. Driving an unlicensed vehicle	500	4	7 DAYS
23	Driving with a driving license issued by a foreign country except in permitted cases	1000	4	
24	Driving a vehicle on a different license	400	12	
25	A. Driving a vehicle with an expired driving license B. Driving a vehicle with an expired registration	500	4	7 days
26	A. Driving a vehicle that doesn't comply with safety and security standards B. Driving a vehicle that is unfit for driving	500		
27	A. Driving a vehicle with one number plate B. Number plates with unclear numbers	400		
28	Driving below the minimum speed set for the road (if any)	400		

No.	Violation	Fine	Black Points	Confiscation Period
29	Sudden swerving	1000	4	
30	Reversing dangerously	500	4	
31	Overtaking the Wrong Way	600		
32	A. Using a handheld mobile phone while driving B. Any other distractions	800	4	
33	A. Jumping a red signal by light vehicles B. Jumping a red signal by motorbikes	1000	12	30 days
34	Exceeding a maximum speed limit by more that 80km/h	3000	23	60 days
35	Exceeding maximum speed limit by more than 60km/h	2000	12	30days
36	Exceeding a maximum speed limit by not more than 60km/h	1500	6	15 days
37	Exceeding a maximum speed limit by not more than 50km/h	1000		
38	Exceeding maximum speed limit by not more than 40km/h	700		
39	Exceeding maximum speed limit by not more than 30km/h	600		
40	Exceeding maximum speed limit by not more than 20km/h	300		
41	Failure to follow traffic policeman instructions	400	4	
42	Overtaking from hard shoulder	1000	6	
43	Entering road dangerously	600	6	
44	Overtaking in a prohibited place	600		
45	A. Running away from traffic policeman (light vehicle) B. Running away from a traffic policeman (heavy vehicle)	800 1000	12 16	30 days 30 days
46	Causing death of others	Decided by court	23	60 days

No.	Violation	Fine	Black Points	Confiscation Period
47	Causing a serious accident or injuries	Decided by court	23	30 days
48	A. Failure of a light vehicle driver to stop after causing a minor accident B. Failure of a heavy vehicle driver to stop after causing a minor accident	500 1000	8 16	7days 7days
49	Allowing children under 10 years old to sit in front seats	400		
50	Failure to provide a child car seat for children under 4 years old	400		
51	A. Failure or driver to fasten seatbelt B. Failure of passenger to fasten seatbelt	400	4	
52	Failure to leave safety distance	400	4	
53	Entering road without making sure it is clear	400	4	
54	Not giving way to emergency, police and public service vehicles or official convoys	3000	6	
55	A. Parking cars in front of hydrants B. Parking in spaces designated for people with special needs	1000	6	
56	Stopping on the road for no reason	1000	6	
57	Stopping on the yellow box	500		
58	Parking on the left side of the road in prohibited places	1000		
59	Stopping at pedestrian crossings	500		
60	Parking behind other cars and blocking their way	500		
61	Taxis which have designated pickup areas stopping in undesignated ones	500	4	
62	Stopping the vehicle on a road junction or curve	500		
63	Not securing vehicle while parked	500		
64	Parking in a wrong way	500		

No.	Violation	Fine	Black Points	Confiscation Period
65	A. Parking in a way that poses danger to passersby B. Parking in a way that interrupts pedestrian movement	400		
66	Parking on pavements	400		
67	Writing phrases or placing stickers on vehicle without permission	500		
68	A. Exceeding permitted level of tinting B. Tinting a vehicle not allowed to be tinted	1500		
69	Not giving way to pedestrians on pedestrian crossing	500	6	
70	Failure to abide by traffic signs and instructions	500		
71	Littering from vehicle window while driving	1000	6	
72	Placing signs on the road in a way that causes harm to the road or interrupts traffic	500		
73	Modifying engine or chassis without permission	1000	12	
74	Rubbernecking and crowding at traffic accidents scenes	1000		30 days
75	Using vehicle for undesignated purpose	300	4	
76	Transporting passengers illegally	300	24	
77	Transporting inflammable or hazardous materials without permission	3000	24	30 days
78	Transporting passengers in a vehicle that is not licensed for this purpose	1000	4	60 days
79	Exceeding passenger limit by a passenger transport vehicle	500	4	
80	Failure to take road safety measures during vehicle breakdown	500		7 days
81	A. Failure of motorcyclist to wear helmet B. Failure of passenger to wear helmet	500 -	4	
82	Expired tires	500	4	7 days
83	Failure to use indicators when changing direction or turning	400		

No.	Violation	Fine	Black Points	Confiscation Period
84	Failure to give priority to vehicles coming from behind or the left side	400		
85	A. Failure to get the car tested after carrying out major modification to engine B. Failure to get the car tested after carrying out major modification to chassis	400		
86	Failure of a light vehicle to abide by lane discipline	400		
87	Poor condition of car lights	400	6	
88	A. Poor condition of indicators B. Poor condition of rear lights	400	2	
89	A. Failure of pedestrians to abide by traffic signals B. Pedestrians' crossing from undesignated areas	400		
90	Failure of a school bus driver to activate STOP SIGN or abide by traffic rules	500	6	
91	Driver's failure to stop when school bus's STOP SIGN is activated	1000	10	
92	Using three-wheel or more leisure bike on the road	3000		90 days
93	Driving on lanes designated for taxis and buses except in permitted cases	400		
94	Participating in a motorcade without permission except in permitted cases	500	4	15 days
95	Changing vehicle color without permission	800		
96	A. Towing a car or a boat without permission B. Failure to abide by safety and security standards in towing a car or a boat	1000		
97	A. Poor condition of trailer's rear or side lights B. Absence of trailer's rear or side lights	500	4	
98	Interrupting traffic in any other way not specified in this table	500		
99	A. Turning from undesignated areas B. Turning in a wrong way	500	4	
100	A. Loading a light vehicle in a way that poses danger to others B. Loading a light vehicle in a way that poses danger to the road	500	4	

No.	Violation	Fine	Black Points	Confiscation Period
101	Overload or protruding load from light vehicles	500	4	
102	Dropping or spilling load from light vehicles	500		
103	Illegal use of commercial number plates	500		7 days
104	A. Driving at night without lights B. Driving in a foggy weather without lights C. Driving in a foggy weather in violation of concerned authorities' instructions	500	4	
105	A. Using horn or car sound system in a disturbing way B. Driving at residential areas, educational zones, hospitals in a way that endangers others' lives	400	4	
106	A. Not carrying vehicle registration card B. Not carrying driving license	400		
107	Using driving learning vehicles in prohibited times and areas	400		
108	A. Teaching driving in a car that is not labeled as learning vehicle B. Teaching driving in a car that is undesignated for this purpose without permission from the licensing authority C. Teaching driving without a license	500		
109	Not carrying Driving Learning permit while training	300		
110	Failure to hand over driving license when the maximum black points are accrued In the first traffic violation	1000		
111	Failure to hand over driving license when the maximum black points are accrued in the second traffic violation	2000		
112	Failure to hand over driving license when the maximum black points are accrued in the third traffic violation	3000		
* Driving license to be suspended for one year.				

RTA Easy Licensing

Accessing your RTA Records

The RTA provides every Dubai driver license holder and Dubai vehicle registration owner with a 24 hour online Homepage to access their driving information and apply for driving related services. The Internet based service provides access in Arabic and English languages and displays information such as traffic fines and blackpoints.

To view your RTA driving records log onto **www.rta.ae** and select the "Licensing eServices" banner at the bottom of the page. On the next page select "New User" and enter your details. Registration is easy and fast.

RTA Services Online

The Online service also provides a wide range of RTA driving related services, such as vehicle registration renewal, driver's license renewal and the replacement of products such as a lost driver's license or vehicle plate.

The Online service allows client access to over 20 licensing related services. In most cases, such as vehicle registration renewal, the registration renewal transaction is completed in minutes. As part of that transaction, payment is made Online using a credit card and the person prints out a temporary Vehicle Registration approval at their home. The vehicle is registered as soon as the temporary Vehicle Registration approval document is printed and the vehicle can immediately be driven.

RTA Call Centre

The RTA Call Centre is also available 24 hours a day and can process most of the transactions that are available to you Online, such as vehicle registration renewal and driver's license renewal. Simply call the **RTA Call Center at 800 9090** and select Vehicle and Licensing Services.

To process business transactions through the Call Centre you will need a credit card or e-dirham and an email address that allows products such as the temporary Vehicle Registration approval to be sent to you. The fastest and easiest way to renew vehicle registration or a driver's license is through an RTA Trusted Agent. There are two types of Trusted Agents. There are selected Vehicle Insurers who are approved to renew vehicle registration for their clients and Opticians who are approved to renew driver's licenses for clients.

In the case of vehicle registration renewal you must purchase vehicle insurance. If you purchase insurance from an RTA Trusted Agent-Insurer they can also register your vehicle at the same time. They will give you the temporary Vehicle Registration approval to allow you to immediately drive your vehicle. If your vehicle is more than 3 years old it will first need a vehicle inspection.

The other Trusted Agent type is selected Opticians. For a driver's license you must pass an eye test. Do the eye test at an RTA Trusted Agent-Optician and have your license renewed at the same time. In this case the Optician will give you a temporary Driver License approval to allow you to immediately drive.

In all cases, whether it's a vehicle registration renewal or driver's license renewal you will be asked if you prefer to collect the final plastic registration card or driver's license from RTA or if you prefer the product to be delivered to you by courier. There is a small charge for courier delivery, but no additional charge if you collect the card.

Please note: RTA Trusted Agents do not charge any additional fees for processing RTA transactions on your behalf. You pay the same fees as you would with RTA.

A list of RTA Trusted Agent-Insurers and RTA Trusted Agent-Opticians is available on the RTA Internet at **www.rta.ae**, then select Licensing and press the "How To" button.

Renew your Vehicle Registration in 5 Steps

Option (A) - Renew Online or Option (B) Renew by RTA Call Centre

Anytime

STEP 1

ONLINE TEST your car at a vehicle test center if it is more than 3 years old or

CALL CENTRE TEST your car at a vehicle test center if it is more than 3 years old

STEP 2

ONLINE INSURE your vehicle (or)

CALL CENTRE INSURE your vehicle

STEP 3

ONLINE CREATE a profile on (www.rta.ae) (or)

CALL CENTRE CALL RTA on 8009090

STEP 4

ONLINE PAY your vehicle renewal fees and fines (if any) online using your credit card or e-dirham or

CALL CENTRE PAY your vehicle renewal fees and fines (if any) using your credit card or e-dirham

STEP 5

ONLINE PRINT your temporary vehicle registration approval to use your car. Have a courier deliver the registration card (or)

CALL CENTRE PRINT your temporary vehicle registration approval to use your car, that is sent by email. Have a courier deliver the registration card

Keep Learning and Enjoy Your Driving Experience

Road transport is a wonderful way of getting around and being in charge of a vehicle as a driver can be extremely rewarding. However, it comes with the important responsibility of ensuring that you and your passengers arrive safely. Once you have your license and have learnt how to be a safe driver, you will enjoy the experience of driving solo.

Make sure that you keep learning. Build on your experiences and take in as much road safety information as you can.

You will teach yourself more about driving than anybody else will. Here are some tips:

- Always ask yourself questions about your own driving. This way you are always thinking about it and trying to improve.
- Use an action plan and ask yourself where, when and why you should do something.
- Watch how others drive. This may give you clues about what to do.
- When trying to improve your driving, it helps if you can remind yourself what you should do (refer back to your reference materials).
- Ask other drivers how they would tackle a driving problem.
- Start to plan your own driving routes for normal driving, such as to work and back each day and to the local shopping centre.

If you do this you will find that driving is a wonderful past-time.

ENJOY!

VERY IMPORTANT!

If you encounter a collision on your way and are not involved, avoid slowing down to look at the accident scene as this may obstruct traffic and/or cause another accident.

If you see an ambulance with lights and sirens activated, allow it to pass by giving way to it.

In case of a minor traffic accident, use Dubai Police App, to Report Traffic Accidents

Roads and Transport Authority has the right to modify any item/s on this handbook at any time, according to new legislation, regulations and policies.

For Comments and/or Suggestions contact us:

email: **crmadmin@rta.ae**

website: **www.rta.ae**

Call Centre **800 90 90**