

# Drive Safe Driving School



## Emergency stop

### Introduction

By now you should be using **P.O.M** when moving off and stopping and be able to move off from the side of the road smoothly. Also you should be able to read the road in front, beside and even behind your vehicle whilst you are driving.

This lesson we are going to learn the emergency stop exercise, imagine a child ran out in front of your vehicle, you need to know how to take control of your vehicle.

A good driver would rarely have to stop in an emergency as he/she would always be on the look out for potentially dangerous situations and act accordingly. Never the less a situation may arise that could not have been anticipated and consequently your only course of action might be to undertake an emergency stop.

### Lesson's Aim and objectives

The aim of today lesson is to complete the emergency stop exercise using the brakes and clutch keeping full control of the vehicle at various speeds including overall stopping distances

**During this lesson you will be assessed on your general drive but giving you as much support as you need.**

### Lesson brief

#### The emergency stop exercise

Quick reactions are vital to the footbrake and the clutch.

**Don't waste time checking the mirrors.**

If you press the clutch first the car may become unstable and difficult to control.

Say **STOP** in your head when you press the brake when you get to **P** put the clutch down.

Why do you think you need to keep both hands on the steering wheel until the car has stopped?

When you brake hard the weight of the car is thrown forwards.

This means that you need a firm grip on the steering wheel to maintain direction or correct skids and to give your body a shock absorber should you collide with anything.

Don't try to steer when braking harshly otherwise you may put the car into a skid.

**Anti-lock brake system** = (ABS). Helps to regain control of the car by cadence braking faster than human reaction.

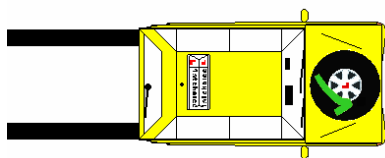
If the car skids in a straight line during an emergency stop you should quickly **release the footbrake a little and then re-apply**.

This will allow the tyres to regain their grip on the road surface by turning again.

The car can move sideways in a skid. If this happens look and steer in the direction you want to go.

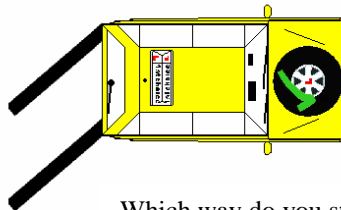
**Remember to release and re-apply the foot brake as you steer once you have gained control !!**

Take extra observations before moving away checking both blind spots. **Remember P. O. M.**



What's the Problem if your vehicles wheels lock up?

A. Wheels are not turning so therefore not slowing you down. Skidding does not slow you down effectively.



Which way do you steer if your vehicle skids to the right or left?

A. Turn into the skid, so whichever way the back is going that is the way you steer to bring it back in line.

## Speed and stopping distances

The distance it takes to stop a vehicle depends upon the *weight, speed, brakes, tyres and suspension of the vehicle.*

It also depends upon *your reaction speed or thinking time and the road surface itself.*

The Highway Code contains a guide to normal stopping distances assuming a typically dry road surface and average vehicle characteristics.

