

Drive Safe Driving School



Roundabouts

Introduction

Once you have a good understanding of the Hazard routine when approaching and emerging at different junctions and crossroads with little or no support from your instructor its time to look at dealing with different types of roundabouts with at times having multiple lanes and multiple exits.

This lesson we are going to be looking at different types of roundabouts with at times much more traffic.

Lesson Aim's and Objective's

The aim of today lesson is to be briefed on roundabouts so you can take early observations to ensure you approach the roundabout in the correct lane, correct speed and correct gears while taking the appropriate observations around the roundabout so you do not just stop, you plan to go but be prepared to stop.

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

Subject brief

Roundabouts are designed to keep the traffic flowing in a clockwise direction.

Always give way to traffic already on the roundabout approaching from your right. We will talk about immediate right on the actual lesson.

Maintain Lane discipline around the roundabout while anticipating the actions of other drivers and in particular those larger vehicles.

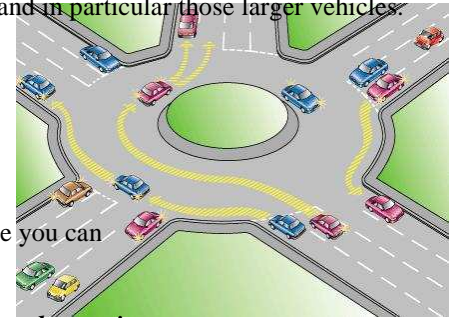
Approaching a roundabout

Apply your *hazard routine* and take observations as early as possible.

Start your hazard routine as you get to the roundabout sign.

Roundabouts are mostly open so that you can assess the flow of traffic on the roundabout as you approach the give way line.

The purpose of this is to give you the time to adjust your speed (*usually 2nd gear*) so if possible you can safely merge into a gap on your right without stopping.



Unfortunately some drivers use roundabouts as though they were stop junctions and only take observations to the right at the last minute. As a result they are prone to stopping at the give way line when it isn't necessary.

Consequently vehicles behind may end up running into the back of them as they wouldn't expect them to stop if the way was clear.

Therefore don't make this mistake and do not assume that the vehicle in front will proceed even if the way is clear.

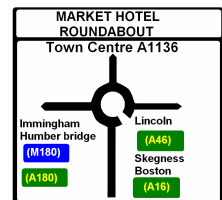
When entering a roundabout if you are going left or straight ahead always proceed in the left hand lane.(unless road marking or signs tell you otherwise).

If you intend to turn right be in the right hand lane always maintain lane discipline and stay in your lane.

There are two types of roundabout the MAIN and the MINI.

You identify the difference by the signs.

The Main have directions on the sign and a Mini has a round blue back ground circle with white arrows.



Signals

On a mini roundabout if you are taking the *1st exit* you signal left and alter your position on the approach as necessary.

If you're taking the *2nd exit* there is no need for a signal at all, unless you have time to signal off and it will not jeopardise your steering

If you are taking the *3rd exit* you signal right and alter your position on the approach and there is no need to signal off.

On a main roundabout the only difference is that when going straight ahead you have to signal left to leave.

REMEMBER:- Signal on and off of a Main roundabout and signal on only at a Mini roundabout.

