



# FINAL CHECKS FOR YOUR DRIVING TEST

A number of driving tests are not conducted/completed because test candidates do not meet certain requirements on the day of the test. Outlined below are the principal requirements that must be met. Some of these conditions are legal requirements eg. tread depth for tyres. In other cases, they are to ensure that the vehicle complies with health and safety requirements eg. head restraint in place.

1. You must be present in the test centre before the appointed time of your test. If you are late, the test cannot be conducted and your fee will be forfeited.
2. You must produce your current Irish provisional licence/learner permit for your test category. The driver tester will check to establish that it relates to you, is current and is for the correct category of vehicle. If you are a first time learner permit holder and your test is for a motorcycle, works vehicle or car (licence categories M, A1, A, W, B or EB) you can only take a test if you have held the learner permit for at least six months.
3. If you are taking a motorcycle test, i.e. Category A or A1, you must satisfy yourself that the vehicle presented for test is consistent with any restrictions denoted on the provisional licence/learner permit.
4. Please ensure that the vehicle you are using for your test meets the minimum vehicle requirements for the driving test as set out in your appointment letter.
5. You must be insured to drive the vehicle. The vehicle must display a current valid original Insurance Disc (white background with a green band extending along left hand side). The disc must clearly show the Registration Number (or fleet name) of the vehicle (not Chassis Number) and the policy dates. If the details are faded you should get the disc replaced prior to the test. You will be asked to read and sign a statement confirming that the vehicle insurance cover is in place and is adequate.
6. Vehicles used as taxis or hackneys are not permitted to be used as driving test vehicles unless the appropriate rate of Vehicle Excise Duty has been paid i.e. Class Private.
7. Vehicles hired under a hire agreement are not generally insured for the purpose of undertaking a driving test. If you intend to use such a vehicle you *must* obtain a note from the hire company indicating that it is insured for the driving test. This must be given to the driver tester on the day of the test.
8. Vehicles registered outside the state are not accepted for test purposes.
9. The following must be displayed on your vehicle:
  - 1) Current valid motor tax disc and insurance disc.
  - 2) NCT disc - vehicles obliged to undergo the National Car Test will not be taken for test if not displaying the appropriate disc. (You can call the NCT service on 1890 200670 for further information).

- 3) 'L' plates front and rear (a rectangular plate or sign bearing the letter 'L' not less than fifteen centimetres high in red on a white background and a border of at least 2 centimetres). From 1st December 2007 all provisional licence/learner permit holders for motorcycle licence category A, A1, or M, must when driving such a vehicle display a yellow fluorescent tabard bearing the letter 'L' not less than 15 centimetres high in red on a white background, in clearly visible vertical positions front and rear worn over the chest clothing.
10. The vehicle must be in a roadworthy condition at the time of the test. Specifically:
- a) Tyres should, upon visible inspection, comply with Road Traffic Acts requirements (minimum tyre tread depth requirement is currently 1.6mm for a motorcar),
  - b) Loads should be properly secured; loose objects inside the vehicle such as screwdrivers, knives, gas bottles etc. must be secured prior to commencing the drive. You may not carry passengers or pets while undergoing the test,
  - c) The windscreen should be clean and free from visual obstructions, including excessive cracks. In addition, the windows of the vehicle must not be unduly tinted,
  - d) The seat belt on the tester's side should be fitted and in good working order,
  - e) The passenger door on the tester's side should be working properly and, in particular, should be possible to open from the inside as well as the outside,
  - f) The suspension should not be defective,
  - g) The brake and indicator lights should be tested to ensure they are working efficiently. All indicator lights should be clearly showing amber.
  - h) The handbrake should be in good working order,
  - i) Your test will not be conducted/completed, as appropriate, if any system warning light comes on during the test.
  - j) There should be no leakage, into the vehicle, of exhaust fumes.
  - k) Where seats are designed to hold head restraints, these restraints must be in place on the day of the test,
  - l) As vehicles presented for a driving test are regarded as an enclosed workspace, all vehicles must be smoke free in accordance with the Public Health (Tobacco) Act, 2004. As this Act also covers environmental tobacco smoke, test candidates are requested to refrain from smoking in the vehicle prior to the driving test,
  - m) Other - there may, in exceptional circumstances, be other defects that would lead a tester to conclude on health and safety grounds that the test vehicle was not in a sufficiently roadworthy condition to conduct the test.

You will be asked to sign a statement confirming that your vehicle is in a roadworthy condition.

11. If you have difficulty communicating in English, or you are deaf or hard of hearing, you are permitted to have an interpreter/assistant with you. This person must not be your driving instructor and may not accompany you on the practical test. Please inform Driver Testing Section prior to the day of your test that you will have an interpreter/assistant with you. If you have any query on any of these matters please contact Driver Testing Section by phoning 1890 406040 in advance of your test.

Rev 10/07