



RSA



ESSENTIAL DRIVER TRAINING (EDT)

Learner Driver Information Booklet

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Údarás Um Shábháilteacht Ar Bhóithre
Road Safety Authority

Essential Driver Training

What is a competent driver?

A competent driver is able to drive with care and has the knowledge, skills and attitude to deal with hazards safely. To be a competent driver you should:

- have good observation skills,
- be considerate to other road users and share the road safely with them,
- exercise self-control and use your own judgement to ensure your safety, the safety of your passengers and that of other road users,
- understand the consequences of choices between safe and risky driving,
- never take risks on the road or drive aggressively.

How to become a competent driver

The Road Safety Authority (RSA) and road safety organisations around the world have tried to find out what makes people competent and safe drivers. It's clear that the way you learn to drive is most important. We know that learners become better and safer drivers when their learning is structured and planned.

So to help you become a safer driver, we have created a 12 hour Essential

Driver Training (EDT) course. If your first category B learner permit (code 991 in column marked restrictions/information) is dated on or after 4 April 2011 (look at ó/from column on the permit), you must take the EDT course. You can get more information on licence categories from www.rsa.ie

Before we tell you more about EDT, here is a guide to some of the terms we use in this booklet and how they relate to the EDT course.

Learner permit

A learner permit allows you to drive, with some restrictions, so you can get the practice you need to become a safe, competent driver before you take your test. You must only drive with an experienced driver in the car. This driver acts as your **Sponsor**.

You are not allowed to take a driving test for six months after the date in the ó/ from column on your permit. This gives you a chance to take the EDT course, to practise and to gain driving experience. Research shows that the longer a learner is supervised while driving, the less likely they are to be involved in a crash.

A learner permit currently lasts for two years for the first and second permit and for one year for a third or more. Always carry your learner permit while you're driving.



Remember

It is an offence for a Learner Driver to drive unaccompanied by a Qualified Driver. The learner driver and the owner of the vehicle may be fined. The vehicle may be detained by An Garda Síochána.

Sponsor

Your Sponsor supervises your driving practice between sessions. To get the most from your driving lessons, you must practise, practise, practise and the best person to do this with is your Sponsor. This is a responsible role so you should choose someone that you feel comfortable with. This might be a family member, such as a parent, aunt or uncle. Your Sponsor must be able to give you the time and effort to help you to learn, without payment. Sponsors must hold a full car driving licence for at least two years but more importantly should have lots of driving experience that you can benefit from.

Your Sponsor should:

- understand and support the work of your Approved Driving Instructor (ADI),
- understand the difficulties you face while learning,
- stay calm and patient under pressure,
- demonstrate good driving behaviour themselves,
- appreciate how important their role is,
- take time to meet your ADI to discuss your progress.

You will get the best results when you, your ADI and your Sponsor work closely together.

Approved Driving Instructor (ADI)

Only instructors approved by the RSA can deliver the Essential Driver Training (EDT) course, only those approved can give you the official Logbook. ADIs have the training resources to deliver the course. We monitor the work of each ADI so you can learn with confidence. To find an ADI in your area, visit our website www.rsa.ie and follow the link 'Find an Instructor'.

Your ADI will keep you informed of your progress as you build up your knowledge and skills throughout the course. If for any reason you are not happy with your training or have concerns about your progress, please talk to your ADI first. They will probably be able to sort out any issues you have. You can switch ADIs during the course but remember to get your ADI to sign off on each session you have completed before making any change.

If you have any problems or need more information, contact our Approved Driving Instruction Unit on 1890 50 60 80 or email adi@rsa.ie.

Logbook



At your first session, your ADI will give you a personal Logbook which you must hold on to, even if you change ADIs. Your Logbook sets out the session plan for each session of the Essential Driver Training (EDT) course. As you complete each session, your ADI will record your progress in your Logbook and sign it.

Take care of your Logbook – keep it safe and bring it along with you to each session so your ADI can update it. It's your responsibility to make sure your Logbook is updated after each session. If you switch to another ADI, they can only sign off on the sessions you complete with them.

Your Sponsor can check your Logbook for feedback. It will help them to guide your driving practice and prepare you for later sessions.

Now that you are more familiar with some of the terms we use, let's look at what EDT is and what it involves for you.

What is EDT?

EDT stands for Essential Driver Training, a course for learner drivers with permits for category B vehicles, such as cars and light vans. EDT will help you learn some of the most vital driving skills as well as improve your knowledge and understanding of road safety.

We have developed this course from the Learner Driver Training (LDT) syllabus, which covers all of the skills and behaviours that a competent driver needs to have. During your training, your ADI will refer to this syllabus. You can view it at any time at www.rsa.ie.

There are 12 one-hour sessions in the course. Appendix A in this booklet has the syllabus for each of the sessions and explains what you should expect from each session. Your ADI will record each session in your Logbook.

Each session has a set of **expected outcomes** – these describe what you should be able to do at the end of a session. Your ADI will select routes that will allow you to use the skills covered in the session. At the end of each session, your ADI will tell you what skills you should practise with your Sponsor. You must play your part and prepare for the next session.

Remember – the EDT course alone is not enough to make you a competent driver. You will need to practise as much as possible with your Sponsor, using the skills you have learnt in one session to prepare for the next session. To get the best from your training, you should spread your sessions over six months and leave at least two weeks between each session for practice. Your ADI and your Sponsor will advise you about other instruction and support you may need while you learn to drive.

Why do I need to do EDT?

Studies show that young, inexperienced drivers are more likely to die or be seriously injured in a crash so it's important to get the experience you need during your training. We have used a risk-based approach to develop the EDT course. This means that it focuses on learning the skills, understanding and behaviours you will need to deal with the hazards you will

face when driving. We know this will make a big difference to road safety.

The course means that the training you receive from your ADI and Sponsor will be consistent, and this will help you to become a safe and responsible driver. Their role is to develop your skills and good road behaviour so that it becomes a lifelong habit.

You must complete the EDT course before you can take your driving test.

Preparing for your first session

When you contact an ADI, ask them for advice on how to prepare for the EDT course. They may suggest you do some reading, sessions or practice before you begin EDT. If you follow your ADI's advice and practise driving with your Sponsor between your sessions, you should be able to achieve the expected outcomes set out in each session plan.

These booklets are good resources for learning:



- The Rules of The Road
- Learning to Drive manual

- EDT Logbook
- The LDT Syllabus

Before you attend your first session, make sure you have everything you need. Your ADI will check your learner permit. If you provide the vehicle for your training, they will also check insurance, motor tax, NCT and the roadworthiness of the vehicle. If your ADI is not happy with any of these, they may not go ahead with your session. You must sign a declaration that these are in order before each session.

At your first session, your ADI will register you and give you your Logbook. They will then set out the aims of the course and any rules about things such as asking questions and taking breaks.

At the end of each session, your ADI will sign and stamp your Logbook to confirm you have completed that session. They will also give you feedback on whether you met the outcomes for the session. They will advise you on what you need to practise and how to prepare for the next session.

Where can I practise my driving?

With a learner permit, you can drive on most roads in the Irish Republic but you are not allowed on a motorway. Your ADI or Sponsor must be with you at all times. Your Sponsor should always choose a practice area that is suited to your driving ability. They can ask your ADI for suggestions. Don't practise in heavy or fast traffic until you are confident enough to follow the pace of traffic.

What happens when I finish EDT?

This does not mean that you are finished learning – it just means you have the skills to continue learning. Safe practice of what you have learnt during the course will help you to develop the skills to be a safe and competent driver. You should practise these every time you drive with your Sponsor. Try to get as much practice as you can on different types of roads and in different traffic conditions.

To prepare for your driving test, keep a learning frame of mind as you practise. You can do more training with your ADI and your Sponsor. A mix of formal and informal training is a good way to develop your driving skills and risk awareness. Discuss the risks and how to reduce them with your ADI and Sponsor to help you learn more quickly and effectively.

If you have already applied for your driving test and the RSA have received details of your training from your ADI you will be given a test appointment. If you have not already applied for a test be guided by your ADI as to when it will be appropriate to apply, he or she will be fully familiar with driving test waiting times and is best placed to advise you.

You can now view all your EDT training records online. With your own personalised essential driver training application (My EDT), you can keep track of your progress and prepare for your driving test.

By logging on to www.rsa.ie and clicking on the My EDT tab.

To view your essential driver training records online, simply set up an account for My EDT. All you need to fill in is your **full name, date of birth and driver number**.

With MyEDT you can view your training record: what sessions you've completed, and when they were uploaded and what EDT sessions you have left to do. You can also print off any or all of your driving sessions.

If there are any differences between your online record of sessions and the sessions you've actually completed, **contact your driving instructor**. Your instructor will be able to update or correct anything in My EDT.

You should talk to your driving instructor about your progress and be guided by him /her. **Everyone is different: and if you need more lessons, your instructor will let you know**. If you're ready for your driving test, you can apply on line.

Sharing information

Please note, if you have completed the Essential Driver Training (EDT) certain information will be shared with the Road Safety Authority so it can make sure you fulfil the EDT requirements. This will include your name, driver number and details of the EDT sessions you completed.

Appendix A

Essential Driver Training

The 12 sessions in the Essential Driver Training (EDT) programme are designed to:

- help you prepare for the practical driving test;
- cover some of the most important skills and behaviours (driving habits) that a learner driver must have;
- guide your progress; and
- highlight the contribution the Approved Driving Instructor (ADI) and Sponsor (person who accompanies you while you're practising) make to this process.

We have also developed a separate Learner Driver Training (LDT) syllabus. It sets out the 'best practice' that you and your ADI should follow so that you can develop the full range of knowledge, skills and behaviours that a safe and responsible driver needs. While you are learning to drive you should cover all of these skills over time. In addition, the EDT programme focuses on the particularly crucial driving skills.

Essential Driver Training syllabus

The EDT programme does not cover all of the LDT syllabus. Instead, it focuses on the driving behaviours that research shows contribute most to collision and injuries. The EDT works with the driver to improve their knowledge, understanding and behaviour. It is designed to avoid high risk of harm to learner drivers and other road users by checking and, if necessary, correcting the driver's:

- habits;
- attitudes; and
- skills.

Each session should be covered in one hour. Your ADI should choose a route for your session that gives you the most opportunity to have relevant practice and demonstration. At the end of each session you should have achieved certain 'outcomes'. These are statements that will either be:

- accurate descriptions of your competence at the end of a session; or
- can be used by your ADI as reference points for advice to you or your Sponsor about the areas of your driving where you need more practice and what you should focus on.

Essential Driver Training syllabus

Do sessions 1 first

You must take EDT Session 1 first in order to establish the base line. Thereafter you shall take sessions 2 to 8 and sessions 9 to 12. Sessions 9 to 12 may not be taken until sessions 2 to 8 have been completed. sessions 2 to 8 and sessions 9 to 12 are not required to be taken in sequence.

Leave two weeks between sessions

You should leave at least two weeks between sessions to allow for practice and learning. This may involve further lessons with an ADI, but must also include practice lessons with a Sponsor or a mixture of both.

Reference materials

The Road Safety Authority publishes reference materials such as the Rules of the Road and the Car Learner Manual, which you may find useful.

Spread sessions over six months

If you combine practice, study and instruction you will have the best chance of meeting the expected outcomes of the EDT programme. This is why we recommend that you should take at least six months to complete the 12 EDT sessions.

SESSION 1: CAR CONTROLS AND SAFETY CHECKS	LDT Syllabus Ref(s)
<p>How should I prepare for Session 1?</p> <p>To get the most out of this session and achieve the expected outcomes from this session, you should have familiarised yourself with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● the Rules of the Road; ● the vehicle you will be taking the sessions in and its controls; and ● the information on preparing for safety checks. <p>You should also have practised with your ADI, Sponsor, or both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● to use the vehicle’s primary controls such as steering wheel and brakes; ● to use the secondary controls such as windscreen wipers and lights; ● driving in quiet and safe conditions; ● some basic manoeuvres such as starting and stopping. <p>You should practise for at least three hours before your first EDT session.</p>	<p>1.3</p> <p>1.7</p> <p>1.9</p> <p>1.10</p> <p>1.11</p> <p>2.1</p> <p>2.2</p> <p>2.3</p> <p>2.4</p>
<p>What is the objective for Session 1?</p> <p>During your first session your ADI should make sure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● you can carry out appropriate pre-start vehicle checks, including checking the roadworthiness of the vehicle; and ● you understand the vehicle’s primary and secondary controls and know how to use them correctly. <p>What is the minimum this first session should cover?</p> <p>At the very least, this first session must cover:</p>	

- the use of primary and secondary controls;
- vehicle safety; and
- vehicle roadworthiness.

Expected outcomes: what should I have learned at the end of Session 1?

Primary and secondary controls

At the end of the first session, you should be familiar with the pre-start vehicle check and know the location and function of the following, and be able to show you know how to use them:

- footbrake
- handbrake or parking brake
- steering
- gears
- accelerator and clutch (where fitted)
- windscreen wipers and washers
- lights and reflectors
- horn
- front and rear demisters
- windows, doors and locks.

You should also be able to explain why their correct and appropriate use is important to your own safety and that of other road users.

Vehicle safety

You should be able to explain:

- what routine safety checks should be performed on a vehicle and demonstrate how to do these;
- the main reasons why a vehicle may not be roadworthy;
- the safety and legal consequences of driving a vehicle that is not roadworthy; and

- the main points to take into account when carrying out safety checks;

You should also be able to explain:

- the positive environmental impact of proper use of primary and secondary controls;
- how to plan a journey; and
- where relevant, journey information may be available.

How should I prepare for Sessions 2-8?

Your next session could be any one of Sessions 2, 3,4,5,6,7 or 8 as these can be taken in any order.

To achieve the expected outcomes from Session 2 you should have:

- completed Session 1.

Practice is key

To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should have:

- read the expected outcomes of this session;
- done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and
- done any relevant study.

Specifically, you should practice using the primary and secondary controls, as well as carrying out routine safety checks.

You should also have read the sections of the Rules of the Road that deal with:

- correct positioning

You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.

SESSION 2: CORRECT POSITIONING 1	LDT Syllabus Ref(s)
<p>What is the objective for Session 2?</p> <p>During your second session, your ADI should make sure that you can position the car correctly on the road for the actions you are about to take. Actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● driving on the straight; ● cornering; ● negotiating bends and junctions; ● changing lanes; ● entering and exiting from slip roads; ● entering and exiting junctions and roundabouts; and ● correct positioning within traffic lanes. 	<p>2.6 3.4 3.5 4.6</p>
<p>What is the minimum this session should cover?</p> <p>At the very least, during this session your ADI should take you driving in light traffic situations so that you have enough opportunity for positioning your vehicle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● on the straight; ● in traffic lanes; ● on bends turning left and right; ● negotiating roundabouts; and ● approaching and emerging from junctions. <p>Expected outcomes: what should I have learned by the end of the Session 2?</p> <p>At the end of the second session, you should be able to show that you know how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● generally keep a safe position on the road; ● always keep a safe braking distance from other vehicles; and ● show appropriate and safe use of available road space. 	

How should I prepare for Session 3?

To achieve the expected outcomes from Session 3 you should have:

- completed Session 1 and Session 2.

You should discuss your sessions with your ADI and, based on their advice, you may also have completed some or all of Sessions 2,4,5,6,7, and 8. This is because Sessions 2 to 8 can be taken in any order.

Practice is key

To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should have:

- read the expected outcomes of this session;
- done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and
- done any relevant study.

You should have practised the following for at least three hours:

- positioning the vehicle on the straight;
- cornering;
- negotiating bends and junctions;
- changing lanes;
- entering and exiting from slip roads;
- entering and exiting junctions and roundabouts; and
- correct positioning within traffic lanes.

You should also have read the sections of the Rules of the Road that deal with:

- correct positioning in these situations; and
- changing direction and making observations.

You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.

SESSION 3: CHANGING DIRECTION 1	LDT Syllabus Ref(s)
<p>What is the objective for Session 3?</p> <p>During this session your ADI should make sure that you use key observational techniques in low-risk driving situations such as in quiet residential areas, quiet local and rural roads.</p>	<p>1.6 2.6 2.7 3.2 3.3</p>
<p>What is the minimum this session should cover?</p> <p>During this session, you should drive in light traffic situations in order to cover the MSMM (Mirror, Signal, Mirror, Manoeuvre) routine. You should also cover basic scanning techniques when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● turning left and right; ● turning at roundabouts; and ● when negotiating junctions. <p>Expected outcomes: what should I have learned by the end of Session 3?</p> <p>At the end of the third session, you should be able to show that you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● use mirrors appropriately; and ● carry out the MSMM routine correctly. <p>You should also be able to show that you can do the proper 'safety glances' when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● moving off; ● turning; ● at junctions; and ● negotiating roundabouts. <p>You should be able to show that you are aware of blind spots and how to compensate for them.</p>	

How should I prepare for Session 4?

To achieve the expected outcomes from Session 4, you should have;

- completed Session 1 to Session 3.

You should discuss your sessions with your ADI and, based on their advice, you may also have completed some or all of Sessions 2,3,5,6,7, and 8. This is because Sessions 2 to 8 can be taken in any order.

Practice is key

To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should also have:

- read the expected outcomes of this session;
- done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and
- done any relevant study.

Specifically, you should have practised the key observation techniques when changing direction for at least three hours.

You should also have read the sections of the Rules of the Road that deal with:

- changing direction and observations; and
- the management of speed.

You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.

SESSION 4: PROGRESSION MANAGEMENT

LDT Syllabus Ref(s)

What is the objective for Session 4?

During this session, your ADI should make sure that you can regulate and maintain good control over the speed of your vehicle in lower risk driving situations, such as quiet residential areas, quiet local and rural roads.

1.8

1.9

2.8

2.9

What is the minimum this session should cover?

At the very least this fourth session must cover the following aspects of speed management on public roads:

- controlling speed;
- speed limits;
- stopping distances;
- effects of road and weather conditions;
- driving too fast.

Expected outcomes: what should I have learned at the end of Session 4?

At the end of the fourth session, you should be able to show:

- you know how to adjust the speed of your vehicle appropriately for speed limits and road layouts.

You should also be able to explain the effects of:

- road and weather conditions; and
- a vehicle's load on stopping distances at different speeds;

You should be able to explain the potential effects of driving too fast and braking too hard on:

- your own safety;
- the safety of passengers;
- the safety of other road users; and
- on the environment.

How should I prepare for Session 5?

To achieve the expected outcomes from Session 5, you should have:

- completed Session 1 to Session 4.

You should discuss your sessions with your ADI and, based on their advice, you may also have completed some or all of Sessions 2,3,4,6,7, and 8. This is because Sessions 2 to 8 can be taken in any order.

Practice is key

To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should also have:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● read the expected outcomes of this session; ● done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and ● done any relevant study. <p>Specifically, you should have practised the use of correct speed in different situations for at least three hours.</p> <p>You should also have read the sections in the Rules of the Road on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● speed management; and ● correct positioning. <p>You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.</p>	
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SESSION 5: CORRECT POSITIONING 2 (MORE COMPLEX SITUATIONS)	LDT Syllabus Ref(s)
<p>What is the objective for Session 5?</p> <p>During this session your ADI should make sure that you can correctly position your vehicle on the road for the action you are about to take. Actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● positioning on the straight ● cornering ● negotiating bends ● negotiating junctions ● changing lanes ● entering and exiting from slip roads ● entering and exiting junctions ● roundabouts ● reversing ● turning ● parking ● stopping 	<p>2.6</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>4.6</p>

You should also be able to correctly position your vehicle while progressing through traffic and within traffic lanes.

What is the minimum this session should cover?

During this session, you should drive in traffic in a variety of road conditions so that you have enough chances to position your vehicle:

- on the straight
- in traffic lanes
- on bends turning left and right
- turning left and right
- negotiating roundabouts
- approaching and emerging from junctions
- reversing
- performing a turnabout
- parking
- stopping in a confined space
- stopping in traffic.

Expected outcomes: what should I have learned by the end of the Session 5?

At the end of the fifth session, you should be able to show that you can:

- consistently maintain a safe position on the road while keeping a safe braking distance;
- make appropriate and safe use of road sharing; and
- perform manoeuvres (parking, reversing and turnabout) in challenging situations.

How should I prepare for Session 6?

To achieve the expected outcomes from Session 6, you should have:

- completed Session 1 to Session 5;

You should discuss your sessions with your ADI and, based on their advice, you may also have completed some or all

<p>of Sessions 2,3,4,6,7, and 8. This is because Sessions 2 to 8 can be taken in any order.</p> <p>Practice is key</p> <p>To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should also have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● read the expected outcomes of this session; ● done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and ● done any relevant study. <p>Specifically, you should have practised the use of correct positioning in different situations for at least three hours.</p> <p>You should also have read the sections in the Rules of the Road on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Correct positioning; and ● Correct anticipation and reactions. <p>You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.</p>	
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SESSION 6: ANTICIPATION AND REACTION	LDT Syllabus Ref(s)
<p>What is the objective for Session 6?</p> <p>During this session your ADI should make sure that you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● know how to scan the environment for potential hazards; and ● can identify and respond appropriately to potential hazards. 	<p>3.3 4.2</p>
<p>What is the minimum the session should cover?</p> <p>During this session, your ADI should take you driving in a variety of road conditions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● junctions 	

- streets with parked cars
- streets with substantial numbers of pedestrians
- roads with multiple warning signs
- roads with poor visibility such as bends with tree cover or hill brows.

The session should cover potential hazards associated with:

- road junctions
- blind spots
- parked vehicles
- crossings
- roundabouts
- motorcyclists and cyclists
- road works
- pedestrians

Where it is not possible to cover one or more of these areas while driving, your ADI should ask you questions about them, which you should be able to answer.

Expected outcomes: what should I have learned by the end of Session 6?

You should be able to show that you can use scanning techniques to identify and respond to hazards. You should also be able to take into account potential hazards:

- by choosing the correct speed and gear;
- keeping a safe distance; and
- braking correctly.

You should be able to explain the potential effects of driving:

- at night
- in the rain
- in fog
- in snow.

You should be able to show that you can identify hazards and respond to them in good time.

How should I prepare for Session 7?

To achieve the expected outcomes from Session 7, you should have:

- completed Session 1 to Session 6.

You should discuss your sessions with your ADI and, based on their advice, you may also have completed some or all of Sessions 2,3,4,5,7, and 8. This is because Sessions 2 to 8 can be taken in any order.

Practice is key

To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should also have:

- read the expected outcomes of this session;
- done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and
- done any relevant study.

Specifically, for at least three hours, you should have practised how to scan the environment for potential hazards and respond appropriately.

You should also have read the sections in the Rules of the Road that deal with:

- correct reactions and anticipation; and
- sharing the road.

You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.

SESSION 7: SHARING THE ROAD

**LDT Syllabus
Ref(s)**

What is the objective for Session 7?

During this session your ADI should make sure that you can drive with due care and attention for the road and traffic conditions. This includes taking appropriate actions when you identify hazards.

2.7

3.1

3.4

What is the minimum the session should cover?

During this session, you should drive in a variety of road conditions including:

- junctions; and
- streets with parked cars.

You should also drive on streets with substantial numbers of pedestrians so that you have significant interaction with them and know how and when to give way to other road users.

Your ADI should also require you to deal with emergency vehicles when necessary.

Expected outcomes: what should I have learned by the end of Session 7?

- You should be able to show that you can enter, cross and join roads safely.
- You should know how to park safely on roads where there are other road users.
- You should be able to pass stationary and slow moving vehicles, cyclists and other road users safely and responsibly.
- You should know when and how to give way to other road users including pedestrians.
- You should know how to deal with emergency vehicles.

How should I prepare for Session 8?

To achieve the expected outcomes from Session 8, you should have:

- completed Session 1 to Session 7.

You should discuss your sessions with your ADI and, based on their advice, you may also have completed some or all of Sessions 2,3,4,5,6, and 8. This is because Sessions 2 to 8 can be taken in any order.

Practice is key

To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should also have:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● read the expected outcomes of the next session (as agreed with your ADI); and ● done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and ● done any relevant study. <p>Specifically, you should have practised for at least three hours, driving with due care and attention for the road and traffic conditions. This includes taking appropriate actions when you identify hazards.</p> <p>You should also have read the sections in the Rules of the Road that deal with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● sharing the road; and ● driving safely through traffic. <p>You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.</p>	
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SESSION 8: DRIVING SAFELY THROUGH TRAFFIC	LDT Syllabus Ref(s)
<p>What is the objective for Session 8?</p> <p>During this session your ADI should make sure that you can drive with due care and attention where there is a significant volume of other traffic.</p>	<p>3.1 3.4 3.5 4.3</p>
<p>What is the minimum the session should cover?</p> <p>This session should focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● defensive driving; ● recognising risks to the safety of others; and ● co-operating with other road users. <p>During the session, you should drive in traffic in a variety of busy road conditions so that you have significant interaction with other road users.</p>	

Expected outcomes: what should I have learned by the end of Session 8?

At the end of the eighth session, you should be able to show that you can:

- act appropriately and decisively while driving in traffic;
- describe actual and potential risks to other road users and manage them effectively;
- demonstrate how to use defensive driving techniques, which do not cause hesitation or impede reasonable progress; and
- demonstrate a good level of co-operation with other road users.

How should I prepare for Sessions 9 – 12?

Your next session could be any one of Sessions 9, 10, 11 or 12 as these can be taken in any order.

To achieve the expected outcomes from your next session, you should have:

- completed Session 1 to Session 8.

Before you do your next session, you should ask your ADI for advice on the relevant study material, practice, and/or driving sessions.

Practice is key

To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should also have:

- read the expected outcomes of the next session (as agreed with your ADI);
- done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and
- done any relevant study.

Specifically, you should have practised for at least three hours, driving with due care and attention, in situations where there is a significant volume of other traffic.

<p>You should also have read the sections in the Rules of the Road that deal with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● driving safely through traffic <p>You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.</p>	
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<p>SESSION 9: CHANGING DIRECTION 2 (MORE COMPLEX SITUATIONS)</p>	<p>LDT Syllabus Ref(s)</p>
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<p>What is the objective for Session 9?</p> <p>During this session your ADI should make sure that you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● carry out observational and scanning tasks when turning left and right; ● negotiate junctions; and ● change direction in more complex and challenging driving situations. <p>Some of this session should involve you making independent driving decisions and, where available, you should make use of dual carriageways.</p>	<p>3.1 3.4 3.5 4.3</p>
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<p>What is the minimum the session should cover?</p> <p>Your ADI should ask you to drive in traffic in a variety of busy road conditions. You should have significant interaction with other road users while making independent decisions about which route to take.</p> <p>Expected outcomes: what should I have learned by the end of Session 9?</p> <p>At the end of this session, you should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● change course safely with due regard for traffic controls; 	
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- change course safely with due regard for other road users;
- yield to other road users and progress appropriately; and
- change course safely using MSMM routine without prompt.

How should I prepare for my next session?

To achieve the expected outcomes from the next session, you should have:

- completed Session 1 to Session 9.

You should discuss your sessions with your ADI and, based on their advice, you may also have completed some or all of Sessions 10, 11 and 12. This is because Sessions 9 to 12 can be taken in any order.

Before you do your next session, you should ask your ADI for advice on the relevant study material, practice, and/or driving sessions.

Practice is key

To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should also have:

- read the expected outcomes of the next session (as agreed with your ADI);
- done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and
- done any relevant study.

Specifically, you should have practised the following for at least three hours:

- using the key observation techniques when changing direction in more complex or challenging driving situations; and
- independent driving decision-making.

<p>You should also have read the sections in the Rules of the Road that deal with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● changing directions and observations <p>You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.</p>	
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<p>SESSION 10: SPEED MANAGEMENT</p>	<p>LDT Syllabus Ref(s)</p>
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<p>What is the objective for Session 10?</p> <p>During this session your ADI should make sure that you can regulate and maintain good control over the speed of the vehicle in more complex or challenging driving situations.</p>	<p>2.8 2.9 3.5 4.1</p>
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<p>What is the minimum this session should cover?</p> <p>During the session your ADI should ask you to drive in fast-moving traffic or where speeds are highly variable. For example, they could ask you to drive where there are changing speed limits or variable traffic conditions. Some of this session should include independent driving.</p> <p>Expected outcomes: what should I have learned by the end of Session 10?</p> <p>You should be able, without prompting from your ADI, to show that you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● manage and control your speed; ● drive safely in fast moving traffic; ● drive safely where speeds are highly variable; and ● make decisions independently when in challenging situations. <p>You should also be able to describe how to drive safely in fast-moving traffic during different weather conditions.</p>	<p>4.2 4.3</p>
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<p>You should be able to explain how using the vehicle's main controls and complying with speed limits affect the environment.</p>	
<p>How should I prepare for my next session?</p> <p>To achieve the expected outcomes from the next session, you should have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● completed Session 1 to Session 8 and Session 10. <p>You should discuss your sessions with your ADI and based on their advice, you may also have completed some or all of Sessions 9, 11 and 12. This is because Sessions 9 to 12 can be taken in any order.</p> <p>Before you do your next session, you should ask your ADI for advice on the relevant study material, practice, and/or driving sessions.</p> <p>Practice is key</p> <p>To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should also have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● read the expected outcomes of the next session (as agreed with your ADI);● done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and● done any relevant study. <p>Specifically, you should have practised for at least three hours, regulating and maintaining good control over the speed of your vehicle, in more complex or challenging driving situations.</p> <p>You should also have read the sections in the Rules of the Road that deal with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● speed management <p>You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.</p>	

SESSION 11: DRIVING CALMLY	LDT Syllabus Ref(s)
<p>What is the objective for Session 11?</p> <p>For most of this session you should be driving independently and making your own decisions.</p> <p>During this session your ADI should make sure that you can remain in calm control of your vehicle in situations where you may be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● frustrated; ● exasperated; or ● feel threatened. <p>Your ADI should make sure that you understand the fundamentals of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● being fit to drive; and ● safe loading of vehicles. 	<p>2.10</p> <p>4.1</p> <p>4.2</p> <p>4.4</p>
<p>What is the minimum this session should cover?</p> <p>In this session, you should experience driving situations such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● joining busy main roads; ● entering junctions while driving independently; ● simulating the stalling and re-starting of the vehicle; and ● parking on a road with significant numbers of other parked cars and moderate traffic volumes. <p>You should also cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● planning for a journey; and ● fitness of passengers to travel. 	

Expected outcomes: what should I have learned by the end of Session 11?

At the end of the session, you should be able to:

- demonstrate appropriate anticipation of and reactions to other road users;
- drive safely and independently without hesitation or prompting;
- explain how to deal with peer pressure or other distraction;
- recover promptly and smoothly if the vehicle stalls; and
- recover promptly and smoothly if conditions force you to stop.

You should also be able to explain what might cause you to be unfit to drive including the effects of:

- alcohol
- drugs
- prescribed medication
- lack of sleep
- sickness
- injury
- heightened emotions

You should be able to describe the consequences – for your own safety and for the safety of passengers and other road users – of driving in an unfit condition. You should also be able to describe the legal implications of driving in an unfit condition.

You should be able to describe the possible consequences of carrying passengers who are likely to distract you.

You should be able to explain:

- the effects on a vehicle of it being fully loaded;
- how to load a vehicle safely and securely; and
- the importance of not carrying more than the maximum number of passengers.

How should I prepare for my next session?

To achieve the expected outcomes from your next session, you should have:

- completed Session 1 to Session 8 and Session 11.

You should discuss your sessions with your ADI and based on their advice, you may also have completed some or all of sessions 9, 10 and 12. This is because Sessions 9 to 12 can be taken in any order.

Before you do your next session, you should ask your ADI for advice on the relevant study material, practice, and/or driving sessions.

Practice is key

To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should also have:

- read the expected outcomes of the next session (as agreed with your ADI);
- done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and
- done any relevant study.

Specifically, you should have practised for at least three hours driving independently in more complex or challenging driving situations, while interacting with significant numbers of other parked cars and traffic volumes.

You should also have read the sections in the Rules of the Road that deal with:

- planning for a journey;
- fitness to drive;
- fitness of passengers to travel; and
- vehicle loading;

You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.

SESSION 12: NIGHT DRIVING	LDT Syllabus Ref(s)
<p>What is the objective for Session 12?</p> <p>During this session your ADI should make sure that you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● use your vehicle lighting correctly; and ● respond correctly to the lights of other road users. <p>You should also be able to maintain full control of the vehicle while:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● driving through traffic in the dark; or ● in poor lighting conditions. 	<p>2.10</p> <p>3.1</p> <p>4.2</p> <p>4.4</p> <p>4.5</p> <p>4.6</p>
<p>What is the minimum this session should cover?</p> <p>This session should take place after dark. Your ADI should ask you to drive in a variety of road conditions, including urban and rural roads. You should have significant interaction with other road users.</p> <p>Expected outcomes: what should I expect by the end of Session 12?</p> <p>At the end of this session, you should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● drive safely in the dark; ● drive safely where road lighting is poor; and ● describe the symptoms of poor night vision and how to deal with it. <p>You should also be able to show you know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● how to use your vehicle's lighting correctly; and ● the appropriate response to other vehicle lighting, including emergency vehicle lighting. 	

In the event that I have not completed all 12 sessions, how should I prepare for my next session?

To achieve the expected outcomes from your next session, you should have:

- completed Session 1 to Session 8 and Session 12.

You should discuss your sessions with your ADI and based on their advice, you may also have completed some or all of Sessions 9, 10 and 11. This is because Sessions 9 to 12 can be taken in any order.

Before you do your next session, you should ask your ADI for advice on the relevant study material, practice, and/or driving sessions.

Practice is key

To feel confident about meeting the learning objectives, you should also have:

- read the expected outcomes of the next session (as agreed with your ADI);
- done enough practice with your ADI, Sponsor, or both; and
- done any relevant study.

Specifically, you should have practised for at least three hours:

- responding correctly to the lights of other road users;
- maintaining full control of the vehicle while driving through traffic in the dark; and
- maintaining full control of the vehicle while driving in poor lighting conditions.

You should also have read the sections of the Rules of the Road that deal with:

- night driving; and
- driving in poor weather and lighting conditions.

You should have acted on any feedback your ADI gave you at the end of your last EDT session.

Completion of EDT programme

Congratulations! You have finished the EDT programme. You should now discuss with your ADI what further instruction and practice you need.

To get the best value from the programme, you should listen carefully to your ADI, consult with your Sponsor and, above all, practise, practise, practise.

The EDT programme and your Sponsor will allow you to do this in a safe environment.

Working To Save Lives

Údarás Um Shábháilteacht Ar Bhóithre
Road Safety Authority

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