

The test – what to expect

The test is the culmination of your training, it is your opportunity to show how good you are and justify your observer's faith in you. A little bit of nerves can be a good thing. Stay focused and try to enjoy it. The perfect driver has not yet been discovered but how close are you?

What to expect during the test

- The administration process
- The test
- You
- At the conclusion of the test

The administration process

Having applied for your test you will be contacted by your examiner either by telephone or email. This is to arrange a mutually convenient date, time and location for the test to take place. The location should be safe, easy to find, of no cost to either of you with facilities and easy access to a variety of roads. Supermarket car parks and fast food restaurants are often chosen. (Beware of time limited parking)

The test

This should be about 75 minutes from start to finish with no more than 60 minutes riding or driving.

What will be tested?

After the document disclaimer is dealt with the examiner will conduct an eyesight check. This is the same as the DVSA test or a police roadside check. You must be able to read a standard number plate at a distance of 20.5 metres.

During the drive you can be tested on anything from the course material. It may not be possible to assess some areas practically so the examiner may ask questions.

You will be asked to conduct a practical real life manoeuvre or demonstrate competency in course of test and your decision making process is part of the assessment. On a motorcycle you may be asked to perform a slow riding manoeuvre if this has not been displayed during the test.

Your drive must be safe and legal. Use your speedometer to keep to the speed limits which must be adhered to at all times, there are no exemptions when making an overtake so do not plan to exceed the speed limit when deliberating.

Your Examiner

All of the IAM examiners are advanced police drivers and have experience in dealing with road safety matters. They will:

- Put you at ease.
- Set the scene for you and explain what they are looking for.
- Explain clearly the route directions and how they will communicate them.
- Explain test protocols such as safety and commentary.
- Explain that any road traffic offence is likely to lead to a fail.

- Explain about their note taking (they write positive points as well as areas for development)
- Give advice on how mistakes will be dealt with (you will not necessarily fail for a minor mistake)
- Answer any questions you may have

You

We know that you will be nervous, we all were in the same circumstances. Your examiner will have been through the assessment process a number of times from both seats.

If you have any concerns or are unsure of anything don't be shy, ask the question, there is no such thing as a stupid question and you will get an answer to help put you at ease.

If you are suffering from any disability or mobility issues let the examiner know.

If you are dyslexic or hard of hearing let the examiner know.

All reasonable adjustments will be made to the test to make it all-inclusive. It must however be assessing a standard that is perceptibly higher than the DVSA test.

You will be asked to attempt a commentary. To achieve a FIRST you must have tried (unless medical reasons apply) give it a try it can help you to focus.

During the test if you don't hear or think you may have misunderstood an instruction ask. We are all human.

At the conclusion of the test

You will be told your result straight away Pass or Fail

You will be given verbal feedback followed by a written report containing the detail of your drive or ride.

If you are successful you will be given an interim pass certificate. You will also be given advice on other options within the IAM

that you may choose to further develop your skills such as Local or National observer, the FIRST register, the Master's program, or regionally run skills days.

If you are unsuccessful your areas to develop will be highlighted and this reinforced by the written report. If you don't understand what is being said ask, the examiner wants you to develop and be successful.

Advanced Driver/Rider test report

Candidate Information

Date:	Time:	First Name:	Applicant No:
Advanced test:	Intenders to discontinue:	Declaration:	Eye/sight test:

Vehicle Information (tick and delete as required)

Car:	Motorcycle:	Commercial (Heavy/Medium/Light):	Bus/Coach/Minibus (with trailer):
Trailer:	Motor:	Manual:	Automatic:

Competence Levels: 1 - Commanded 2 - Satisfactory 3 - Requires Development

Safety and legality	1	2	3
System	Use of gear/clutch	1	Control/steering
Observation	Acceleration/brake	1	Position/alignment
Planning & hazard management	Manoeuvre observation	1	Human factors & concentration
Anticipation	Vehicle sympathy & eco driving	1	Control
Decision making	Swerving	1	Slow manoeuvring
System thought	Knowledge	1	Smoothness

Comments

Examiner name: _____ Signature: _____ Number: _____