

Reading The Road: Project Worksheets

For this project you will:

- Read the Method notes below
- Determine your goals for the exercise
- Drive initially for two dedicated 30 minute sessions and then continue to monitor your driving.
- Reflect on the outcome of the practise

Method

This project is designed to:

1. Further raise your awareness of hazards on the road.
2. Further develop your ability to plan well ahead, driving as fluently as possible, while making maximum progress and minimising the need to stop.

Lack of forward planning is possibly the biggest cause of road accidents in this country, and indeed around the world. Many, if not most, drivers tend to drive in a reactive rather than proactive way. Honing your 'road reading' skills will help you to reduce your accident risk through well planned driving. These skills are also essential for safe and effective teaching.

Spend 2x thirty minute sessions concentrating on trying to keep the car moving, i.e., planning your drive so that you never get held up at roundabouts, traffic lights, etc. Your route should include suburban and rural "A" class roads with a reasonable volume of traffic.

After the initial practise continue to work on and develop your planning skills – this is a process that you should revisit regularly as a driver, especially as a driving instructor, to ensure that you don't become 'lazy' behind the wheel. With this in mind we advise all instructors to take regular driving assessments – one way to do this is to take an advanced test every three or four years (perhaps alternating through the different tests available).

Score and assess yourself as usual, making note of the things that you need to do to achieve an improvement. Use what you learn in the first drive to set your targets for the second drive.

We have added two additional, optional, assessment sheets. You might want to use these later on, perhaps before your test, to monitor your ongoing progress.

Reading The Road: Goals

Name: Date

The three main things that I want to achieve during my 'reading the road' practise are:

1.

2.

3

Now consider the evidence that will tell you that you have achieved your goals. What will be different, what will you see, hear and feel differently?

I will know when I have achieved the three goals above when:

1.

2.

3.

Reading The Road: Project Results

Name: Date

Your achievement targets for the first drive (*There are 9 evaluation criteria. Average = total divided by 9*)

<i>When reading the road I:</i>	Score Before	Score After
Never exceed the speed limits		
Keep my eyes moving and scanning the road ahead		
Look well ahead for vehicles that are slowing down or pulling out		
Consider the time of day and how it may affect the traffic situation.		
Am fully aware of the type of road that I am driving on.		
Maintain the correct road position and checking my mirrors frequently.		
Concentrate on the available space ahead and not the obstructions.		
Plan to go, not to stop		
Make best use of my acceleration sense		
<i>Total score</i>		
<i>Average score (total score divided by 9)</i>		

Note any immediate thoughts below for later reference:

Reading The Road: Project Results

Name: Date

Your achievement targets for the second drive (*There are 9 evaluation criteria. Average = total divided by 9*)

<i>When reading the road I:</i>	Score Before	Score After
Never exceed the speed limits		
Keep my eyes moving and scanning the road ahead		
Look well ahead for vehicles that are slowing down or pulling out		
Consider the time of day and how it may affect the traffic situation.		
Am fully aware of the type of road that I am driving on.		
Maintain the correct road position and checking my mirrors frequently.		
Concentrate on the available space ahead and not the obstructions.		
Plan to go, not to stop		
Make best use of my acceleration sense		
<i>Total score</i>		
<i>Average score (total score divided by 9)</i>		

Note any immediate thoughts below for later reference:

Reading The Road: Project Results (Optional)

Name: Date

Your achievement targets for the third drive (*There are 9 evaluation criteria. Average = total divided by 9*)

<i>When reading the road I:</i>	Score Before	Score After
Never exceed the speed limits		
Keep my eyes moving and scanning the road ahead		
Look well ahead for vehicles that are slowing down or pulling out		
Consider the time of day and how it may affect the traffic situation.		
Am fully aware of the type of road that I am driving on.		
Maintain the correct road position and checking my mirrors frequently.		
Concentrate on the available space ahead and not the obstructions.		
Plan to go, not to stop		
Make best use of my acceleration sense		
<i>Total score</i>		
<i>Average score (total score divided by 9)</i>		

Note any immediate thoughts below for later reference:

Reading The Road: Project Results (Optional)

Name: Date

Your achievement targets for the fourth drive (There are 9 evaluation criteria. Average = total divided by 9)

<i>When reading the road I:</i>	Score Before	Score After
Never exceed the speed limits		
Keep my eyes moving and scanning the road ahead		
Look well ahead for vehicles that are slowing down or pulling out		
Consider the time of day and how it may affect the traffic situation.		
Am fully aware of the type of road that I am driving on.		
Maintain the correct road position and checking my mirrors frequently.		
Concentrate on the available space ahead and not the obstructions.		
Plan to go, not to stop		
Make best use of my acceleration sense		
<i>Total score</i>		
<i>Average score (total score divided by 9)</i>		

Note any immediate thoughts below for later reference:

Reading The Road: Reflection

Name: Date

Use this sheet to write your reflective notes about your 'reading the road' experiences.

Your completed notes form part of the coursework required for assessment. Please contact Training Support for details of how to submit your work.

- What have you learned?
- What have you learned about yourself?
- What do you need to improve?
- Where/how will you use the learning?

But you are not limited to these points and are encouraged to write anything that is relevant for you.