

Overtaking answers

When would you start to teach the basics of overtaking – and what standard would a learner need to be for an overtaking lesson on a fast two-way road?

The basics could be covered early on for passing cyclists. A learner would need to be test-standard or a full licence holder in order to do an overtaking lesson on a fast two-way road.

What advice would you give about gears when overtaking?

It is usually good practice to change down for more acceleration when overtaking.

Many drivers make a common error when overtaking, especially if they have underpowered cars, what is this error?

Driving up behind the 'target' vehicle too quickly and then 'swooping' out to overtake. This is dangerous because it reduces forward observation, makes the car unstable and leaves little room for error.

What common driving error prevents drivers from overtaking large vehicles when it might be perfectly safe and appropriate to do so?

Many drivers follow too closely behind large vehicles – by doing this they limit their forward vision and so are unable to see safe opportunities to overtake.