SMART DRIVING 7 i-Course - Driving

Reverse left answers

What advice does Smartdriving give about using mirrors when reversing?

Quick glances. Mirrors can be used to check position but should not be relied on because they offer a limited field of view.

Note: If driving a van you might have to rely on mirrors – but in this instance you should also either seek the help of another person to act as a lookout, or check behind the vehicle before starting (or during) the manoeuvre by getting out if necessary.

Briefly explain, as if to a learner driver, the observation checks that should be completed before and during this manoeuvre?

Normal checks before moving off and then check the side road when passing. Normal MSM when stopping on the left after the side road. Six point check before starting to reverse, normally right to left – observation over the left shoulder while reversing. Check all around at the point of turn, especially the right-hand blind spot. Check around at least three times while reversing around the corner and along the side road. Keep looking behind until the car stops.

How do you control the car's speed when reversing around a corner downhill?

By use of the footbrake - with the clutch down.

How far should you be from the kerb during this manoeuvre?

Start approximately 18 inches from the kerb – too close could mean tyre damage against the kerb. Aim to keep within two feet of the kerb (60cm) at all times during the manoeuvre. Finish in a parked position between six and twelve inches from the kerb (15-30 cm) – note that finishing in a straight line is more important than distance from the kerb however you should be within 18 inches (45cm) as a maximum,

What would you do if another vehicle approaches during the manoeuvre?

Make eye-contact with the driver if possible and be prepared to give way if necessary.

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