

**Subject:** **Changing Gear**

**Recap:** Use of Controls (Clutch & Gears) - Moving Off & Stopping

**Objective:**

- What* To change up & down through the gears smoothly & at the appropriate time.
- How* Look at the main points of changing gear followed by stationary, and then on road practice, under various levels of instruction.
- By the end* Be able to change gear smoothly & at the appropriate time.

**Main Points:**

**Why?** Match engine speed/load to speed of vehicle - enough power?

**When? Up** As speed increases. Higher gear = Less power but more speed.

**Down** Slowed down - not enough power for speed.

Uphill - too high gear, engine labours.

Downhill - lower gear increases engine braking.

**How?** Don't look at lever - eyes on road

Learn gear positions (resting position/spring)

Hand positions

**Procedure** Left hand on lever (grip wheel firmly with right)

Clutch down - ease off accelerator

Select required gear

Smoothly clutch up - accelerate gradually

Left hand back to steering wheel

**Coasting** Definition. Reduces control - No engine braking - Downhill, speed/braking.

**Over-run** Definition. OK, no loss of control. Engine braking/acceleration available imm.

**Slipping Clutch** Clutch partially down (compensate) - Bad technique - Excessive clutch wear.

**Practise** Stationary gear changes - One handed steering

**References:** Driving the Essential Skills P. 77-81 - BSM Pass Your Driving Test P. 27-28

**Any Questions?**