

**Subject:** Turning Left (Major to Minor)

**Recap:** Moving Off & Stopping. Gears. MSM

**Objective:**

- What* How to approach & negotiate a left hand junction safely.
- How* Look at the main points of turning left and how the MSM routine should be applied, followed by on road practice.
- By the end* Be able to turn left from a major into a minor road under full control and with due regard for other road users/pedestrians.

**Main Points:**

**Advance Info.** Look for clues on the approach to help identify the junction & plan ahead:  
Amount of traffic, vehicles turning into/emerging from road, warning/direction signs, road markings, traffic lights, breaks in lines of houses/parked cars.

**Hazard** Junctions are hazards - MSM routine should be applied (MSPSL)

**Mirrors** Check speed/position of vehicles behind - Interior and left.

**Signal** Your intention to other road users/pedestrians - clearly and in good time.

**Position** Maintain normal position (1m from kerb) - Confirms intent to turn left (not park).

**Speed** Reduce speed on approach - the less you can see, the slower you should go.  
Slowest just before the turn and in correct gear (2nd) approx 2 car lengths before turn to give you time to raise clutch fully (don't coast around corner).

**Look** Check mirrors again - esp left door mirror (cyclists).  
Ahead - Is anyone turning right into the same road?  
Left into new road for problems - Cyclists/pedestrians crossing/obstructions.  
Be prepared to stop.

**Steering** Not too early (clip kerb) or too late (end up unsafely on wrong side of road)  
Don't swing out to the right before turning (maintain normal position if poss).

**After Turn** Check mirrors and if safe, accelerate away.

**References:** Driving the Essential Skills P. 149-152 Official Driving Test P. 39-40  
BSM Pass Your Driving Test P. 41-43

**Any Questions?**