



THE GUERNSEY THEORY DRIVING TEST AND DRIVING ABROAD LEARNING MATERIAL

What is the driving theory test?

The theory test is computer based and made up of two parts, a multiple choice exam that tests your road sense and awareness, including the rules of the road, respect for other road users, vehicle maintenance, safety and security. The hazard perception element follows the questions part and is intended to test your ability to identify developing hazards using video clips.

Where will I take the test?

All theory tests in Guernsey are run at the Traffic & Highway Services Bulwer Avenue Office, St Sampson. Alderney tests are held at the Alderney States Office. You must arrive 15 minutes early for your test.

What test will I need to take?

There are four classes of theory test – the one that you will need to take will depend on the category of provisional licence you hold.

How does the test work?

The theory test is made up of a multiple-choice part and a hazard perception part. You need to pass both parts to pass the theory test.

If you pass one part and fail the other you'll fail the whole test, and you'll need to take both parts again.

The questions in the multiple-choice test will depend on the category of vehicle on your provisional licence. For example, a motorcycle theory test will contain some questions that don't appear in any other test.

For the hazard perception test there are no separate versions for different vehicle types, but the number of clips and the pass mark is different for lorries and buses.

At the theory test centre

You must not take any personal items into the test room with you. These must be stored in the lockers provided. If you're found with any prohibited items in the testing room your test will be stopped, you'll be asked to leave and you'll lose your test fee.

You must not distract or talk to other candidates during the test.

The multiple-choice part

Before the test starts you'll be given instructions on how it works.

You can choose to do a practice session of 5 multiple-choice questions to get used to the layout of the test. At the end of the practice session the real test will begin.

A question and several possible answers will appear on a computer screen - you need to select the correct answer/s by using the mouse to click on them. You can move between questions and 'flag' questions that you want to come back to later in the test.

The car and motorcycle multiple-choice part lasts for 57 minutes and the pass mark is 43 out of 50.

The lorry and bus multiple-choice part lasts for 115 minutes and the pass mark is 85 out of 100.

After the multiple-choice part you can choose to have a break of up to 3 minutes before the hazard perception part starts.

The hazard perception part

Before you start the hazard perception part, you'll be shown a short video clip about how it works.

You'll then be shown a series of 14 video clips for car and motorcycle tests or 19 clips for lorry and bus tests on a computer screen. This part of the test will take no more than 20 minutes. The clips feature:-

- everyday road scenes
- contain at least one 'developing hazard' (one of the clips will feature 2 'developing hazards')

A developing hazard is something that may result in you having to take some action, such as changing speed or direction.

Hazard perception test scoring

The earlier you notice a developing hazard and make a response, the higher you will score. Using the mouse provided you will need to click on the screen to record the exact moment of each response when you observed a developing hazard on or near the road. Your score is determined by your first 5 clicks.

The most you can score for each developing hazard is 5 points.

To get a high score you need to respond to the developing hazard as soon as you see it starting.

You won't be able to review your answers.

The pass mark for the hazard perception part for car and motorcycle tests is 44 out of 75 and for lorry and bus tests it is 67 out of 100.

Your test result

At the end of your test the screen will show you whether you have passed or failed. You will get a pass certificate if you pass your theory test. You'll need this when you take your practical test.

If you fail you will be given a result sheet which will identify the questions you answered incorrectly in the multiple choice part, however, the clips you failed on in the hazard perception test will not be made known to you. You will need to retake both parts of the test should you fail either section.

Your theory test pass certificate lasts for 2 years after taking your test. You'll need to take and pass the theory test again if you haven't passed your practical test by then.

You can take your theory test as many times as you need to, but you will have to wait 7 clear days before you can take another test. Your test can be booked online at www.traffic.gov.gg

Does everybody have to take the theory test?

Most candidates who are learning to drive or ride will have to sit a

theory test for that category before taking their practical test and obtaining a full licence. The exceptions are:

- If you currently hold a full licence and are upgrading your licence within the same category group e.g. P to A1 or B to BE, and have previously passed a theory test containing both multiple choice and hazard perception elements in that category group.
- For example, if you hold a **full** category P moped driving licence, having passed a motorcycle theory test on or after 1st November 2016 when the hazard perception element was introduced and then a practical moped test, you would not have to take the motorcycle theory test again before taking a practical test for a category A1 or A motorcycle.
- Foreign exchangeable licences. If you hold a full driving licence issued from a different authority outside of Guernsey then it may be valid for exchange for an equivalent Guernsey licence without the need for a theory or practical test to be taken. However, if you cannot exchange your licence then you will need to take and pass a theory test before you can book for a practical driving test. You can find more information on whether or not your licence would be exchangeable from our leaflet “Advice and information for new Guernsey Residents”, from our website www.gov.gg/traffic

How Can I book my theory test?

Theory tests to be taken in Guernsey can be booked online at www.traffic.gov.gg If you need to cancel the test or relocate it to another day, this can be done online. **However, if there is less than 3 days’ notice the booking can’t be relocated and if cancelled you will lose your fee unless you are unable to attend on medical grounds and a doctor’s certificate is provided.**

Tests to be taken in Alderney must be booked at Alderney States Offices. Your provisional driving licence must be valid on the date of your theory test.

How much will the theory test cost?

Car and motorcycle tests carry a fee of £38. HGV and PCV tests carry a fee of £54. Payment must be made at the time of booking.

Are special needs catered for?

If you have special needs that you believe may affect your test, i.e. you are a wheelchair user or you have significant learning difficulties please make this known at the time of booking via the special needs request section in the online booking system.

We will then endeavour to make special arrangements for these needs to be accommodated for your test session.

You will have the option of an English voice-over if you consider it easier to understand the spoken word. However, this facility does **not** constitute special assistance and you will not need to contact us in advance in this regard. This facility will be offered as an option at the test centre, just make the invigilator aware of this requirement before the test commences.

How can I prepare for the theory test?

It is important that you study for your theory test by learning the UK Highway Code and the Highway Code for Guernsey and other training material. Not only will this help you to pass your test, but it will also help you to become a safe driver.

The Highway Code for Guernsey is available free from local bookshops when you purchase a copy of the UK Highway Code or it can be downloaded at www.gov.gg/traffic

An “Islands Driving Theory Test” USB stick and the “Islands Driving Theory Test” App are additional methods of assisting with preparation for the test. Find information about them here www.gov.gg/drivingtests . Unfortunately the USBs are incompatible with Apple Mac systems. The USB is available from our Bulwer Avenue Office at a cost of £12. The multi choice questions and hazard perception test App is £13.99 and available from the Apple Store & Google Play.

The theory test training material has been installed on a Guille Allez Library computer for your use as well as at our Bulwer Avenue Office on a publically available computer in the Theory Suite anytime between 9am and 4:30pm Monday to Friday.

There is a wide range of training materials available from bookshops and online, including other training products. The follow publications will help with your test preparation.

- Know your Traffic Signs
- Driving/Motorcycle riding - the essential skills
- The Official Theory Test for Car Drivers/Motorcyclists/Drivers of large vehicles
- Official motorcycling CBT, Theory and Practical Test
- Driving Goods vehicles/Driving buses and coaches - the official DSA syllabus

Do I need to retain my Pass Confirmation Letter and how long is it valid for?

You must keep your pass confirmation letter in a safe place as you will be required to produce it at the time of a practical driving test.

A theory test pass covers more than one category of driving licence, for instance if you hold a motorcycle pass certificate you will be able to take a practical test in any motorcycle licence category, provided

you hold the core category on your provisional licence. However, an expired theory test pass can be used to sit a practical test *if* you already hold a full licence in any of the related categories covered by the theory test pass, provided that your theory test included the hazard perception element.

This means that if you hold a full licence, for instance in category A1, you will not have to re-take the same theory test to upgrade to a category A. However, if you hold a full licence and wish to upgrade within the same licence category group, but have never taken a theory test in that category group, you will need to pass a theory test before you can book a practical test.

DRIVING ABROAD INFORMATION (LEARNING MATERIAL)

Essential information that you will required for your multiple choice theory test that is not covered elsewhere in the learning material available.

The information has been split into relevant categories.

Category P, A & B – Moped, Motorcycle & Car

When driving in France you are legally required to:-

- be at least 18 years of age
- display a GBG sticker on the rear of your vehicle
- carry a warning triangle and reflective jacket
- carry a breathalyser
- have fitted headlight deflectors

In France if you are the last vehicle in a queue of slow moving traffic you must use your hazard warning lights until another vehicle joins the queue behind you.

In the UK you need to be 17 years of age to drive a car.

Category C – Lorry

The driver of any vehicle is liable if it is found to be carrying illegal immigrants.

In France if you are the last vehicle in a queue of slow moving traffic you must use your hazard warning lights until another vehicle joins the queue behind you.

Before starting an international journey into Europe you must always:-

- record the place from where you start your journey on the centre field of your tachograph chart
- ensure you comply with the international driver's hours, rules & regulations
- ensure the vehicle tachograph calibration date is not expired

If you break EC tachograph regulations you will be heavily fined and may lose your licence.

In the UK long vehicles may only park in a lay-by or service area.

Category D - Bus

The driver of any vehicle is liable if it is found to be carrying illegal immigrants.

If in an emergency you exceed normal driver's hours (under EC rules) you must continue using the same tachograph chart and add a written explanation on the reverse.

Before starting an international journey into Europe you must always:-

- record the place from where you start your journey on the centre field of your tachograph chart
- ensure you comply with the international driver's hours, rules & regulations
- ensure the vehicle tachograph calibration date is not expired

If you break EC tachograph regulations you will be heavily fined and may lose your licence.

In the UK the minimum height of a bridge is 5 metres (16 feet 3 inches).

In France if you are the last vehicle in a queue of slow moving traffic you must use your hazard warning lights until another vehicle joins the queue behind you.

Approved Driving Instructor

When driving in France you are legally required to:-

- be at least 18 years of age
- display a GBG sticker on the rear of your vehicle
- carry a warning triangle and reflective jacket
- carry a breathalyser
- have fitted headlight deflectors
- carry your Driving Licence

In France if you are the last vehicle in a queue of slow moving traffic you must use your hazard warning lights until another vehicle joins the queue behind you.

In the UK you need to be 17 years of age to drive a car.

A child under 10 years of age must not travel in the front seat of a car in France.

In France it is illegal to carry in a vehicle radar detection equipment or GPS devices that locate fixed speed cameras.

Further queries:

Should you have any further questions concerning the theory test please feel free to contact:-

Traffic & Highway Services
Telephone (01481) 243400
email (drivingtests@gov.gg)