

EMERGENCY STOP

1. AWAIT INSTRUCTIONS

If you're demonstrating an emergency stop in the driving test, you'll be given prior warning. The examiner will do this to ensure you're not blindsided.



- The examiner will ask you to pull up on the left. Once you've found a safe place, put the handbrake on and select neutral.
- They'll then tell you that you'll have to carry out an emergency stop shortly. The examiner will show you how they will do this—using a verbal cue, “stop”, and a visual one with their hand raised up.
- You don't have to worry about observations. The examiner is required to check that it's safe for you to carry out the emergency stop procedure, so they'll carry out observations beforehand.
- Once you set off, try not to worry about when they might ask you to carry out the emergency stop—you don't want to be too tense whilst driving!

2. TAKE ACTION IMMEDIATELY

Though you might have noticed the examiner carrying out various checks, it's important that you wait for their signal to start the emergency stop.



- Once the examiner gives you the signal, you need to take action immediately. Again, there's no need to check your mirrors.
- If you have an ABS, you'll depress the clutch and brake pedals at the same time. If you don't, you'll need to brake and then depress the clutch just before stopping—do it too early and you'll coast.
- Keep both hands on the steering wheel throughout the procedure. You don't want to end up swerving. If you end up stalling, don't worry—it's not an automatic fail. Simply restart the car.
- Once the car has come to a stop, apply the handbrake and then select the neutral gear.

3. OBSERVATIONS AND MOVE OFF

After you've stopped the car, the most difficult part of the emergency stop procedure is finally out of the way. All that's left is to move off.



- With the emergency stop over, the examiner will tell you to move off when you're ready. Before you start moving, make sure that it's safe.
- It's time for your mirror and blindspot checks. Look over your right shoulder blindspot, right-hand mirror, interior, left-hand mirror, left shoulder blindspot and, finally, the rear window.
- Once you're absolutely sure the roads are clear of oncoming traffic, and you don't have any surprise road users in your blindspots, you can start to move.
- Simply select the first gear, release your handbrake, signal your intention to move off, and off you go!