



## THE GUERNSEY THEORY DRIVING TEST

### 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 and a hazard perception element intended to test your ability to identify developing hazards using video clips.

### 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 vehicles, but the pass mark is different for them.

### At the theory test centre

You aren't allowed to take any personal items into the test room with you. All your personal items 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 can't distract or talk to other candidates in the test room.

### 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 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 have to select the correct answer by touching the screen and highlighting an answer.

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 84 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' - but 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](http://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 (see category group table above) and have previously passed a theory test in that category group.
- For example, if you hold a **full** category P moped driving licence, having passed a motorcycle theory test 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](http://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](http://www.traffic.gov.gg).

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.

### **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.

### **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, ie 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. Not only will this help you to pass your test, but it will also help you to become a safe driver.

You must learn your Highway Code in order to pass the theory test. This should be read in conjunction with the local supplement to the Highway Code which is available free from local bookshops when you purchase a copy of the Highway Code or can be downloaded at [www.gov.gg/traffic](http://www.gov.gg/traffic)

There is also an "Islands Theory Test" CD-ROM which contains all the questions that will be asked in your Theory Test. Unfortunately the CD is not compatible to Apple Mac systems The CDs are available from our Bulwer Avenue Office at a cost of £8.

The CD-ROM has also 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.

The following books are also available from local bookshops or can be purchased online to help you prepare:

- 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.

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.

### **Further queries:**

Should you have any further questions concerning the theory test please feel free to contact Traffic & Highway Services by email ([drivingtests@gov.gg](mailto:drivingtests@gov.gg)) or by telephone (01481 243400).