

Learn to drive the AA Way

Supervised Practice Checklist

Legal requirements

- As a supervisor, you need to have held a full licence for at least two years and meet the legal requirements to be able to supervise a learner driver
- Both you and your learner need to carry a valid driver licence with you whenever you're driving
- The vehicle must be roadworthy and meet the New Zealand road legal requirements
- L plates are correctly positioned on the front and back of the vehicle

Planning the session

- Identify a suitable place to practise so it will be safe and enjoyable
- Ideally the learner has had at least a couple of professional driving lessons to master the basic controls of the vehicle and knows how to pull away, slow down and stop
- Plan the practice session and know where you are going
- Have a good understanding of the level of knowledge, skills and experience of the learner and choose the route and driving environment accordingly
- Discuss the route and potential traffic situations and hazards you may encounter
- Use the same car for all your practice sessions, to ensure the learner is familiar with the vehicle and won't have to deal with unnecessary complications
- Have an extra rear view mirror, so you can also see behind the car

During the session

- Check that any passengers are seated correctly with seat belts and know what is expected of them during the practice session
- Be observant at all times, looking out for potential hazards in front and behind

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- Give clear route directions, well in advance of the required action, to give the learner time to prepare, such as “at the next intersection we will turn left, so you will need to move into the left lane, turn left and stay in the left lane”
- Give clear guidance on driving actions during each manoeuvre, such as “check your mirrors, indicate left, when clear move into the left lane, check the indicator is off”
- The learner should build skills by practising describing the hazards they observe and what actions they will take
- Coach the learner by describing any hazards they have not noticed
- Use terms that the learner does understand
- Remain calm at all times and provide positive encouragement
- Don't rush the learner, because it takes time to master a skill
- When driving talk the learner through what you're doing and why
- Listen to the driver if they voice any concerns or discomfort during the practice
- Remember to have a debrief after the session to discuss what went well, any concerns the learner may have and what both would like to include in your next practice session