



#10430

PRACTICING BASIC CONTROL TASKS BEHIND THE WHEEL

MERIDIAN EDUCATION CORPORATION, 2002
GRADE LEVEL: 10-13+
17 MINUTES

DESCRIPTION

A driving instructor demonstrates techniques to becoming a safe driver. He includes low-risk methods of parking, moving into traffic, steering, backing up, and turning around. He also shares money-saving tips, talks about tailgaters, and stresses the three-second rule. Emphasizes that these basics must be learned, practiced, and followed to ensure safe driving.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Health

- Standard: Knows essential concepts and practices concerning injury prevention and safety.
 - Benchmark: Knows injury prevention strategies for community health (e.g., neighborhood safety, traffic safety, safe driving).

Subject Area: Self-Regulation

- Standard: Considers risks.
 - Benchmark: Knows potential safety hazards, and knows common strategies to avoid hazard or injury.

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To recognize the driving techniques in various situations:
 - a. Parking.
 - b. Entering.
 - c. Steering.
 - d. Backing up.
 - e. Turning around.
2. To identify a variety of appropriate parking places with or without a curb, such as:
 - a. Uphill parking.
 - b. Downhill parking.
3. To identify "backing up safely":
 - a. Where to look.
 - b. How to steer.
 - c. How to control your speed.
4. To demonstrate "safe turnarounds":
 - a. Use a driveway or side road.
 - b. Reenter the roadway moving forward.
 - c. Block the fastest traffic lanes for the shortest time.
5. To research gas efficiency and why it's essential for all drivers.

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

6. To observe a tailgating vehicle and the danger it represents.

BEFORE SHOWING

When your vehicle is driven and handled properly, it gives drivers a safe, convenient freedom of movement. To enjoy that freedom, there are basic tasks you need to master in controlling your vehicle. This production deals with some of the most important of those basics.

A driving class is essential for you to become a safe licensed driver. We read every day of accidents caused by drivers losing control of their cars. Reasons? They forgot that these basics are not just "sometime" things. Make it a rule to follow them every time you get behind the wheel!

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Explain the "fine points" or techniques in the following:
 - a. Parking.
 - b. Entering.
 - c. Steering.
 - d. Backing up.
 - e. Turning around.
2. How do you park uphill and downhill, with or without a curb?
3. Give three points for "backing up safely":
 - a. Where to look.
 - b. How to steer.
 - c. How to control your speed.
4. List four points for "safe turnarounds":
 - a. Use a driveway or side road.
 - b. Reenter the roadway moving forward.
 - c. Block the fastest traffic lanes for the shortest time.
5. Why is gas efficiency essential?
6. What do you think of tailgating? What are the danger signs for it?

Applications and Activities

1. Videotape student volunteers demonstrating:
 - a. How to park: uphill, downhill, with and without a curb.
 - b. How to steer.
 - c. How to back up.
 - d. How to turn around.
2. Draw an illustration of uphill and downhill parking, with and without curbs.
3. Research gas efficiency:
 - a. Drive at 50–55 mph.
 - b. Drive with the windows closed.
 - c. Coast to a stop.
 - d. Accelerate slowly.
4. Survey adults who have experienced tailgating. How did they feel? How did they handle the situation? Share this information with the class.

RELATED RESOURCES

Captioned Media Program

- [*Citizens' Guide To Safe Driving #7914*](#)
- [*Driver's Education: Part 6—Making Turns and Changing Lanes #10455*](#)
- [*Driver's Education: Part 7—Parking Your Vehicle #10456*](#)

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

• SAFETY DRIVING PROCEDURES

http://oprfrhs.org/academic_divisions/phys_ed/Driver_Education/Safe_Driving/

This site includes sublinks which provide safety information: "Uphill Parking at Curb," "To Leave Uphill Parked Position," "Parking Downhill at Curb," "Leaving Downhill Parking at Curb," "Angle Parking," "Leaving the Angle Parking Space," "Parallel Parking," and "Leaving the Parallel Parking Space."

• PARALLEL PARKING

<http://www.nydmv.state.ny.us/dmanual/chapter07-manual.htm>

Parallel parking takes practice and skill, and is part of every road test. You should also know where parking is illegal and what "No Parking," "No Standing," and "No Stopping" signs mean.

• HOW CAR STEERING WORKS

<http://auto.howstuffworks.com/steering.htm>

Overviews the two most common types of car steering systems. Did you know that when you turn your car, your front wheels are not pointed in the same direction? Charts and graphs aid understanding of power steering, rack-and-pinion steering, and other features. Includes good links to additional information.