

8. Dealing with busier junctions

Introduction

Once you have mastered the routine for approaching and emerging from simpler junctions on quiet roads, with little or no support from your instructor, it's time to move onto dealing with junctions with much more traffic. In particular, you will learn how to cross or join moderately busy traffic streams, as you emerge from, or enter junctions, on roads with varying speed restrictions. This lesson will also be used to further develop your use of the hazard drill, as you encounter busier traffic situations.

Lesson objectives

By the end of this lesson you should be able to:

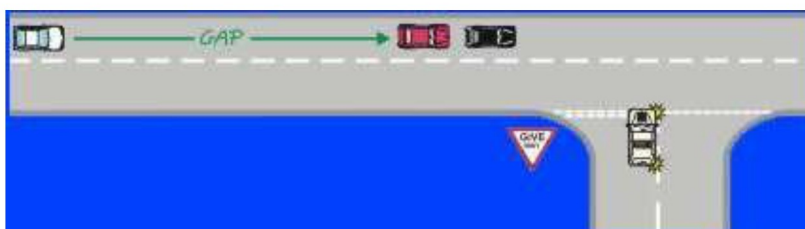
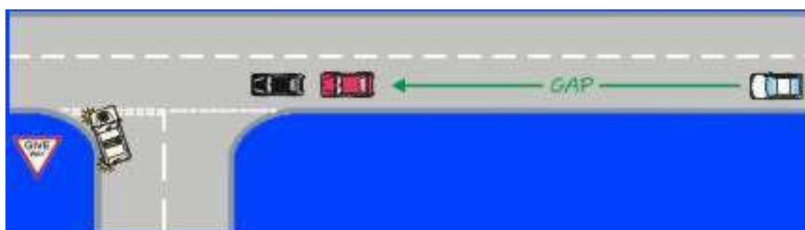
- Explain the importance of timing your approach, assessing gaps in the traffic and having the confidence and ability to move away quickly;
- time your approach to the junction so that you can emerge or cross the path of oncoming traffic safely, without the need to stop, where the situation permits;
- position for maximum vision and safety at junctions with restricted sight-lines;
- judge the speed and distance of approaching traffic and in particular, to determine the size of gap necessary to join or cross traffic streams, without impeding the progress of other road users;
- move away briskly from side roads into the major road and from major roads into the side road, when a safe opportunity arises.

Subject brief

In the previous lesson we concentrated on using the hazard drill as we approached and turned into side roads or emerged from them. In this lesson we look at how we emerge from busier junctions.

Emerging at busier junctions

Before you can emerge into a major road with traffic streams, you will need to find a gap in the traffic sufficient to build up your speed relative to theirs, either from the right when turning left or from the left when turning right.





Emerging at Y junctions

Rules: 146, 167, 170-172, 179-183, 211.