

How long should driving lessons be?



There is no perfect lesson size - what matters is what's right for you. You need to think about the following:

- How much time you have available
- How much you can afford to pay per week
- Whether you live in the town where you will take your test
- Whether your driving lesson will include theory training
- How much stamina you have
- Whether you have a deadline to work to

Can I have what I want ?



The most common driving lesson durations are one hour, one-and-a-half hours and two hours. But if you really want one-and-a quarter hour lessons, why should you not have them?

Here are some thoughts that might be relevant to you

- L** If you live 15 minutes out of town, and you want to be collected from and brought back home, you will get a maximum of 30 minutes town driving in a one hour lesson. Is that enough for you? A one-and-a-half hour lesson might be more useful. Or could you meet the instructor in town and keep it to one hour?
- L** Providing the lesson is stimulating, you may achieve more in a two hour lesson than two *one hour* lessons - partly because of the continuity, partly because there may be less time used up in planning and reviewing the lesson topics.
- L** Note that some driving schools run 50 minute lessons; take that into account when comparing "lesson" prices.

****Don't forget though, your instructor should give you a debrief and set the lesson plan at the beginning of your lesson, he/she should also give you debrief of what you achieved & any issues found at the end of each lesson, this takes time too and will be factored into your lesson.****

Try different lesson lengths and pick the one that works best!

INTENSIVE COURSES

If you have a deadline to work to, a semi-intensive or intensive course would probably be what you need.

How should I choose between....

- *normal,*
- *semi-intensive,*
- *intensive courses ?*

First of all it might be helpful for you to know what is generally meant by these terms:

normal implies around 1-2 hours per week, in one or two lessons.

semi-intensive implies around 3-8 hours per week, with a course being completed in approximately one month.

intensive implies around 10-24 hours per week, with a course being completed in 1-2 weeks.

If you have some deadline you want or need to work to, you may need a semi-intensive or even an intensive course structure. However, our advice is that you should avoid the full intensive course structure (which often means 4-6 hours' driving every day for a week) if at all possible, by planning your course in plenty of time before your deadline.

If you can't, well OK, go for it. But be aware: learning to drive involves a huge input of information into the brain. If that is forced to happen at a very rapid rate, it can become rather overpowering. This puts a strain on you, and it's not easy for the instructor either! So pick one with a good sense of humour, and keep yours too!

****Please note that you will have had to have passed your theory test before taking an intensive course. It is always wise to check with your instructor prior to booking an intensive course to make sure he/she can accommodate you, you will also need to take into account how long the waiting list is for tests at your desired test centre location, again checking that your instructor is able to take you to test on that particular time/date. Do not leave your instructor out of the loop, if you do not inform your instructor early, you may be disappointed.****