



ADAM'S DRIVING SCHOOL

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Parallel Park



Pull up behind target vehicle, look at how close this vehicle is to the kerb. Is it close enough to the kerb for you to match? Next look around at your environment, are there any dangers you can spot? Children playing? People walking? Other road users? Fixed objects (bins, lamp posts, telegraph posts etc) Next look at the road, are there any cambers, gradients that will affect your speed/travel?



Next pull up along side target vehicle, making sure you are just past the front of that car and approx 2 - 3 feet from the car, as you pull alongside, check your mirrors to see if a signal is required to help other road users plan. Apply the handbrake, keep your footbrake applied, select reverse gear. Now do effective all round observations , including all blind spots, is it safe to proceed? If so, prepare to move.



You should now be looking over your left shoulder, look behind the passenger head restraint, you should now see a sufficient gap at the back of the parked vehicle, you now want to turn the steering wheel 1 turn left, but before you do, make sure you give all round effective observation as you are about to swing out into the flow of any traffic, if there is any other road users that you are going to affect, then stop! Wait for the other road users to go past you. Before you move off again, give all round effective observation.



If it is safe for you to proceed, then look over your left shoulder, now check your passenger mirror, the tip of the mirror is near the rear light cluster of parked vehicle, but in your mirror you will see the rear door handle has just gone over the kerb, (it may also look like you are at a 45 degree angle) you will now want to do 1 turn right, but again, before you do this give good all round effective observations, remembering to keep your car slow



If it is safe, continue to move slowly in reverse, if you check your passenger mirror, you will see the tip of the mirror is roughly in the middle of the registration plate, also if you check the mirror, you will see the kerb is roughly under the rear wheel arch, at this point (but you need to judge this distance as cars vary in length) you will do a maximum 1 turn right (you may be able to judge it with less steering), but remember to do your all effective observations, making sure you give way to any other road users.



If it is safe, keep your car moving slowly in reverse, you should now be able to see the rear of your car moving slowly away from the kerb, this is where you need to judge how much steer to add/subtract, you still need all round effective observations. Your steering wheel needs to be straight when finished, also you need your car no more than 6-8 inches from the kerb. Apply handbrake, select neutral.

The key to any manoeuvre is, **SLOW, CONTROLLED WITH GOOD ALL ROUND EFFECTIVE OBSERVATIONS.**