



robodrive

“DRIVING MADE EASY”

This is a brand new system that makes learning to drive so easy.

Learning to Drive a Car? Try my Unique Teaching Method & Save yourself a Fortune!

Written by

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Driving Instructor
2008

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During their first lesson I talk to my pupil while driving to a quiet location to start their instruction on the road. I will have explained all the controls of the car and the pupil is now sitting in the driver's seat which they have adjusted to suit themselves and they are comfortable and ready to start learning to drive a vehicle.

To Start

This is what they are taught...

- Turn the key in the ignition so that the engine turns over and starts.
- Put your left foot on the left pedal (clutch) and push the pedal to the floor.
- Put your left hand on the gear stick and push to the left against the spring and forward – selecting 1st gear.
- Keeping your heel on the floor, raise your toes slowly until you see the front of the bonnet rise slightly.
 - The car has dual controls which mean that the instructor also has a set of pedals and at all times my foot will be holding the clutch just above the biting point – this is a safety feature and prevents accidents as the instructor is ALWAYS in control.
 - I then tell them to push the pedal back down and they will be able to see the front of the bonnet lower.
 - What they have just felt and seen is the clutch reaching 'biting point'.
 - This is repeated by the pupil until they are happy with their control.

- Once they are happy they again bring the car up to biting point (bonnet raises slightly) when this happens hold the pedal still. The car is now ready to go.
- Next you learn the observations before you move off and you check it is safe to do so by looking in...
 - The left side wing mirror
 - The interior mirror
 - Through the windscreen straight ahead
 - The right side wing mirror
 - Lastly check the blind spot by looking over your right shoulder (the gap between the top of the driver's seat and the window).
- Once you are satisfied that it is safe, move off by releasing the handbrake (lift the lever slightly and push in the button before lowering the hand brake to the floor).
 - The car will move forward. Add a little gas then wait for the car to travel 6-8ft and take your left foot off the clutch pedal. The car will go by itself without any feet on the pedals and will travel at 5mph until it runs out of fuel!
 - Most learners do not understand that a car cannot stall by itself – only a driver can make it stall – even learners who have come to me from other instructors are unaware of that fact.

<http://www.robodriver.co.uk/course/lesson/starting-off/136>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Clutch down

1st gear

Up to bite

Observations

Check blind spot

Release hand brake

Little bit of gas

6 to 8 feet slowly off the clutch

To Stop

- The car is now travelling at 5mph without anybody doing anything, so now the pupil is going to stop the car.
- This time we only have to check the interior mirror as a safety check. Only give a left signal if there is a road user to benefit from it.
- Stop by pushing the left foot down on the left pedal (clutch) all the way to the floor and keep your left foot perfectly still

- Put your right foot on the middle pedal and push down gently (brake) until you come to a stop – remember to keep both feet perfectly still once the car has stopped.
- Put your left hand on the handbrake and pull up the hand brake until it holds.
- Using your left hand put the gear stick into neutral (the wobbly bit) and take your feet off both the pedals.

<http://www.robodriver.co.uk/course/lesson/stopping/137>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Check mirror

Signal (yes or no)

Position

Clutch down

Gently brake

Stop

Handbrake on

Gear in neutral

Feet off all the pedals

It sounds a lot I know but believe me it is easy!

When the car is moving by itself the pupil then has to...

- Put their right foot on the right pedal (gas) and press down very gently – the car will pick up speed and move faster.

Next I tell them to...

- Take their right foot off the right pedal (gas) and the car will slow down to 5mph!

I explain that it is the gas pedal that controls the speed of the car as just demonstrated. The brake is there to stop the car.

Now you know how to start and move the car forward and how to stop safely. The next part of your instruction is how to steer correctly.

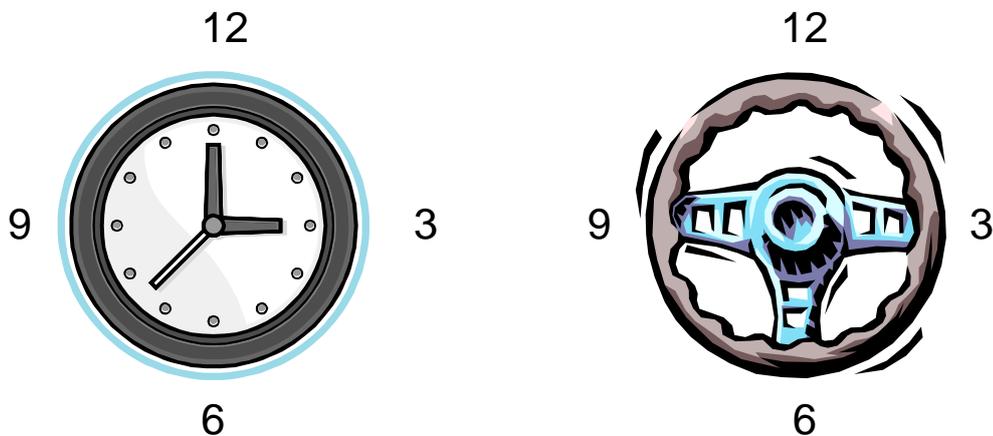
All steering exercises can be practised anywhere by using a dinner plate or anything with a circular shape.

Steering

Next we go to a car park with few if any cars in and plenty of room. This is because I want you to feel the movement of the steering without worrying about any other vehicles. I will control the speed of the car while you concentrate only on steering.

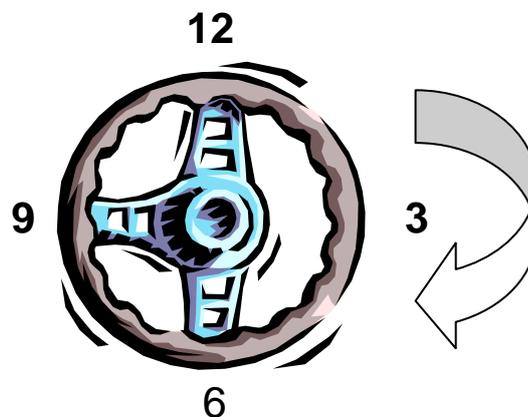
I want you to remember where the numbers are on a standard clock face and imagine them on a steering wheel

Fig 1



If I turn the steering wheel to the right the numbers stay in the same position – as it is where they are on a clock dial that is important and NOT where they are on the steering wheel.

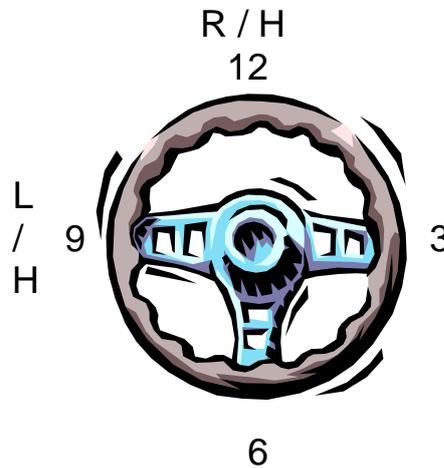
Fig 2



How to Turn Right

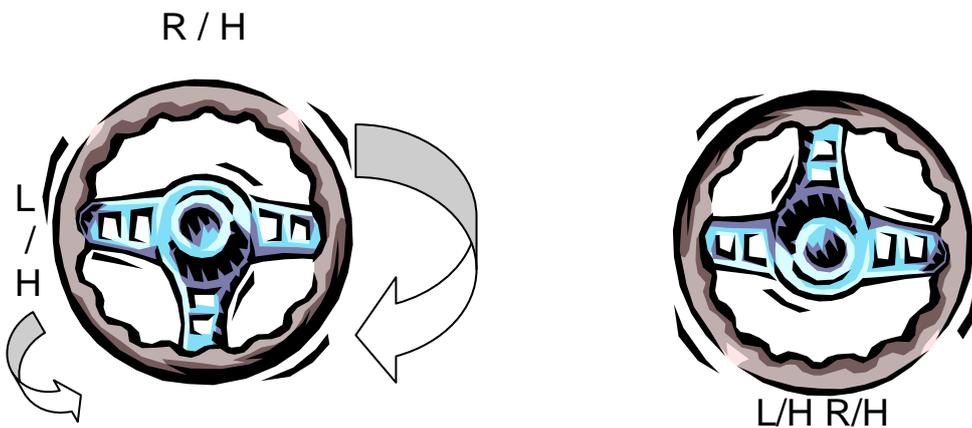
Place your right hand (R/H) on the steering wheel in the 12 o'clock position and place your left hand (L/H) on the steering wheel in the 9 o'clock position.

Fig 3



Grip the steering wheel with your right hand and pull the steering wheel down to the right until you reach 6 o'clock, at the same time sliding your left hand down to the 6 o'clock position so that your right hand is touching your left hand.

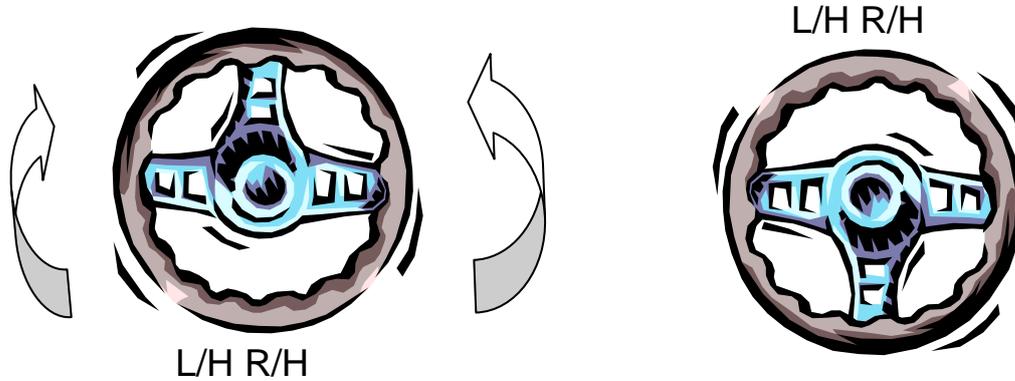
Fig 4



As you are doing this you say "ONE".

Now grip the steering wheel with your left hand and push the steering wheel up until you reach 12 o'clock, at the same time slide your right hand up to the 12 o'clock position so that your left hand is touching your right hand.

Fig 5

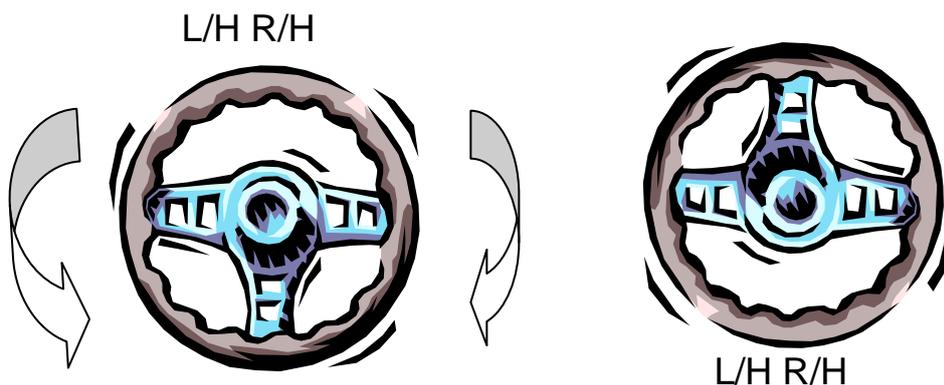


As you are doing this say **TWO**

What you have done is turn the steering wheel one complete turn to the right by using first your right hand to turn $\frac{1}{2}$ a turn and then your left hand to turn the other $\frac{1}{2}$ turn – completing the full turn to the right.

This time grip the steering wheel with your left hand and pull the steering wheel down until you reach the 6 o'clock position and at the same time slide your right hand down until you reach the 6 o'clock position so again your left hand is touching your right hand.

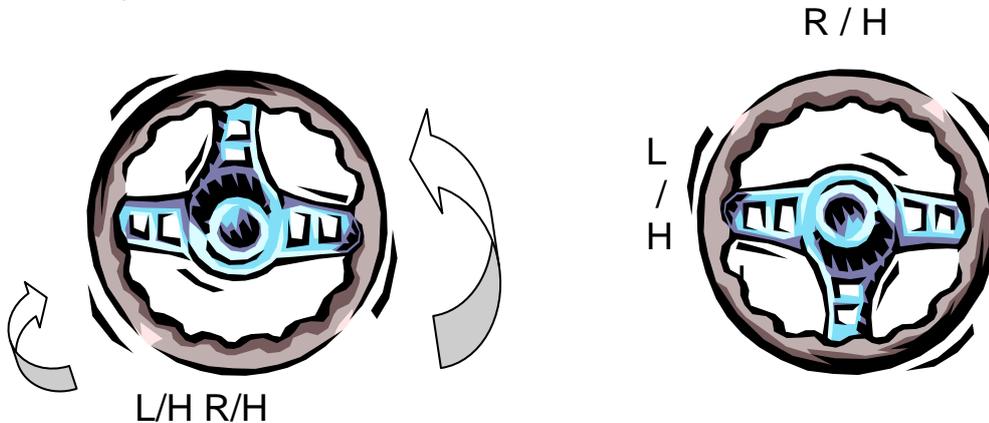
Fig 6



As you are doing this say **THREE**

Now grip the steering wheel with your right hand and push the steering wheel up until you reach 12 o'clock, at the same time slide your left hand up to the 9 o'clock position.

Fig 7



As you are doing this say **FOUR**

What you have done is turn the steering wheel one complete turn to the left by using first your left hand to turn $\frac{1}{2}$ a turn and then your right hand to turn the other $\frac{1}{2}$ turn – completing the full turn back to the left.

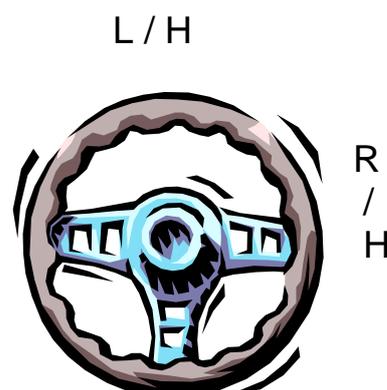
In reality you have now straightened the steering wheel back to where you started.

<http://www.robodriver.co.uk/course/lesson/steering--how-to-turn-right/138>

How to Turn Left

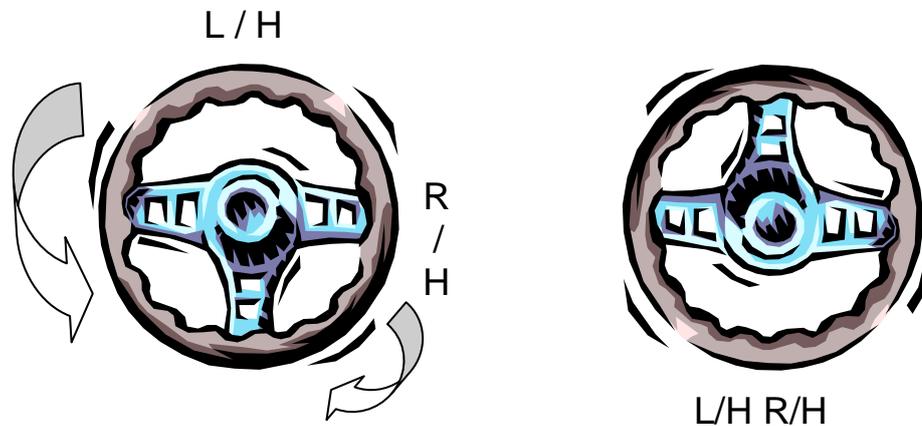
Place your left hand on the steering wheel in the 12 o'clock position and place your right hand on the steering wheel in the 3 o'clock position.

Fig 9



This time grip the steering wheel with your left hand and pull the steering wheel down until you reach the 6 o'clock position and at the same time slide your right hand down until you reach the 6 o'clock position so again your left hand is touching your right hand.

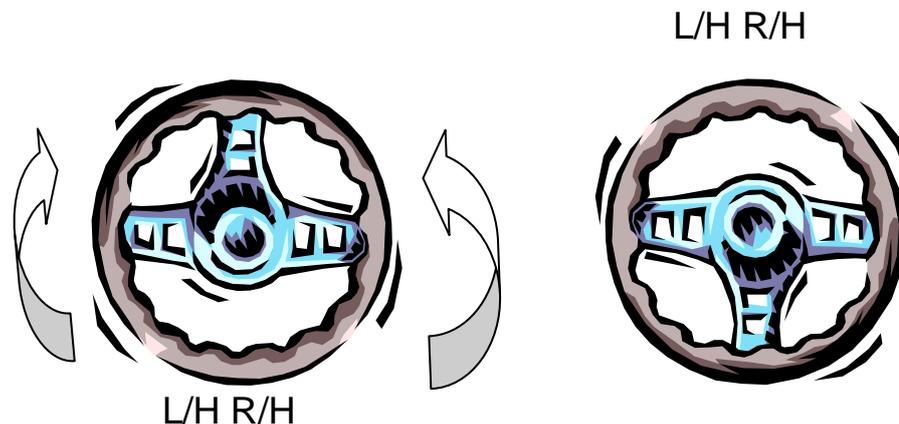
Fig 10



As you are doing this you say “ONE”.

Now grip the steering wheel with your right hand and push the steering wheel up until you reach 12 o'clock, at the same time slide your left hand up to the 12 o'clock position and your right hand is touching your left hand.

Fig 11



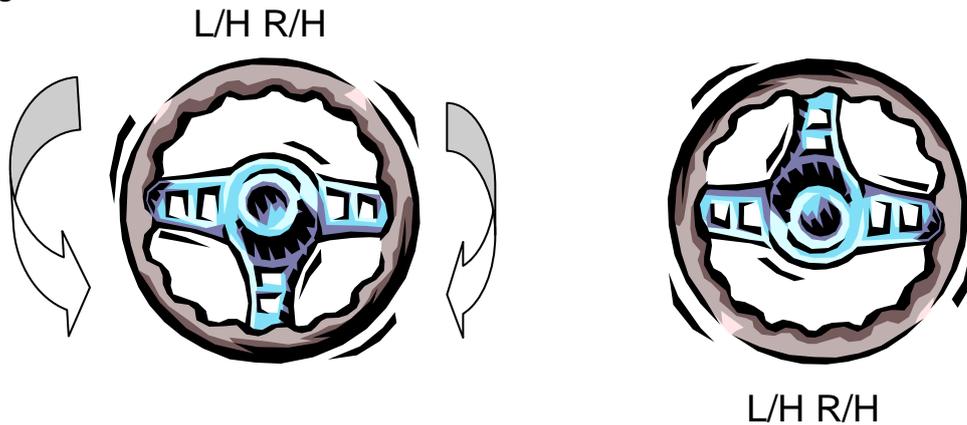
As you are doing this you say “TWO”.

What you have done is turn the steering wheel one complete turn to the left by using first your left hand to turn $\frac{1}{2}$ a turn and then

Your right hand to turn the other ½ turn – completing the full turns to the left.

This time grip the steering wheel with your right hand and pull the steering wheel down until you reach the 6 o'clock position and at the same time slide your left hand down until you reach the 6 o'clock position so again your left hand is touching your right hand.

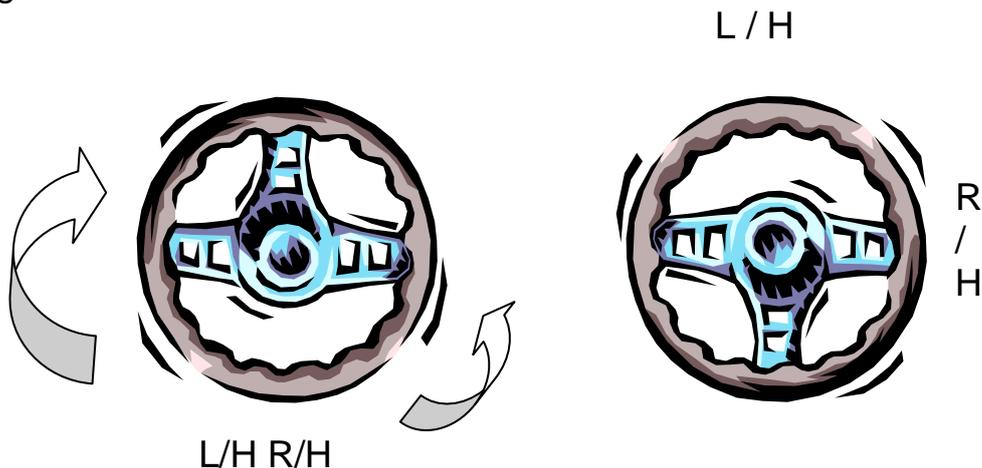
Fig 12



As you are doing this you say "THREE".

Place your left hand on the steering wheel and push the steering wheel up to the 12 o'clock position at the same time sliding your right hand on the steering wheel down to 3 o'clock position.

Fig 13



As you are doing this you say "FOUR".

What you have done is turn the steering wheel one complete turn to the right by using first your right hand to turn ½ a turn and then

Your left hand to turn the other ½ turn – completing the full turns to the right.

In reality you have now straightened the steering wheel back to where you started.

What you have just seen and done is the mechanics of steering as in HOW WE TURN THE STEERING WHEEL.

<http://www.robodriver.co.uk/course/lesson/steering--how-to-turn-left/139>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Left hand turn 1,2,3,4

Right hand turn 1,2,3,4,

The instructor will be in complete control of the car, the pupil will only be concentrating on the steering of the car.

What you find is I will explain how to turn the steering wheel to the right as above and when the pupil has the ability to turn to the right saying 1,2,3,4 I tell them to now place their left hand on the steering wheel and continue saying 1,2,3,4.

What they find is they now have the ability to turn the steering wheel to the left as above. But I haven't shown them how to do it.

Here is the first proof they find on how the brain gets programmed.

We now know how to steer the car to the left and to the right correctly under full control of the steering.

We now go out of the car park to a quiet place to turn our attention to WHEN DO WE TURN THE STEERING WHEEL.

How to Turn Left when emerging from a junction – from a minor road into a major road

Picture 1



If we look at picture1 above you can see that you are approaching a junction, and at that junction, you are going to turn left.

Look at the dashboard of the car in the picture above (follow the arrow) and note the triangle shape on the left side of the image half way up. This is the side pillar of the windscreen

Follow the sequence below to make a left turn out of a junction

- Place your left hand on the steering wheel in the 12 o'clock position.
- Now place your right hand on the steering wheel in the 3 o'clock position.

Fig: 9

L / H



R
/
H

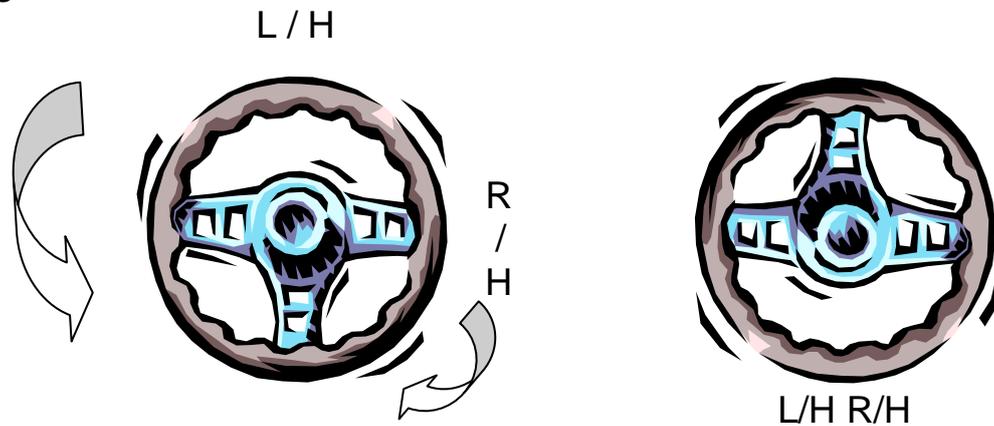
Picture 2



As the car moves forward you notice that the kerb has disappeared behind the left pillar (white triangle) of the windscreen!

Grip the steering wheel with the left hand and pull it briskly down to the left until you reach the 6 o'clock position. At the same time, slide your right hand down to the 6 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.

Fig 10



As you are doing this you say **ONE**

The car is now starting to turn to the left.

That's the 1st part – now move onto the next page for the 2nd part.

Picture 3

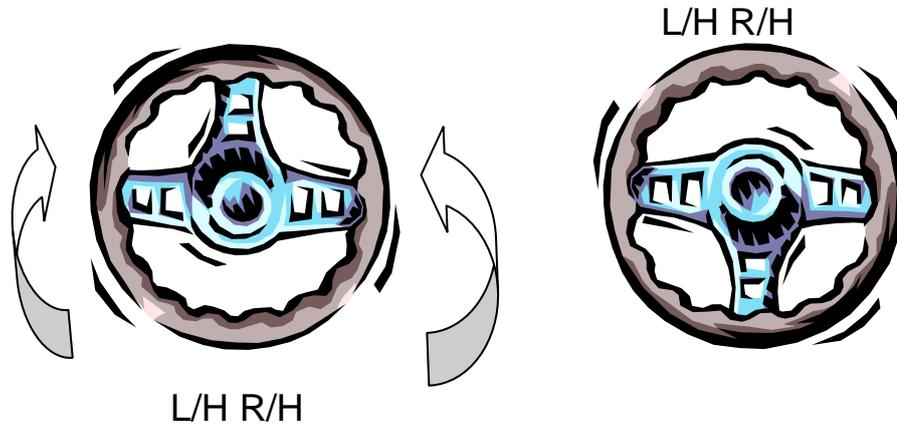


As the car is moving slowly forward and turning left, you need to watch when any part of your car touches or gets near to the white line in the centre of the road - as seen in picture 3 above – look at the arrow!

Continue to steer as directed below in Fig: 11

Grip the steering wheel with the right hand and push it briskly up until you reach the 12 o'clock position. At the same time, slide your left hand up to the 12 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.

Fig 11



As you are doing this you **say "TWO"**

What you have done is turned the steering wheel one complete turn to the left; using 1st your left hand to turn half a turn and then your right hand for another half a turn – so completing the full turn to the left.

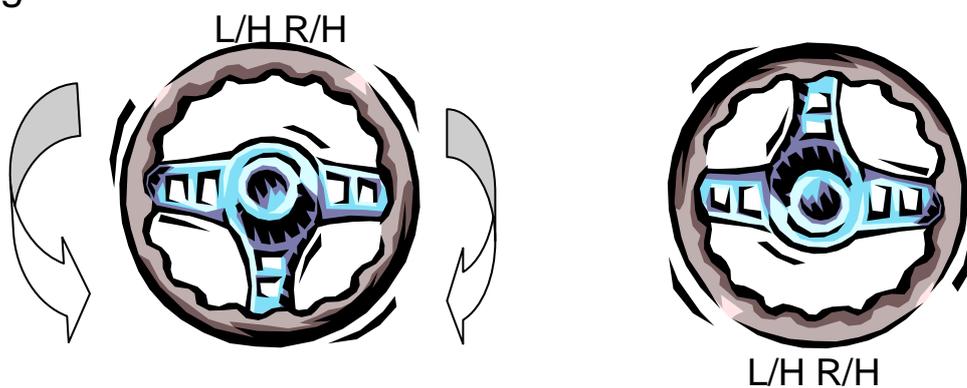
Picture 4



Look at the picture 4 above – you will see that you have started to turn away from the white line in the middle of the road.

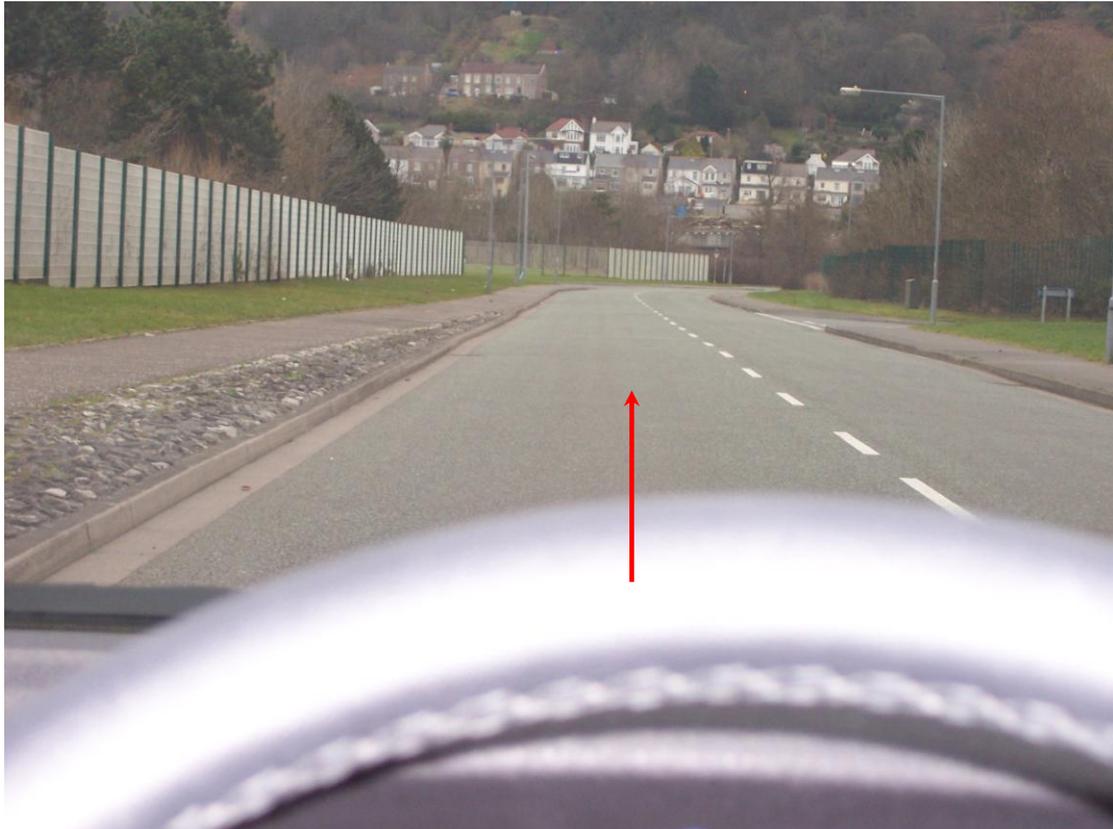
This time grip the steering wheel with the right hand and pull it briskly down to the left until you reach the 6 o'clock position. At the same time, slide your left hand down to the 6 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.

Fig 12



As you are doing this you say **THREE**

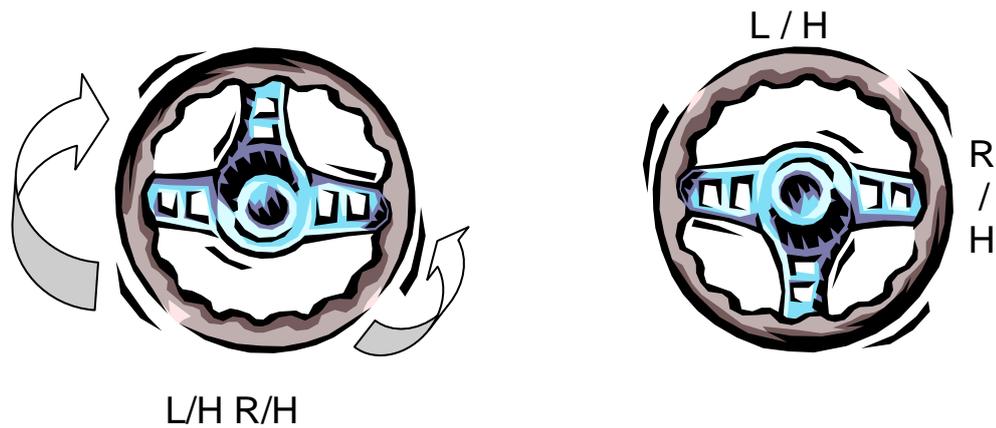
Picture 5



As you can see from the picture 5 above, the car is now pointing straight forward and the same distance from the kerb and central white line.

WELL DONE!

Fig 13



As you are doing this you say "**Four**".

What you have now done is turn the steering wheel one complete turn to the right, using 1st your right hand to turn a half turn and then completing the full turn with your left hand.

In reality you have now straightened the steering wheel back to where you started and the reason why the car is going straight.

YOU MUST ALWAYS put the car straight 1st AND THEN straighten the steering wheel to go with the car. NEVER try and get the car and the steering wheel straight at the same time.

Now you will be comfortable with knowing how to turn the steering wheel in order to turn left AND knowing when to steer to turn left. This will never change and it makes no difference how sharp the kerb or junction is as the steering will ALWAYS BE THE SAME WHEN MAKING A LEFT TURN.

<http://www.robotdriver.co.uk/course/lesson/how-to-turn-left-when-emerging-from-a-junction-%E2%80%93-from-a-minor-road-into-a-major-road/140>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Left hand, kerb disappears turn1 centreline turn2 away from centreline turn3 car straight turn4.

How to Turn Left into a junction – from a major road into a minor road

We use exactly the same method as in...

How to Turn Left when emerging from a junction – from a minor road into a major road

If we look at picture 6 you can see that you are approaching a junction, and at that junction, you are going to turn left.

Picture 6



Wait for the kerb to disappear behind the left pillar of the windscreen see picture 7

Picture 7



TURN Say "ONE"

When near the centre white line in the middle of the road see picture 8

Picture 8



TURN Say "TWO"

Car turning away from white line in the middle of the road see picture 9

Picture 9



TURN Say "**THREE**"

Car straight - positioned same distance from white line in the centre of the road and the kerb see picture 10

Picture 10



TURN Say "**FOUR**"

<http://www.robotdriver.co.uk/course/lesson/how-to-turn-left-into-a-junction-%E2%80%93-from-a-major-road-into-a-minor-road/141>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

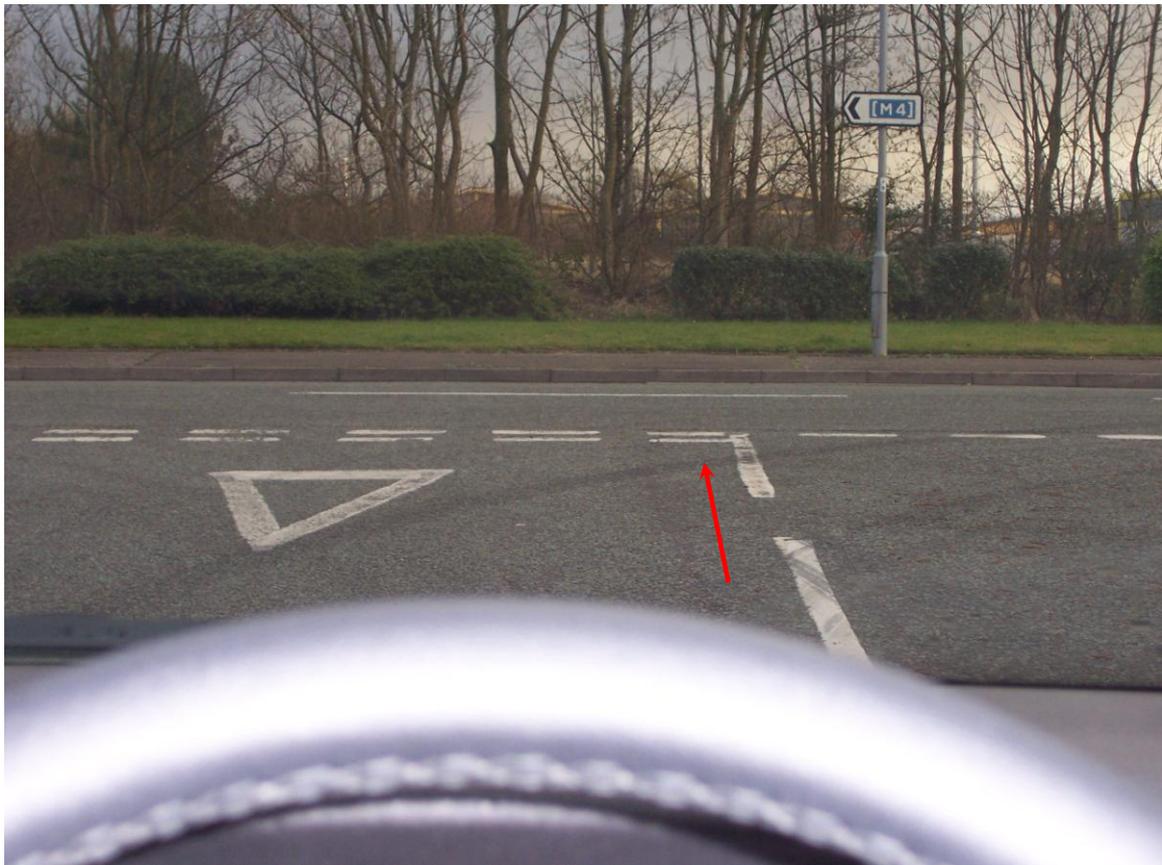
Spoken

Left hand, kerb disappears turn1 centreline turn2 away from centreline turn3 car straight turn4.

How to Turn Right when emerging from a junction – from a minor road into a major road

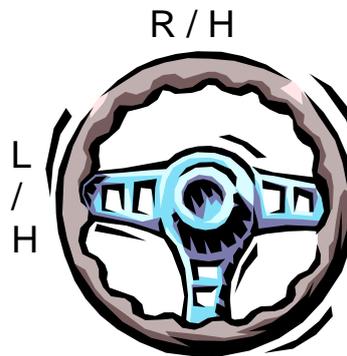
Look at the picture 11 below. You can see that you are approaching a junction and you are going to turn right at the end of the road. Look at the positioning of the car and you will see that the car is positioned just to the left of the white line in the middle of the road.

Picture 11



Place your right hand on the steering wheel in the 12 o'clock position and your left hand on the steering wheel in the 9 o'clock position.

Fig 3



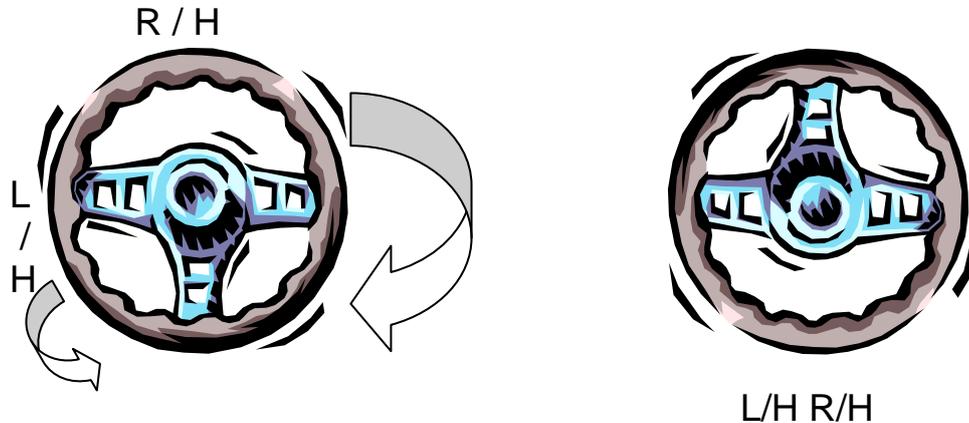
Because there is no kerb to follow around you do not start to turn the steering wheel until the front of the car (see picture 12 below), touches the white line in the middle of the road.

Picture 12



Grip the steering wheel with your right hand and pull down to the right until you reach 6 o'clock, at the same time slide your left hand down to 6 o'clock so that both your hands are touching.

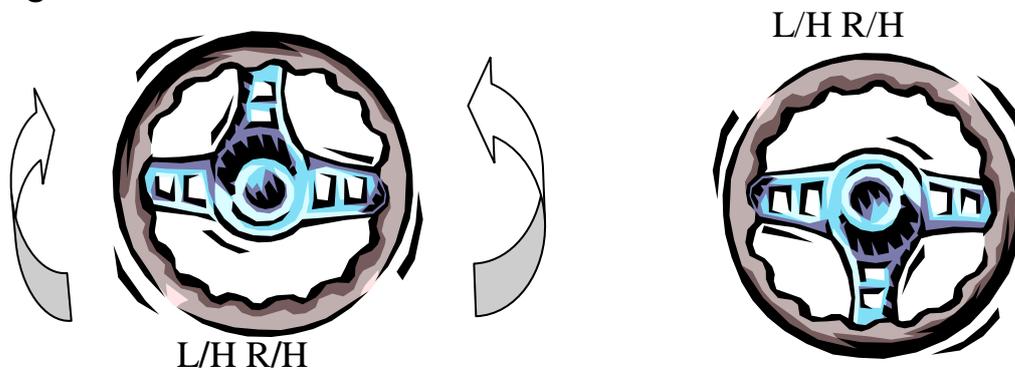
Fig 4



As you do this say "ONE"

Now grip the steering wheel with the left hand and push the steering wheel up until you reach 12 o'clock position and at the same time slide your right hand to the 12 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.

Fig 5



As you are doing this you say "TWO"

You have now turned the steering wheel saying **ONE TWO** briskly without stopping.

What you have done is turned the steering wheel one complete turn to the right using first your right hand to turn half a turn, then you your left hand to turn half a turn so completing the full turn to the right.

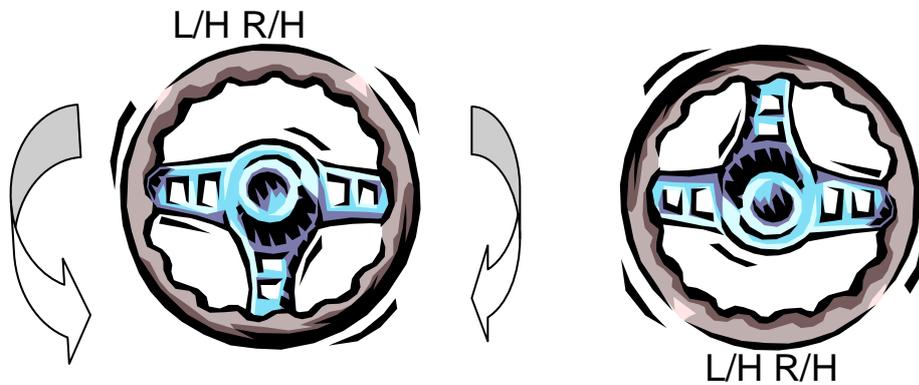
As you start to turn away from the kerb on your left hand side the car (see picture 13) below) will be moving towards the white line in the centre of the road

Picture 13



Grip the steering wheel with your left hand and pull down to the right until you reach 6 o'clock, at the same time slide your right hand down to 6 o'clock so that both your hands are touching.

Fig 6



As you are doing this you say "**THREE**"

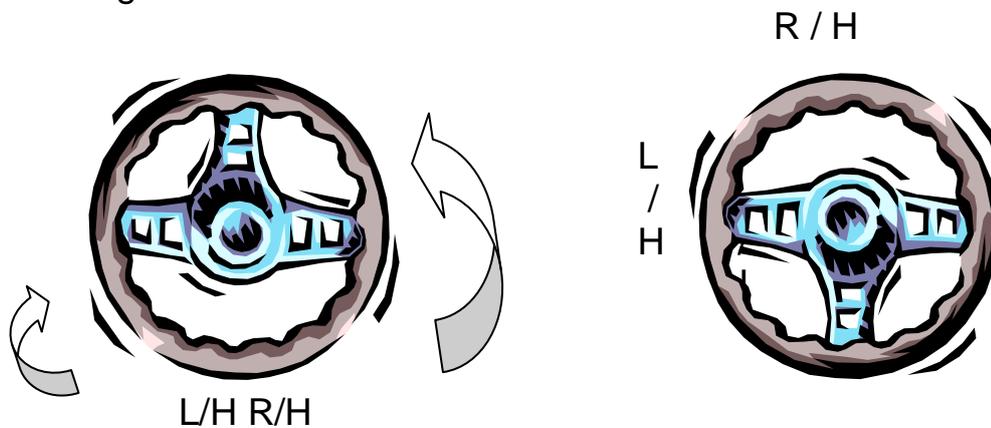
As you can see in picture 14, the car is now positioned in the middle of the left hand lane pointing straight up the road.

Picture 14



Place your right hand on the steering wheel, as demonstrated on the next page & push the wheel up to the 12 o'clock position and at the same time slide your left hand up to the 9 o'clock position.

Fig 7



As you are doing this you say "**FOUR**"

What you have done is turn the steering wheel one complete turn to the left, using 1st the left hand to make half a turn and then your right hand to complete the turn to the left.

In reality you have now straightened the steering wheel back to where you started.

What you have done is put the car straight first BEFORE putting the wheels straight to go with the car. NEVER try and get the car AND the wheels straight at the same time.

<http://www.robotdriver.co.uk/course/lesson/how-to-turn-right-when-emerging-from-a-junction-%E2%80%93-from-a-minor-road-into-a-major-road/142>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Right hand, line underneath the mirror turn 1,2 away from kerb turn 3, off clutch car straight turn 4, mirror mirror. Gas.

How to Turn Right into a junction – from a major road into a minor road

When approaching a junction to turn right, you must position the car just to the left of the white line in the centre of the road. Because we are turning to the right the steering would be exactly the same as in Fig3, 4, 5 & 6.

The only difference is WHEN we start to turn the steering wheel. Look at the picture 15 below

Picture 15



The white line in the centre of the road you are turning into (see arrow), is positioned under the right hand side mirror. Again you turn the steering wheel saying **ONE, TWO**, briskly without stopping following Fig 3, 4 & 5.

Now you are comfortable with knowing how to turn the steering wheel to turn right and also knowing when to turn the steering wheel to turn right. This will never change and it makes no difference how sharp the turn into or out of the junction is. The steering will always be the same when making a right turn.

<http://www.robotdriver.co.uk/course/lesson/how-to-turn-right-into-a-junction-%E2%80%93-from-a-major-road-into-a-minor-road/143>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Right hand, line underneath the mirror turn 1,2 away from kerb turn 3, car straight turn 4, mirror mirror, gas.

Now we must have a set routine to follow on our approach.

So if we look at chapter...

When to Turn Left or Right Emerging out of a Junction from a Minor Road into a Major Road

Also look at chapter...

To Turn Left or Right INTO a Junction from a Major Road into a Minor Road

And look at chapter...

Roundabouts

We use exactly the same method.

The first time the pupil will approach the junctions. The pupil will only be concentrating on the steering.

The instructor will always be vigilant for any other vehicles that may put you or others in danger and he will always stop the car using the dual controls if he thinks the situation unsafe or likely to become unsafe.

Only when the pupil can steer correctly at the road junctions will the instructor allow the pupil to look and make their own decisions on what they see.

Turning left OR right either approaching or emerging from a junction

Explained in simple to understand words & made easy to learn / remember.

M = Mirror

The 1st mirror we check is the interior mirror – remember this is the only ‘true’ mirror you have on the car! In other words it does not give a distorted or skewed reflection as your wing mirrors do as your wing mirrors are curved (convex)

The 2nd mirror we check is the convex wing (or side) mirror, either the left-hand mirror when making a left turn, or the right-hand mirror when making a right turn. Because these mirror’s are convex (slightly curved like a ball), everything will look further away and smaller than it actually is – this is so we can have a wider view of what is behind us.

So we look firstly in the interior mirror and then in the appropriate side wing mirror to check it is safe and clear to turn. As you look into the mirrors, say loudly and clearly...

MIRROR
MIRROR

S = Signal

When turning left, push your indicator lever down (and if you were turning right you would push your indicator lever up). As you indicate say loudly and clearly...

SIGNAL

P = Position

When making a left turn you must position the car approximately 1 meter from the left hand kerb (again if you were turning right, ensure the car is positioned approx 1 meter from the white line in the centre of the road). As you position the car, say loudly and clearly...

POSITION

B = Brake

We slow the car down by taking your right foot off the gas, if the car is still travelling too fast you put your right foot onto the middle peddle and gently put a little pressure on the brake until the car is safely in control. As you apply the brake, say loudly and clearly...

BRAKE

L = Look

Can you see the road you are approaching and whether it is safe to continue or do you need to stop. As you look, say loudly and clearly...

LOOK

G – Gear

The speed the car is doing determines which of the gears you select...

1st gear - under 10mph

2nd gear - 10 – 15mph

3rd gear - 20mph

4th gear - 30mph

say loudly and clearly...

GEAR

Example on correct gear selection

If you are approaching a junction at 20mph in 4th gear and the way is clear for you to continue, what gear do you select?

The answer is 2nd – not 3rd as you may think because when you take your foot off the gas pedal & put your left foot on the clutch pedal and select 2nd gear; then take your left foot slowly off the clutch pedal the car will slow down even further to approx 15mph – which is the correct speed for 2nd gear

Similarly if you were approaching the roundabout at 25mph, you would need to select 3rd gear for the same reasons given above (the car slows down even further as you prepare to make your gear selection), so you would be travelling at 20mph which is the speed for 3rd gear.

A SET ROUTINE

The following is a set routine (that will never change), that you need to write down and learn to use when preparing to turn left or right into or out from a junction. Remember to say loudly and clearly at each stage of this set routine...

- MIRROR internal
MIRROR side
- SIGNAL left or right
- POSITION
- BRAKE
- LOOK
- GEAR using the advice above on gear selection
- TURN turn the steering wheel as you have been taught in previous chapters

MIRRORinternal

MIRRORside

<http://www.robotdriver.co.uk/course/lesson/turning-left-or-right-either-approaching-or-emerging-from-a-junction/144>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Mirror mirror, signal, position, slow the car down to 20mph, select 2nd gear, feet off all the pedals, turn1, turn2, turn3, turn4, mirror mirror, gas.

Scenarios

These 3 scenarios in this next section tell you how to proceed under different circumstances...

Scenario 1 – You can see it is safe to proceed.

Scenario 2 – You can see that it is not safe to proceed so you stop the car.

Scenario 3 – You cannot see if it is safe to proceed so you select 1st gear.

While you are in the process of learning my driving technique (Programme over Memory), your instructor will always be vigilant for any other vehicles that may put you or others in danger and he will always stop the car using the dual controls if he thinks the situation unsafe or likely to become unsafe.

DOES THAT MAKE SENSE?

SCENARIO 1

You are approaching a junction to make a turn, as the sequence is the same it does not make any difference if you are emerging from a junction or turning into a junction.

You begin the sequence when you see the road or sign post telling you there is a turning. So you would follow this sequence of actions when you can see the way is clear for you to turn.

- MIRROR..... internal
MIRROR..... side
- SIGNAL left or right
- POSITION
- BRAKE
- LOOK
- GEAR select appropriately for your speed
- TURN turn the steering wheel as you have been taught in previous chapters
- MIRROR.....internal
MIRROR.....side

<http://www.robotdriver.co.uk/course/lesson/you-can-see-it-is-safe-to-proceed/145>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Mirror mirror, signal, position, slow the car down to 20mph, select 2nd gear, feet off all the pedals, turn1, turn2, turn3, turn4 mirror mirror gas.

SCENARIO 2

You are approaching a junction, but this time there is a vehicle in your zone which means you have to STOP

- MIRROR internal
MIRROR side
- SIGNAL..... left or right
- POSITION

- BRAKE

- LOOK
- GEAR select appropriately for your speed
- Turn-----Kerb disappears Turn 1

However, on this occasion you can see there is a vehicle approaching and that it is not safe to continue so you must bring the car to a stop. So down with the clutch slow the vehicle right down by applying the foot brake and come to a halt, put the handbrake on and select 1st gear.

Once the way is clear for you to proceed, move off safely as you have been taught, up to bite release the handbrake a little gas near centre line turn 2, away from centre line turn3, now take your foot off the clutch, car straight turn 4 .

- MIRROR.....internal
MIRROR.....side

<http://www.robodriver.co.uk/course/lesson/you-can-see-that-it-is-not-safe-to-proceed-so-you-stop-the-car/146>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Mirror mirror, signal, position, slow the car down to 20mph, select 2nd gear, feet off all the pedals, turn1, look, stop, 1st gear, gas, turn2, turn3, off clutch, turn4 mirror mirror gas.

SCENARIO 3

This 3rd and final scenario is if you cannot see the road ahead is clear for whatever reason. But as with the other two scenarios the sequence is virtually the same...

- MIRROR..... internal
MIRROR..... side
- SIGNAL left or right
- POSITION
- BRAKE
- LOOK
- GEAR slow your speed right down to 10pmh and engage 2nd gear & further still to 5mph and engage 1st gear. Look into the junction so see if your way is clear – if it is then follow scenario 1 sequence, if it isn't then you must come to a stop as in scenario 2 and proceed when safe to do so.
- TURN turn the steering wheel as you have been taught in previous chapters
- MIRROR..... internal
MIRROR..... side

<http://www.robotdriver.co.uk/course/lesson/you-cannot-see-if-it-is-safe-to-proceed-so-you-select-1st-gear/147>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Mirror mirror, signal, position, slow the car down to 20mph, select 2nd gear, feet off all the pedals, look, select 1st gear, turn1, turn2, turn3, turn4 mirror mirror, gas

Remember to say loudly and clearly your programmed routine and practice the steps in your house whenever you have time – you do not need a car to practice this – use a chair in the kitchen or dining room and go through the steps of the routine as you would in a car, doing all the actions of checking the mirrors, signalling etc EXACTLY as you would with your driving instructor.

You will not only be able to turn into or out of a junction as if it was second nature, but you will have saved yourself a small fortune in money.

*So the key to this driving technique is
PROGRAMME OVER MEMORY*

DOES THAT MAKE SENSE –

I think you will have to agree

ROBODRIVE

MAKES PERFECT SENSE!

Roundabouts

It's a fact – Roundabouts are much easier than junctions as a manoeuvre because all vehicles will only approach you on the roundabout from your right – correct?

The sequence used when approaching a roundabout is EXACTLY the same as you would use when approaching any road junction – as follows...

- Mirror – (interior mirror)
- Mirror – (side mirror)
- Signal (left side)
- Position
- Brake
- Look
- Select the appropriate Gear
 - 1st gear – under 10 miles per hour (mph)
 - 2nd gear – 15mph
 - 3rd gear – 20 miles
 - 4th gear – mph

...the only difference is we must ensure that the car is in the correct lane for the direction we wish to take, and that it is safe in the middle of that lane before we can take our eyes off the road to look at the roundabout. We are looking for a 'GAP' to enter into to join the flow of traffic.

The sequence must start when we see either a sign post telling us a roundabout is ahead or when we see the actual roundabout (in the absence of a sign).

Turning left at a roundabout or taking the 1st exit off

If you look carefully at the picture 16 below you will see a sign post alerting you to a roundabout, positioned on the pavement on the left-hand side of the road, and you can also see the roundabout itself slightly further ahead.

You will have gone through the series of actions described above as you approach the roundabout, so that you will have checked in both the interior & left-hand side mirrors, made the appropriate signal and positioned yourself in the correct lane as you brake gently and look to assess which gear you should select – in this case it would be 2nd gear as you can see traffic already on the roundabout.

Picture16



You slow the car down to 20mph and engage 2nd gear, as you take your feet off the pedals the car will slow down to 10mph as you

follow the kerb around to the left. When the car is safe in the middle of the left hand lane – ensuring you HAVEN'T crossed the give way lines, you can safely take your eyes off the road and concentrate on the roundabout, as seen in picture 17

Picture 17



...as with Road Junctions there are only three scenarios that can happen.

1st Scenario

- I am approaching the roundabout to turn left taking the first exit. The running order of actions has been completed and the car is safe in the middle of the left hand lane, so that I am confident I can take my eyes off the road and concentrate ON THE ROUNDABOUT. What I am looking for is if there are any vehicles in my ZONE?
- What do you mean by 'MY ZONE'?

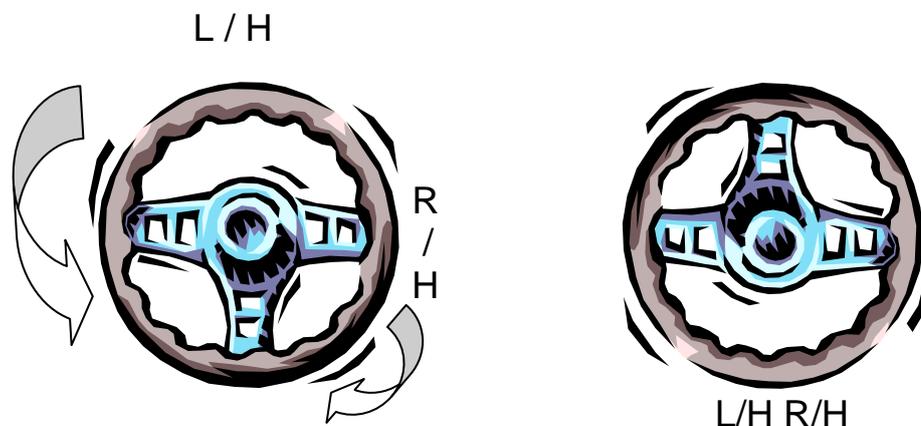
This is the distance from the last exit on my right-hand side to the road I am exiting. In the last **picture 10** you will see the dotted lines of the last exit on the right-hand side approximately a third of the way up. I think you will agree there is no vehicle in MY ZONE, so I put my right foot back on the gas pedal and move onto the roundabout.

Because I am following the kerb into the left-hand lane the steering is not as sharp as when manoeuvring road junctions, so we turn the steering wheel as seen in fig 10 & 13.

When you look at a Steering wheel and the car is pointing forward, try and imagine it as a clock face. With 12 o'clock at the top, 6 o'clock at the bottom and so on.

Grip the steering wheel with your left-hand and pull down to the left until you reach 6 o'clock, at the same time move your right-hand down to the 6 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.

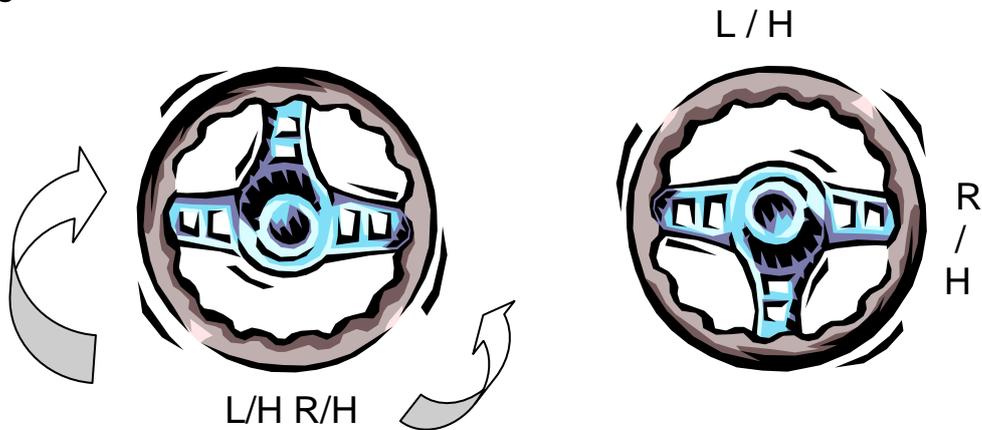
Fig: 10



As you are doing this you say "**ONE**"

Next hold the steering wheel and push the steering wheel up until you reach 12 o'clock at the same time moving your right-hand into the 3 o'clock position.

Fig: 13



As you do this you say **TWO straighten**

<http://www.robotdriver.co.uk/course/lesson/roundabouts---scenario-1/148>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Mirror, mirror, signal, position, slow car, select 2nd gear feet off pedals, look, say “no car in my zone” gas ,turn 1, turn 2 straighten, mirror mirror, gas.

2nd Scenario

- I am approaching the roundabout to turn left taking the first exit. The running order of actions has been completed and the car is safe in the middle of the left hand lane, so that I am confident I can take my eyes off the road and concentrate ON THE ROUNDABOUT.
- What I am looking for is if there are any vehicles in my ZONE? If you look at **picture 11** below you will see that there IS A VEHICLE IN MY ZONE. Also there is no GAP for me to enter behind this vehicle as there is another car instead, so now I must come to a STOP.
- In order to stop push your left foot down on the left pedal (clutch) and your right foot on the middle pedal (brake). Gently come to a stop BEFORE the white lines you can see in picture 18 below.

Picture 18



You can now engage the handbrake and take your foot off the brake (middle pedal), and place the right foot over the gas pedal and follow the start routine...

- Clutch
- 1st gear
- Bite
- Observations & Blind Spot
- Release handbrake and apply some gas
- Move away 6 – 8ft and use a slow clutch

If you look at the start routine where it says observations you now look back at the roundabout to see if there are any vehicles in your zone, if there are no vehicles in your zone (like in picture 10) you can move forward. As the car moves slowly forward continue steering as per Fig 10 & 13.

<http://www.robodriver.co.uk/course/lesson/roundabouts---scenario-2/149>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Mirror, mirror, signal, position, slow car, select 2nd gear feet off pedals, turn 1 look, say “ car in my zone and no gap” clutch down and brake to a stop , select 1st gear up to bite, look for gap, gas ,turn 2, straighten, mirror mirror, gas.

3rd Scenario

- I am approaching the roundabout to turn left taking the first exit. The running order of required actions has been completed and the car is safe in the middle of the left hand lane, so that I am confident I can take my eyes off the road and concentrate ON THE ROUNDABOUT.
- What I am looking for is if there are any vehicles in my ZONE? If you look at the **picture 19** below you will see that there IS A VEHICLE IN MY ZONE.

Picture 19



However on this occasion there is a gap behind the vehicle on the roundabout. So, you are approaching the roundabout in 2nd gear and your feet are off the pedals & the car is travelling by itself at about 10mph. You look onto the roundabout and clearly see there is a gap after the vehicle in your zone.

- Put your left foot on the clutch and push down to the floor
- Select 1st gear
- Take your foot slowly off the clutch – the car will now be travelling at approx 5mph.
- Wait for the vehicle to pass you or turn left off the roundabout.
- Move forward into the left hand lane.
- Continue steering as per fig's 10 & 13

<http://www.robotdriver.co.uk/course/lesson/roundabouts---scenario-3/150>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Mirror, mirror, signal position, slow car, select 2nd gear feet off pedals, turn 1, look, say “ car in my zone but there is a gap behind ” select 1st gear, wait and go into the gap, gas ,turn 2, straighten, mirror mirror, gas.

As I have just demonstrated only one of three things can happen at a roundabout when you are taking the first exit off and that is one of the following Scenario's ...

1. My ZONE is clear and I can proceed to take the 1st exit on the left.
2. My ZONE is not clear and I must stop and wait for a gap.

MY Zone is not clear, but there is a gap that I can move into, once the vehicle in my zone has passed

Taking the 2nd exit off a roundabout or going straight ahead

The approach to any roundabout is exactly the same as described above. The difference comes when you are on the roundabout – you must stay in the left-hand lane until you reach the concrete separation between the lanes on the left hand side as in picture 20 below...

Picture 20



As your car reaches this you must...

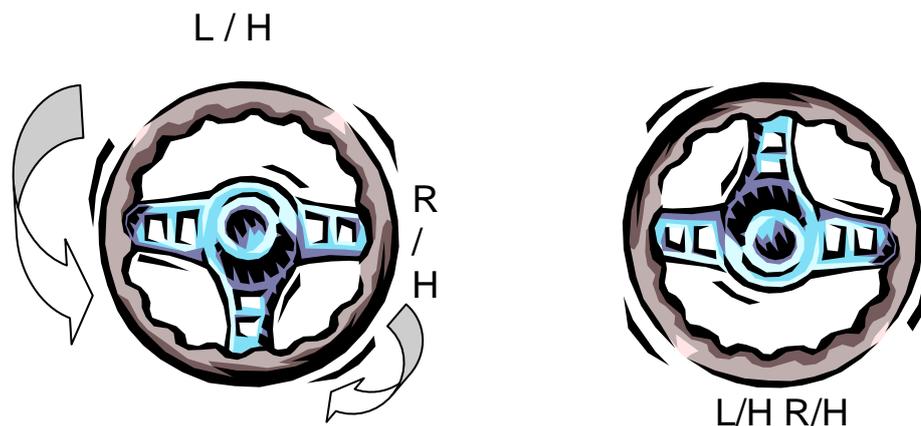
- Check your internal mirror
- Check your left hand side mirror – as you do this say MIRROR, MIRROR – so concentrating your mind on the job at hand.
- Signal with the indicator LEFT, by pushing the indicator lever down–say SIGNAL

- Follow the left hand lane around until you reach the 2nd Exit
- Follow the left hand side kerb around until your car is straight in the middle of the left hand lane.
- The indicator lever will now cancel itself, but if for any reason it hasn't done this automatically you can cancel it by hand.
- Again check both the interior mirror and the left hand side mirror – remembering to say MIRROR MIRROR.

Steering

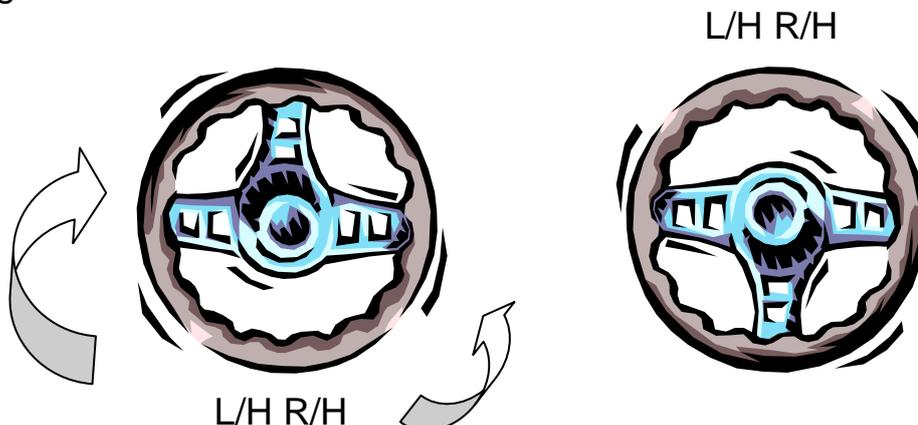
Grip the steering wheel with your left-hand and pull down to the left until you reach 6 o'clock, at the same time move your right-hand down to the 6 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.

Fig: 10



This time grip the steering wheel with your left-hand and push the steering wheel up until you reach 12 o'clock, at the same time move your right-hand up to the 12 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.

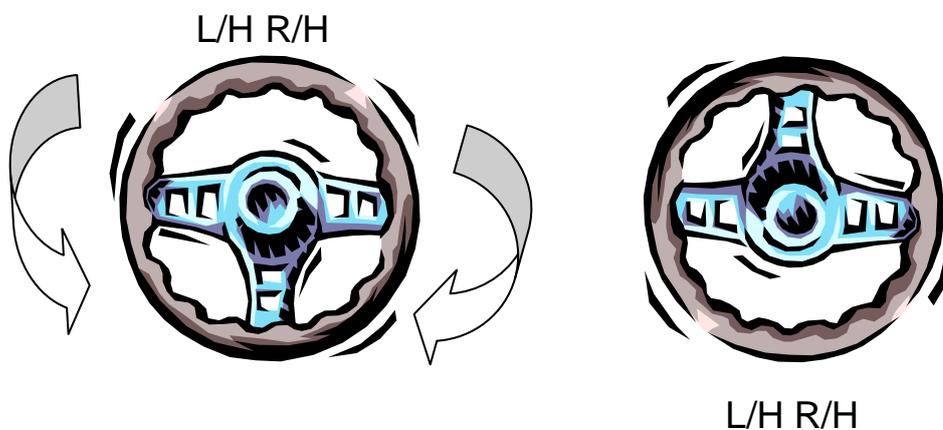
Fig: 11



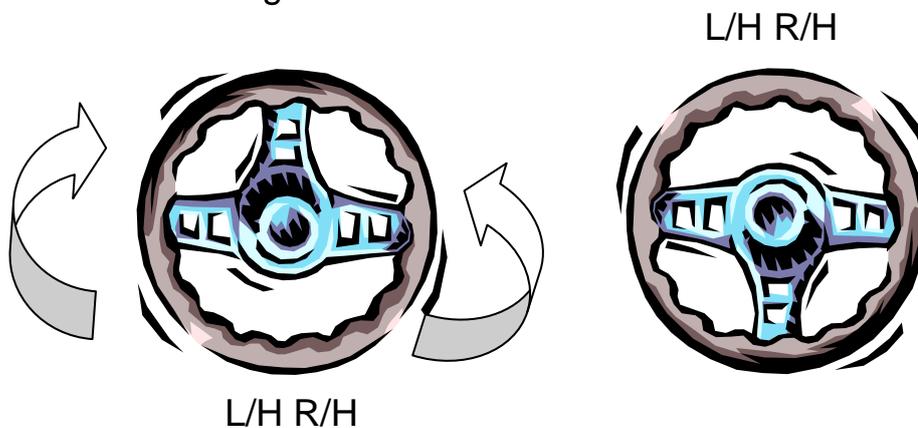
What you are actually doing is turning the steering wheel to the left and when the car is straight you are turning the steering back again so that the wheels are straight.

The reason why both your hands are at 12 o'clock is because you now have to turn the steering wheel to the right to follow the left-hand lane around the roundabout

Next hold the steering wheel with your right hand and pull the wheel down until you reach 6 o'clock at the same time moving your left-hand into the 6 o'clock position so that again both hands are touching



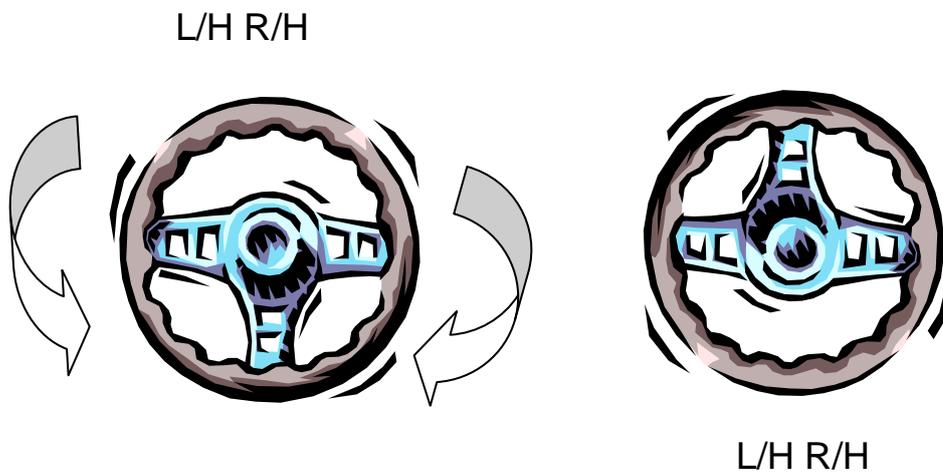
This time grip the steering wheel with your right-hand and push the steering wheel up until you reach 12 o'clock, at the same time move your left-hand up to the 12 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.



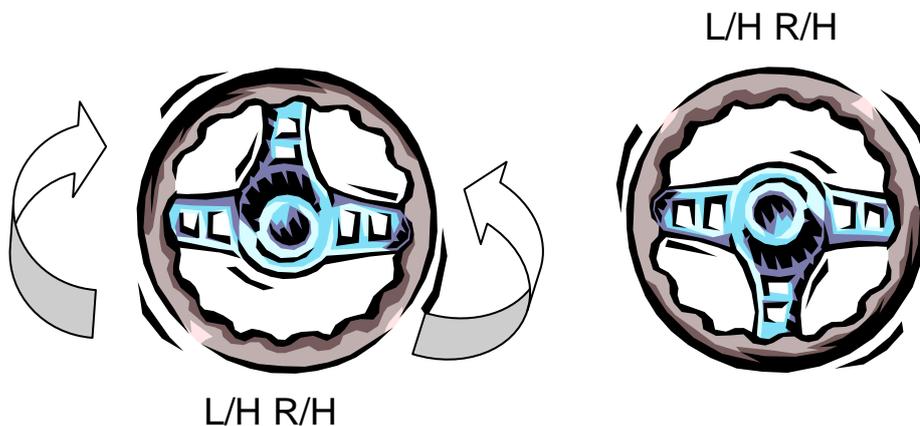
What you are actually doing is turning the steering wheel to the right and when the car is straight you are turning the steering back again so that the wheels are straight.

The reason why both your hands are at 12 o'clock is because you now have to turn the steering wheel to the left

Next hold the steering wheel with your left hand and pull the wheel down until you reach 6 o'clock at the same time moving your right-hand into the 6 o'clock position so that again both hands are touching



This time grip the steering wheel with your left-hand and push the steering wheel up until you reach 12 o'clock, at the same time move your right-hand up to the 12 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.



What you are actually doing is turning the steering wheel to the left and when the car is straight you are turning the steering back again so that the wheels are straight.

You have now exited the roundabout.

So the difference in steering on a roundabout is we turn the steering wheel to the left and when the car is straight you turn the steering wheel back again so that the wheels are straight.

We then turn the steering wheel to the right so that the car is facing the exit that we are going to come off the roundabout at, we again turn the steering back so that the wheels are straight.

As you approach the exit turn the steering to the left and follow the kerb on the left hand side to come off the roundabout. When we are off the roundabout we again turn the steering so that the wheels are straight and we can proceed on our journey.

<http://www.robodriver.co.uk/course/lesson/steering-on-a-roundabout/151>

<http://www.robodriver.co.uk/course/lesson/second-exit-at-roundabout/152>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Mirror, mirror, no signal position, slow car, select 2nd gear feet off pedals, turn 1, look, say “no car in my zone” gas, turn 2, straighten, reach the concrete separation between the lanes, mirror, mirror, signal, turn 1, turn 2 straighten, turn 1, turn 2 straighten, mirror, mirror, gas.

Turning right or taking the last exit off a roundabout

The approach to the roundabout is exactly the same as when we approach a junction with the intention of emerging out to turn right.

However we still follow the same sequence as for scenarios 1, 2 & 3 as described earlier in this chapter. In short...

- My ZONE is clear and I can proceed to take the 1st exit on the left.
- My ZONE is not clear and I must stop and wait for a gap.
- MY ZONE is not clear, but there is a gap that I can move into, once the vehicle in my zone has passed

The difference comes when you go onto the roundabout to turn right, as we must go into the right-hand lane and stay in the right-hand lane until we reach the concrete separation on our left hand side BEFORE the exit we wish to come off, so again you must go through the following routine...

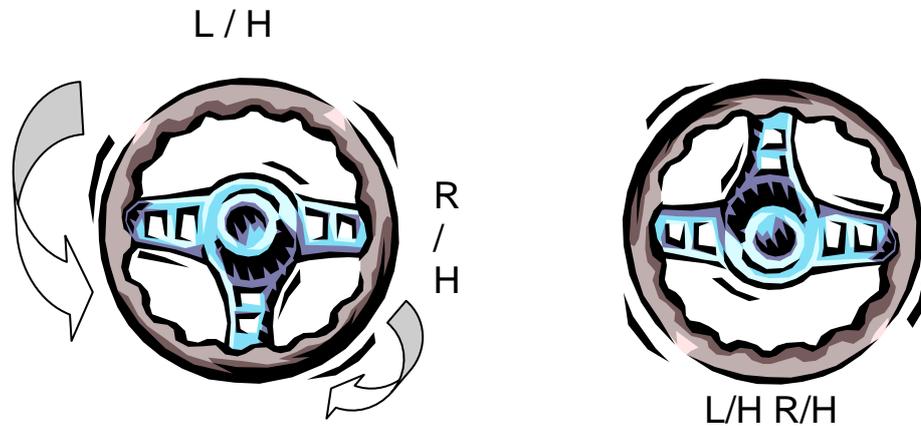
- Check your internal mirror
- Check your left hand side mirror – as you do this say MIRROR, MIRROR – so concentrating your mind on the job at hand.
- Signal with the indicator LEFT, by pushing the indicator lever down – say SIGNAL.
- Move the car into the left-hand lane ready to follow the left hand kerb around to come off the roundabout
- The indicator lever will now cancel itself, but if for any reason it hasn't done this automatically you can cancel it by hand.

Again check both the interior mirror and the left hand side mirror – remembering to say MIRROR MIRROR

Steering

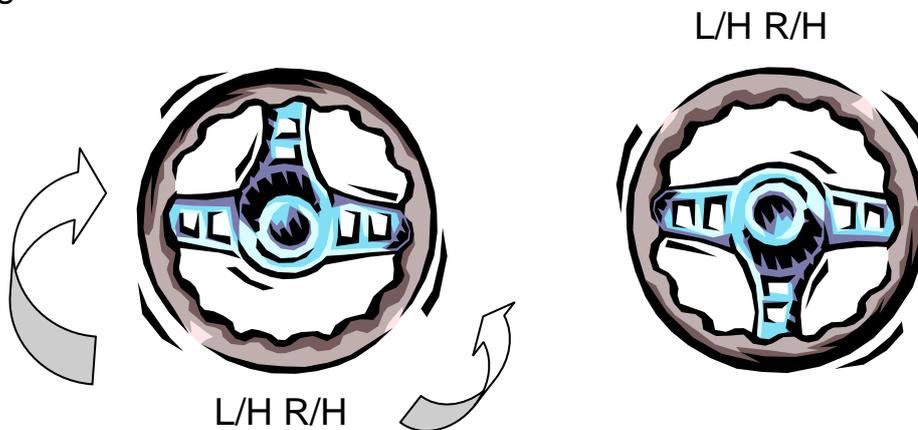
Grip the steering wheel with your left-hand and pull down to the left until you reach 6 o'clock, at the same time move your right-hand down to the 6 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.

Fig: 10



This time grip the steering wheel with your left-hand and push the steering wheel up until you reach 12 o'clock, at the same time move your right-hand up to the 12 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.

Fig: 11



What you are actually doing is turning the steering wheel to the left and when the car is straight you are turning the steering back again so that the wheels are straight.

The reason why both your hands are at 12 o'clock is because you now have to turn the steering wheel to the right to follow the right-hand lane around the roundabout.

Next hold the steering wheel with your right hand and pull the wheel down until you reach 6 o'clock at the same time moving your left-hand into the 6 o'clock position so that again both hands are touching

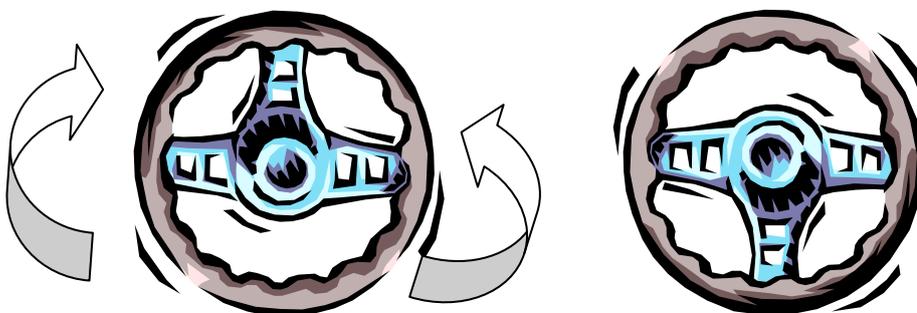
L/H R/H



L/H R/H

This time grip the steering wheel with your right-hand and push the steering wheel up until you reach 12 o'clock, at the same time move your left-hand up to the 12 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.

L/H R/H

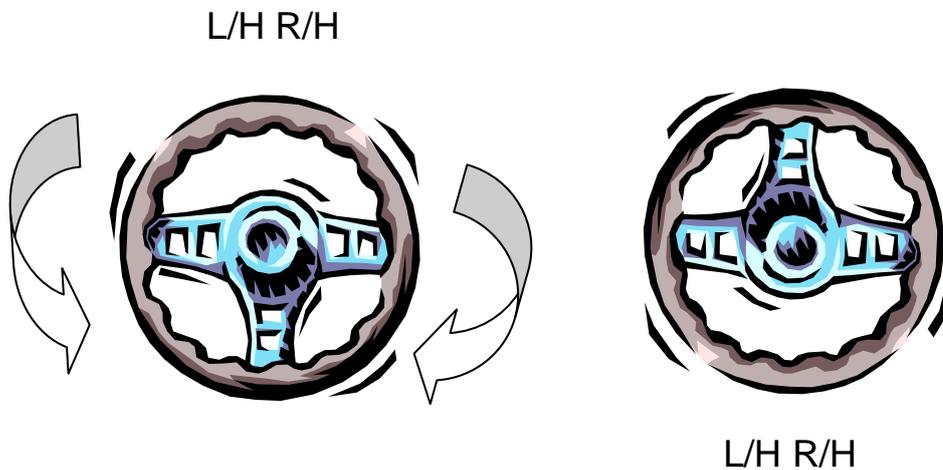


L/H R/H

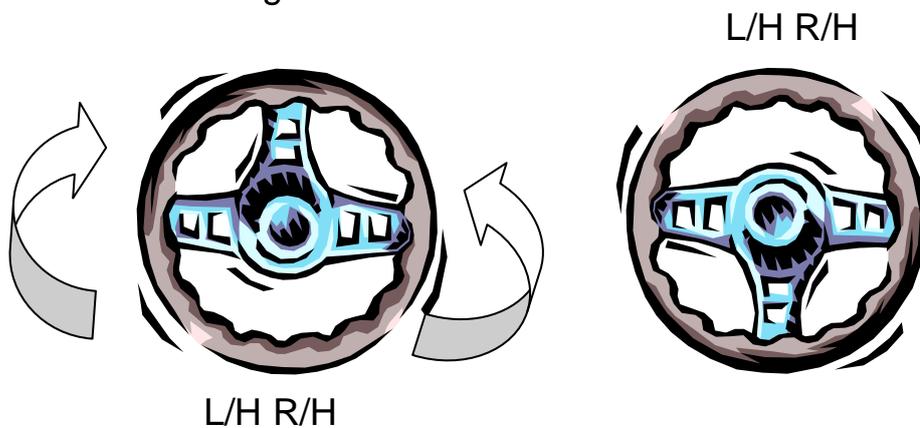
What you are actually doing is turning the steering wheel to the right and when the car is straight you are turning the steering back again so that the wheels are straight.

The reason why both your hands are at 12 o'clock is because you now have to turn the steering wheel to the left

Next hold the steering wheel with your left hand and pull the wheel down until you reach 6 o'clock at the same time moving your right-hand into the 6 o'clock position so that again both hands are touching



This time grip the steering wheel with your left-hand and push the steering wheel up until you reach 12 o'clock, at the same time move your right-hand up to the 12 o'clock position so that both hands are touching.



What you are actually doing is turning the steering wheel to the left and when the car is straight you are turning the steering back again so that the wheels are straight.

You have now exited the roundabout.

So the difference in steering on a roundabout to turn right or take the last exit off is we turn the steering wheel to the left and enter

the right-hand lane and when in the lane we turn the steering wheel back so that the wheels are straight.

Keeping the car in the middle of the right-hand lane, we turn the steering wheel to the right to follow the kerb to the right hand side of the roundabout until we approach the concrete separation.

We then turn the steering wheel back so that the wheels are straight and the car moves over into the left hand lane and the car is facing the exit we are going to come off the roundabout at.

As you approach the exit turn the steering to the left and follow the kerb on the left hand side to come off the roundabout. When we are off the roundabout we again turn the steering so that the wheels are straight.

<http://www.robodriver.co.uk/course/lesson/turning-right-at-a-roundabout/153>

When you have practised in the house as instructed, and you know the sequence, we can shorten the sequence to:-

Spoken

Mirror, mirror, right signal position, slow car, select 2nd gear feet off pedals, turn 1 look, say “no car in my zone” gas ,turn 2, straighten, reach the concrete separation between the lanes, mirror , mirror, signal, left turn 1 into left lane, turn 2 straighten, turn 1, turn 2 straighten, turn 1, turn 2, straighten, mirror, mirror, gas.

Like any other Manoeuvre this sounds so very complicated, but remember I have broken it down into stages and you will need to talk out loud to yourself as you go through the different scenarios so that you keep 100% Concentration on what you are doing by using the PROGRAMME OVER MEMORY Technique (POM) as I explained previously, you can practice this quite easily in your kitchen or living room as there is no need for a car to practice in all the time.

Simply move a chair into the middle of the room and start talking your self through the sequence's that make up this or any other

Manoeuvre, doing all the actions as you speak out loud – this focuses your concentration

So you would, check mirrors change gears and turn the wheel EXACTLY as if you were actually out on the road. If you spend 30mins a day between lessons practicing at home, you will soon have mastered any driving requirement needed to pass your test as you would have PROGRAMMED your mind (POM) and driving becomes second nature.

<http://www.robodriver.co.uk/course/lesson/turning-right-at-a-roundabout/153>

What you have just learned is responsible for 75% of your test and you have learned it in the first 2 hours of a training lesson.

You now go away and practice the way that you are shown in

<http://www.robodriver.co.uk/course/lesson/practising-at-home/154>

It doesn't cost you any money

DOES THAT MAKE SENSE –

I think you will have to agree

ROBODRIVE

MAKES PERFECT SENSE