

**Subject:** Use of Mirrors

**Recap:** Cockpit drill (DSSSM) / Setting - MSM Routine

**Objective:**

- What* Consider effective use of mirrors to a reliable system.
- How* Discuss the main points of use of mirrors as part of the MSM routine followed by on road practice.
- By the end* Be aware of the importance of the use of mirrors and you will be able to use them effectively to a reliable system.

**Main Points:**

- Why?** Need to be aware of what is happening all around you.  
Make a safe decision as to what action to take.  
Just looking isn't enough - act appropriately according to what you see.
- What?** Check speed/position of traffic behind - anything that may effect you/you may effect.
- Where?** Use mirrors in pairs - linked to manoeuvre - interior mirror first followed by appropriate exterior - left if turning left, right if turning right/overtaking etc.
- When?** Always well before you approach a hazard and before moving off - signalling - any change of speed or direction - opening your car door (only exception, Emergency Stop).

**Regular Use** Keep up to date with the situation behind - no surprises.

**Blind Spots**

- What?** Area not covered by the mirrors or normal forward view.
- Where?** Diagram - stationary demo.
- When?** *Stationary* - check when moving off, look right round.  
*Moving* - quick sideways glances (safety) before changing lanes, joining MW/DCW from slip road, manoeuvring where traffic merges from left/right.

**Mirror Types** Flat / convex - difference / considerations.

**Higher Speeds** Check earlier and more often - situations develop faster.

**Routine** **Mirror** - check speed/position of traffic. **Signal** - intention if necessary and in good time. **Manoeuvre** - Change of speed/direction.  
Look before you signal - Look and signal before you act - Act sensibly and safely on what you see.

**References:** Driving the Essential Skills P. 54-63 Official Driving Test P. 287  
BSM Pass Your Driving Test P. 51-54

**Any Questions?**