

**Subject:** **Roundabouts**

**Recap:** Junctions. MSPSL. Lane Discipline.

**Objective:**

- What* How to approach & negotiate roundabouts.
- How* Look at the main points and rules of roundabouts & how the MSPSL routine should be applied, followed by on road practice.
- By the end* Be able to approach & negotiate different types of roundabouts in any direction, safely & with due regard for other road users.

**Main Points:**

**Purpose** To keep traffic moving - allowing traffic from different roads to merge or cross without necessarily stopping.

**Priority** Generally, traffic already on the roundabout has priority. Direction is always clockwise - give way to traffic from right before joining (if clear, keep moving). Sometimes, traffic on roundabout has to give way to traffic entering (look for road markings & give way signs). Traffic lights (P/T?) also determine priority.

**Advance Information** Look well ahead for warning signs. Large/complex roundabouts have signs showing layout & route directions - help to plan ahead.  
Watch out for advance warnings of traffic lanes (signs/markings). Choose correct lane in good time, don't straddle lanes, don't change at last moment.

**Hazard** Junctions are hazards - use MSPSL on approach.

**Speed** Slow down on approach (2nd gear), time to assess traffic & look for a safe gap.

**Look** Across roundabout to identify exit and potential hazards.

**Hazards** Keep an eye on car in front - it may stop while you're looking right (common).  
Pedestrians - Crossings on entrance/exit (they may cross even if no crossing).  
Cyclists/horseriders - tend to keep to the outside even when turning right.  
Motorcyclists - difficult to see.  
Large vehicles - may take different course (watch for signals & rear cutting in).  
All vehicles - be prepared for them to cross your path to leave at next exit.  
Surface - can become polished & slippery, avoid hard acceleration/braking.

**Mini RB's** Approach as normal roundabout but slower - less space to manoeuvre.  
Often insufficient time to signal left when leaving.  
Pass around the central markings (unless in large vehicle or have trailer).

**Procedure** See diagram.

**References:** Driving the Essential Skills P. 170-173 BSM Pass Your Driving Test P. 48-49  
Official Driving Test P. 40

**Any Questions?**