

Some Advice

www.roadartvg.org.uk

An hour with an Approved or Advanced Tutor will not turn you into a driving genius.

We estimate that the average motorist needs to attend a series of four theory lectures and to pursue a series of about ten drives with an Approved or Advanced Tutor to attain the standard which RoSPA recognises as sufficient to gain a grade (bronze, silver or gold) in the Advanced Driving Test and so to qualify for full membership of RoSPA's Advanced Drivers and Riders Association.

At the Thames Valley Group (in common with other groups across the country) we offer courses in advanced driving leading to the Advanced Test which is conducted by a Class 1 Police Driver.

The Thames Valley Group is one of the leading groups with RoSPA in training its Tutors and in developing standards which are recognised nationally. Our Associates gain a correspondingly high percentage of top grade results.

Those who pass the advanced test become members of RoSPA's Advanced Drivers and Riders (ROADAR) and are re-tested every three years in order to retain their membership. Those who achieve a Gold grade gain the highest civilian driving award available in Britain.

Our courses run twice year and we strongly recommend that you attend such a course if you want to improve your driving to the highest levels. The fee of £15 which you have paid for today's initial driving analysis will be deducted from the course fee when you join us as an Associate.

We hope that this initial driving analysis will encourage you to apply for such a course, and we will be glad to help you in pursuit of your goal to acquire and practise the skills of advanced driving.

We wish you a safe and enjoyable driving future.



Thames Valley Group

Welcome!

An Introduction to Advanced Driving

Some Initial Questions

Do you enjoy driving?

Are you competitive behind the wheel?

Why have you asked for this analysis?

- Are you keen to improve your driving skills?
- Do you have points on your licence?
- Have you bought a new car?

How much driving do you do each week?

- Is it mostly business or pleasure?
- Short town runs?
- Long motorway drives?
- Cross-country routes?

What do you want to achieve from this analysis?

Some Initial Comments

RoSPA is the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and we are the Advanced Drivers and Riders set-up within RoSPA.

So we are concerned with road safety.

We use the police system of car control (as published in ROADCRAFT) to help motorists develop strategies for staying safe.

The DSA L-Plate test requires a number of techniques which promote safe driving.

Two, in particular, are really important – and yet both are quickly forgotten by many motorists within weeks of passing their test.

- Mirror – Signal – Manoeuvre
- Pull-Push Steering

Today's Driving Analysis

You will be asked to drive for about 20 minutes observing the two techniques which we have already mentioned and which you displayed when you passed the L-plate test.

We will then make a series of suggestions to help you develop a greater sense of safety, skill and confidence.

In the second part of the analysis, we will invite you to drive for a further 20-30 minutes and your Tutor will give instructional tips which will help you to put into practice some basic techniques within the system of car control.

We will then produce an initial assessment report and will send you a copy within a week.

The System of Car Control

The system of car control is designed to prevent accidents by giving drivers a way of approaching and negotiating hazards that is methodical, safe and leaves nothing to chance. It promotes careful observation, early anticipation and planning, and a systematic use of the controls to achieve maximum vehicle stability.

It has five phases; each is dependent on the one before and each should be considered in sequence.

INFORMATION – POSITION – SPEED – GEAR – ACCELERATE

If you are driving in the correct position on the road at the correct speed and in the correct gear for the prevailing conditions and circumstances, there is not much that you will be doing wrong. However, getting those three things right all the time is very difficult and takes a great deal of practice.