



Parallel Parking Instructor Instructional


Explain how to parallel park and what will be required of the student during the maneuver on the exam.

The parallel parking maneuver must be done in an 8' x 24' space which will be marked with posts, cones, or barrels. The student will be given 3 reverse maneuvers to park the vehicle completely inside the space. Tapping any of the markers will result in an unsuccessful exam. Everything is done within practical conditions; therefore, the student must use turn signals going into and out of the parking spot as well as, looking for traffic when they are exiting space.

Make sure to explain that this parallel parking technique will work with actual cars, that the cones only represent the front and back bumper of parked vehicles. Cones 1 and 3 are the tail lights and cones 4 and 6 are the headlights.

Step by Step Parallel Parking Instruction:

1. The student should turn on the right turn signal as they approach the parallel parking spot.
 - *Note: Make sure the student does this during their approach, not upon arrival.*
2. Instruct the student to slowly drive forward and to stop approx. 2 to 3 feet beside cone #1. 
 - *Visual reference: Advise the student that they should be about an arm's length away from the car.*
3. Instruct the student to slowly drive forward so that the back bumper of the vehicle is equal or aligned with the front cones (cones 1-3). 
 - *Visual reference: Advise the student that if they look over their right shoulder, they should be able to see the corner of the vehicle next to them represented as cone #1.*
 - *Visual reference: Advise the student that it will look like cone #1 is almost touching the C post of the vehicle. Use the Parallel Parking Diagrams and Images to explain.*
4. Instruct the student to turn the steering wheel all the way to the right, before moving the vehicle.

5. Then instruct the student to shift the vehicle into reverse and slowly begin backing up they see *cone #6 appear and move across the rear-view mirror. Explain that once cone #6 reaches the head rest of the back seat directly behind the driver's seat they should stop.* 


- *Visual reference: Advise the student that they can also look the driver's side mirror and to stop when cone #6 appears.*

- *Note: Make sure they know that at this time if the vehicle is equipped with a reverse camera the "left-hand line" displayed on camera display, will be aligned with #6 cone.*


- *Note: Let the student know that the cameras on some vehicles have lines that move/curve and it may require them to straighten the steering wheel in order to double check the alignment.*

6. Next instruct the student to return the wheel to the center position without moving the vehicle.

- *Note: Advise the student that the center position is approx. 1 ½ revolutions back to the left.*

7. Once the wheels are straight, advise the student to slowly reverse the vehicle until cone #1 is just visible through the front windshield at the "A post" (use the *Parallel Parking Diagrams and Images to explain*) or the right front tire passes the pivot point (cone #1). 

- *Note: Let the student know that if they are using a reverse camera, that they should see the last solid yellow line of which both horizontal and vertical lines will be on the right side of the display they should stop when the yellow point where the lines meet touches the curb.*

8. Next instruct the student to turn the steering wheel, without moving the vehicle, and then slowly reverse until the car is straight. 

- *Note: Make sure the student knows that if the car tire touches the curb they should **STOP** and turn the steering wheel all the way to the right, then, slowly drive forward until the car is straight.*

9. Advise the student to shift the vehicle to (P) park and apply the emergency brake!

Don't forget to Congratulate them!!!!

Parallel Parking Diagrams & Images

