Motorcycles — Riding Foundations and Control

Dave's Driving School — Motorcycles

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A plain safety word. Driving law and test rules differ by country, and they change. This book teaches general driving knowledge only. It is not an official manual of any country. Always follow your own country's current official rules, the signs and instructions on the road in front of you, and the guidance of your qualified instructors.

Imprint

This book was written by the house for Dave's Driving School and is sealed under the name of **David Apana Takwi**, David Apana Takwi · dave.48hourrfprescue.com · info@dave.48hourrfprescue.com. It may be shared freely for learning. It teaches general driving knowledge only.

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How to use this book

Read a chapter, talk it over, then practise its lesson with your instructor in a safe place. Answer the review questions in your own words. Keep the checklists until they become habits. Where this book and your country's current official rules differ, the official rules win — always.

Chapter 1 — The Machine and Its Controls

Throttle, clutch, gears, two brakes, lights and stands — know each control by touch before the road demands it.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: a motorcycle answers instantly; that honesty is its joy and its demand. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. Throttle, clutch, gears, two brakes, lights and stands — know each control by touch before the road demands it — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. A motorcycle answers instantly; that honesty is its joy and its demand. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

Step by step

Work through this chapter's practice in order. One: read the chapter and say its main idea aloud in your own words. Two: watch the manoeuvre or situation as a passenger or observer, and name what the driver does and when. Three: practise it yourself at the lowest safe speed, in the safest place, until it feels ordinary. Four: practise it again on a different day, because a skill kept overnight is a skill truly learned. Five: ask your instructor to test you without warning, the way the road will.

Common mistakes

Learners most often rush this stage, copy the faults of impatient drivers around them, or practise only when conditions are easy. Another common mistake is silence: not asking the question that feels too simple. In a driving school there are no foolish questions — only unasked ones that the road later asks at speed. Name your difficulty early; that is what teachers are for.

A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because a motorcycle answers instantly; that honesty is its joy and its demand, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

Checklist

Before you count this chapter as learned, be able to say yes to each of these: I can explain the main idea in my own words. I have practised it in a safe place with guidance. I know the common mistakes and can spot them in others. I know what my country's current official rules say about it. I can stay calm when it goes imperfectly and correct myself safely.

Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

Now take the lesson out of the book and onto the road, in the safest conditions you can choose. Tell your instructor beforehand which chapter you are practising, and agree together how it will be judged. Afterwards, while the journey is fresh, write down three things: what went well, what surprised you, and what you will do differently next time. This small habit of honest review, kept after every practice, is how ordinary learners become careful drivers — not by one great lesson, but by many small corrections willingly made. Repeat the practice on at least three separate days before you call the chapter finished: once in quiet conditions, once in ordinary traffic, and once when conditions are less kind, always with guidance and always within your country's rules. If any part still feels uncertain, that feeling is information, not failure — bring it back to your instructor and to this chapter, and practise again. The road rewards the driver who would rather practise once more than presume once too often.

Chapter summary

Throttle, clutch, gears, two brakes, lights and stands — know each control by touch before the road demands it. A motorcycle answers instantly; that honesty is its joy and its demand. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 2 — Protective Gear, Every Ride

Helmet fastened properly, gloves, jacket, strong footwear and eye protection — for the shortest ride as for the longest.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: skin and bone heal slowly; gear is cheap by comparison. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. Helmet fastened properly, gloves, jacket, strong footwear and eye protection — for the shortest ride as for the longest — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. Skin and bone heal slowly; gear is cheap by comparison. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

Step by step

Work through this chapter's practice in order. One: read the chapter and say its main idea aloud in your own words. Two: watch the manoeuvre or situation as a passenger or observer, and name what the driver does and when. Three: practise it yourself at the lowest safe speed, in the safest place, until it feels ordinary. Four: practise it again on a different day, because a skill kept overnight is a skill truly learned. Five: ask your instructor to test you without warning, the way the road will.

Common mistakes

Learners most often rush this stage, copy the faults of impatient drivers around them, or practise only when conditions are easy. Another common mistake is silence: not asking the question that feels too simple. In a driving school there are no foolish questions — only unasked ones that the road later asks at speed. Name your difficulty early; that is what teachers are for.

A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because skin and bone heal slowly; gear

is cheap by comparison, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

Checklist

Before you count this chapter as learned, be able to say yes to each of these: I can explain the main idea in my own words. I have practised it in a safe place with guidance. I know the common mistakes and can spot them in others. I know what my country's current official rules say about it. I can stay calm when it goes imperfectly and correct myself safely.

Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

Now take the lesson out of the book and onto the road, in the safest conditions you can choose. Tell your instructor beforehand which chapter you are practising, and agree together how it will be judged. Afterwards, while the journey is fresh, write down three things: what went well, what surprised you, and what you will do differently next time. This small habit of honest review, kept after every practice, is how ordinary learners become careful drivers — not by one great lesson, but by many small corrections willingly made. Repeat the practice on at least three separate days before you call the chapter finished: once in quiet conditions, once in ordinary traffic, and once when conditions are less kind, always with guidance and always within your country's rules. If any part still feels uncertain, that feeling is information, not failure — bring it back to your instructor and to this chapter, and practise again. The road rewards the driver who would rather practise once more than presume once too often.

Chapter summary

Helmet fastened properly, gloves, jacket, strong footwear and eye protection — for the shortest ride as for the longest. Skin and bone heal slowly; gear is cheap by comparison. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 3 — Balance, Starting and Stopping

A motorcycle is stable in motion and honest at walking pace: practise slow control until it is calm.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: look up and ahead; the machine goes where your eyes lead. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. A motorcycle is stable in motion and honest at walking pace: practise slow control until it is calm — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. Look up and ahead; the machine goes where your eyes lead. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

Step by step

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Common mistakes

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A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because look up and ahead; the machine goes where your eyes lead, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the

next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

Checklist

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Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

Now take the lesson out of the book and onto the road, in the safest conditions you can choose. Tell your instructor beforehand which chapter you are practising, and agree together how it will be judged. Afterwards, while the journey is fresh, write down three things: what went well, what surprised you, and what you will do differently next time. This small habit of honest review, kept after every practice, is how ordinary learners become careful drivers — not by one great lesson, but by many small corrections willingly made. Repeat the practice on at least three separate days before you call the chapter finished: once in quiet conditions, once in ordinary traffic, and once when conditions are less kind, always with guidance and always within your country's rules. If any part still feels uncertain, that feeling is information, not failure — bring it back to your instructor and to this chapter, and practise again. The road rewards the driver who would rather practise once more than presume once too often.

Chapter summary

A motorcycle is stable in motion and honest at walking pace: practise slow control until it is calm. Look up and ahead; the machine goes where your eyes lead. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 4 — Gears, Clutch and Throttle Together

Smooth changes come from the three controls working as one practised motion.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: roll the throttle gently; abruptness upsets balance and grip. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. Smooth changes come from the three controls working as one practised motion — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. Roll the throttle gently; abruptness upsets balance and grip. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

Step by step

Work through this chapter's practice in order. One: read the chapter and say its main idea aloud in your own words. Two: watch the manoeuvre or situation as a passenger or observer, and name what the driver does and when. Three: practise it yourself at the lowest safe speed, in the safest place, until it feels ordinary. Four: practise it again on a different day, because a skill kept overnight is a skill truly learned. Five: ask your instructor to test you without warning, the way the road will.

Common mistakes

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A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because roll the throttle gently; abruptness upsets balance and grip, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other

road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

Checklist

Before you count this chapter as learned, be able to say yes to each of these: I can explain the main idea in my own words. I have practised it in a safe place with guidance. I know the common mistakes and can spot them in others. I know what my country's current official rules say about it. I can stay calm when it goes imperfectly and correct myself safely.

Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

Now take the lesson out of the book and onto the road, in the safest conditions you can choose. Tell your instructor beforehand which chapter you are practising, and agree together how it will be judged. Afterwards, while the journey is fresh, write down three things: what went well, what surprised you, and what you will do differently next time. This small habit of honest review, kept after every practice, is how ordinary learners become careful drivers — not by one great lesson, but by many small corrections willingly made. Repeat the practice on at least three separate days before you call the chapter finished: once in quiet conditions, once in ordinary traffic, and once when conditions are less kind, always with guidance and always within your country's rules. If any part still feels uncertain, that feeling is information, not failure — bring it back to your instructor and to this chapter, and practise again. The road rewards the driver who would rather practise once more than presume once too often.

Chapter summary

Smooth changes come from the three controls working as one practised motion. Roll the throttle gently; abruptness upsets balance and grip. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 5 — Braking on Two Wheels

The front brake does most of the work on most road motorcycles, with the rear brake steadying — learned progressively, never grabbed.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: brake upright and in a straight line whenever you can. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. The front brake does most of the work on most road motorcycles, with the rear brake steadying — learned progressively, never grabbed — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. Brake upright and in a straight line whenever you can. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

Step by step

Work through this chapter's practice in order. One: read the chapter and say its main idea aloud in your own words. Two: watch the manoeuvre or situation as a passenger or observer, and name what the driver does and when. Three: practise it yourself at the lowest safe speed, in the safest place, until it feels ordinary. Four: practise it again on a different day, because a skill kept overnight is a skill truly learned. Five: ask your instructor to test you without warning, the way the road will.

Common mistakes

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A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because brake upright and in a straight

line whenever you can, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

Checklist

Before you count this chapter as learned, be able to say yes to each of these: I can explain the main idea in my own words. I have practised it in a safe place with guidance. I know the common mistakes and can spot them in others. I know what my country's current official rules say about it. I can stay calm when it goes imperfectly and correct myself safely.

Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

Now take the lesson out of the book and onto the road, in the safest conditions you can choose. Tell your instructor beforehand which chapter you are practising, and agree together how it will be judged. Afterwards, while the journey is fresh, write down three things: what went well, what surprised you, and what you will do differently next time. This small habit of honest review, kept after every practice, is how ordinary learners become careful drivers — not by one great lesson, but by many small corrections willingly made. Repeat the practice on at least three separate days before you call the chapter finished: once in quiet conditions, once in ordinary traffic, and once when conditions are less kind, always with guidance and always within your country's rules. If any part still feels uncertain, that feeling is information, not failure — bring it back to your instructor and to this chapter, and practise again. The road rewards the driver who would rather practise once more than presume once too often.

Chapter summary

The front brake does most of the work on most road motorcycles, with the rear brake steadying — learned progressively, never grabbed. Brake upright and in a straight line whenever you can. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 6 — Cornering with Care

Slow in, look through, steady through, gentle out — the cornering rhythm that keeps riders safe.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: gravel, paint and wet metal on the road surface are a rider's special enemies. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. Slow in, look through, steady through, gentle out — the cornering rhythm that keeps riders safe — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. Gravel, paint and wet metal on the road surface are a rider's special enemies. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

Step by step

Work through this chapter's practice in order. One: read the chapter and say its main idea aloud in your own words. Two: watch the manoeuvre or situation as a passenger or observer, and name what the driver does and when. Three: practise it yourself at the lowest safe speed, in the safest place, until it feels ordinary. Four: practise it again on a different day, because a skill kept overnight is a skill truly learned. Five: ask your instructor to test you without warning, the way the road will.

Common mistakes

Learners most often rush this stage, copy the faults of impatient drivers around them, or practise only when conditions are easy. Another common mistake is silence: not asking the question that feels too simple. In a driving school there are no foolish questions — only unasked ones that the road later asks at speed. Name your difficulty early; that is what teachers are for.

A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because gravel, paint and wet metal on

the road surface are a rider's special enemies, the difficulty is met early, handled gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

Checklist

Before you count this chapter as learned, be able to say yes to each of these: I can explain the main idea in my own words. I have practised it in a safe place with guidance. I know the common mistakes and can spot them in others. I know what my country's current official rules say about it. I can stay calm when it goes imperfectly and correct myself safely.

Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

Now take the lesson out of the book and onto the road, in the safest conditions you can choose. Tell your instructor beforehand which chapter you are practising, and agree together how it will be judged. Afterwards, while the journey is fresh, write down three things: what went well, what surprised you, and what you will do differently next time. This small habit of honest review, kept after every practice, is how ordinary learners become careful drivers — not by one great lesson, but by many small corrections willingly made. Repeat the practice on at least three separate days before you call the chapter finished: once in quiet conditions, once in ordinary traffic, and once when conditions are less kind, always with guidance and always within your country's rules. If any part still feels uncertain, that feeling is information, not failure — bring it back to your instructor and to this chapter, and practise again. The road rewards the driver who would rather practise once more than presume once too often.

Chapter summary

Slow in, look through, steady through, gentle out — the cornering rhythm that keeps riders safe. Gravel, paint and wet metal on the road surface are a rider's special enemies. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 7 — Road Position and Being Seen

Ride where you can see and be seen; never sit in a larger vehicle's blind spot.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: assume, politely, that some drivers have not seen you — and ride so it does not matter. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. Ride where you can see and be seen; never sit in a larger vehicle's blind spot — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. Assume, politely, that some drivers have not seen you — and ride so it does not matter. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

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A worked example

Picture an ordinary journey — a market day, traffic building, weather turning. The driver who has learned this chapter well does nothing dramatic. Because assume, politely, that some drivers have not seen you — and ride so it does not matter, the difficulty is met early, handled

gently, and forgotten by the next junction. That quietness is the mark of real skill: passengers arrive relaxed, other road users are never startled, and the vehicle comes home unmarked.

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Chapter summary

Ride where you can see and be seen; never sit in a larger vehicle's blind spot. Assume, politely, that some drivers have not seen you — and ride so it does not matter. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

Chapter 8 — Your First Journeys

Build distance and difficulty gradually, in daylight and good weather first, always with rest.

The heart of the matter is simple to say and a lifetime to master: confidence earned step by step lasts; confidence borrowed from bravado does not. In this chapter we take it slowly, in plain words, the way Dave's school teaches everything — first the idea, then the habit, then the practice.

First, understand

Begin where every good driver begins: with understanding. Build distance and difficulty gradually, in daylight and good weather first, always with rest — that is not a slogan but a description of what safe drivers actually do, journey after journey. Watch for it in drivers you admire. Notice how early they act, how calm their hands are, and how rarely they are surprised. Surprise, on the road, is usually the price of looking too late or assuming too much.

Then look closer. Confidence earned step by step lasts; confidence borrowed from bravado does not. Break the skill into its small parts and practise each part separately, in a quiet and safe place, with your instructor beside you. Small parts learned well join together into smooth, whole driving; small parts skipped return later as faults that are much harder to unlearn.

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A worked example

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Before you count this chapter as learned, be able to say yes to each of these: I can explain the main idea in my own words. I have practised it in a safe place with guidance. I know the common mistakes and can spot them in others. I know what my country's current official rules say about it. I can stay calm when it goes imperfectly and correct myself safely.

Review questions

1. In your own words, what is this chapter's main idea? 2. Why does it matter for safety? 3. Describe a real road situation where it applies. 4. What is the commonest learner mistake here, and how is it avoided? 5. What do your country's official rules say? Answer honestly; where you cannot answer, that is tomorrow's lesson.

Practise it on the road

Now take the lesson out of the book and onto the road, in the safest conditions you can choose. Tell your instructor beforehand which chapter you are practising, and agree together how it will be judged. Afterwards, while the journey is fresh, write down three things: what went well, what surprised you, and what you will do differently next time. This small habit of honest review, kept after every practice, is how ordinary learners become careful drivers — not by one great lesson, but by many small corrections willingly made. Repeat the practice on at least three separate days before you call the chapter finished: once in quiet conditions, once in ordinary traffic, and once when conditions are less kind, always with guidance and always within your country's rules. If any part still feels uncertain, that feeling is information, not failure — bring it back to your instructor and to this chapter, and practise again. The road rewards the driver who would rather practise once more than presume once too often.

Chapter summary

Build distance and difficulty gradually, in daylight and good weather first, always with rest. Confidence earned step by step lasts; confidence borrowed from bravado does not. Learned patiently and practised honestly, this chapter's lesson will serve you on every journey you ever make.

A last word from the school

Driving is freedom with responsibility attached. Learn patiently, drive carefully, and arrive — every time. Dave's Driving School is proud of every learner who chooses care over hurry.

A plain safety word. Driving law and test rules differ by country, and they change. This book teaches general driving knowledge only. It is not an official manual of any country. Always follow your own country's current official rules, the signs and instructions on the road in front of you, and the guidance of your qualified instructors.

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