

Crossroads

✓ Crossroads are often accident black spots. When you approach one make sure you check the roads to your right and left carefully in case someone is about to pass through the junction. You may need to slow down to do this.

✓ **Which road has priority?**
Normally the side roads have give way lines at the ends, which gives the main road priority over them. At unmarked junctions nobody has priority.

✓ **Approaching on a main road:**

- You normally have priority over the minor roads but always check them before passing through or turning at a crossroads.
- If there is a car approaching on the main road and you are both either going ahead or left, you will not cross each other's path so neither of you will need to stop.
- If one vehicle wants to turn right at the crossroads while the other goes ahead or left, the car turning right should give way.
- If you both want to turn right you should use the centre of the junction to pass each other. There are two ways to do this, which are explained overleaf. They are known as the nearside to nearside method and the offside to offside method.

✓ **Approaching on a minor road:**

- You should give way to traffic on the main road.
- When the main road is clear, deal with any traffic in the road opposite you using the same priority rules as described above.

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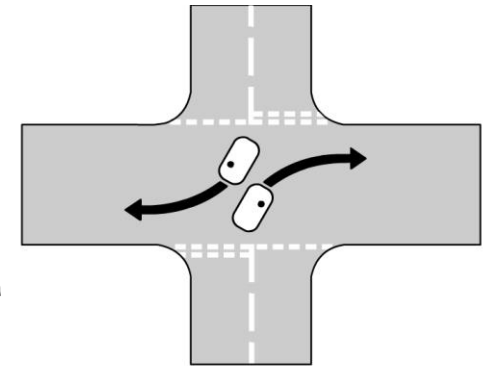
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Turning right at same time as oncoming vehicle

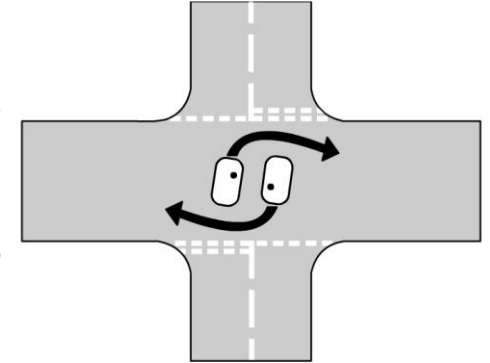
Nearside to nearside method

This is the most commonly used method. You should pass in front of the other vehicle so your passenger doors are side by side. You must use this method if there are arrows painted in the middle of the junction indicating this. Sometimes the position of the other vehicle can make it difficult to see down the road to the left.



Offside to offside method

With this method, you drive around the back of the other vehicle. It is a safer method because you have a clear view of oncoming traffic in the lane you are joining but it is less commonly used because you need a large junction to have room to do it. If you are queuing to turn right, make sure you leave enough room for approaching traffic to turn right behind the first car.



Top Tips

If there are no road markings or signs, try to get eye contact with the driver opposite to determine which method to use. You could also watch their front wheels - if they turn as soon as they move off, they will be cutting in front of you, nearside to nearside. If they stay straight, it will be offside to offside.

Whichever method you use, make sure you do not wait in a position where you might block the path of vehicles from any of the other roads.

At busy traffic light-controlled junctions, creep forward slowly when your lights change to green to try and avoid having to wait in the middle.