

## Foot controls



### The accelerator

Your driving instructor will call the accelerator the gas pedal - because it's easier to say! When you press it, fuel is injected into the engine to provide power. When climbing a hill or gaining speed quickly, you need to press the gas pedal more than when cruising on a flat road. This is similar to how you pedal a bicycle - hard up a hill or to gain speed but with little effort on the flat once you have built up momentum. When you come off the gas pedal the car will slow down gradually - just like a bicycle does when you stop pedaling.



### The footbrake

You should spread your braking over a long distance to achieve smoothness and so any vehicles behind you are not surprised. Start with gentle pressure then as you feel the brakes biting, increase the pressure to reduce speed gradually. Gently release the pedal as you reach your target speed (or as the car stops). Your braking should be completed in one progressive action rather than several jabs. This is how you would brake on a bicycle, right?



### The clutch

The clutch is a link between the engine and the wheels. When stopping or changing gear, you should push it down in one quick movement. However, when bringing it back up (to connect the engine to the wheels) you should do so more gently. Pause slightly as you feel the clutch engage, otherwise the car will jerk. When you bring the clutch up it might help to imagine you are peeling the lid off a yoghurt pot - quickly at first, then slowly at the end (to avoid a splat of yoghurt in your face!).

Pass your test with:

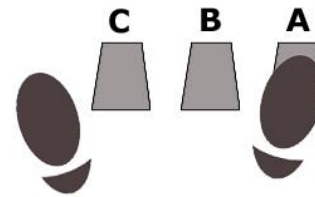
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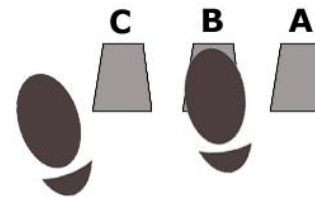


## The foot controls



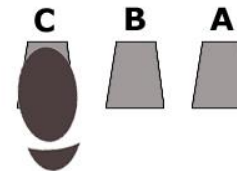
### The accelerator

- \* Provides power and speed
- \* Also known as the gas pedal
- \* Press it gently with your toes, rather than the ball of your foot
- \* Use your right foot



### The brake

- \* Slows down and stops the car
- \* Press it progressively, easing off as your target speed is achieved
- \* Red lights appear at the back of the car when you press it
- \* Use the ball of your right foot



### The clutch

- \* Links the engine and the wheels
- \* Press it down if stopping or changing gear
- \* Bring it up slowly when moving off
- \* Hold it partially up for snail-pace driving, known as clutch control
- \* Use the ball of your left foot

### Riding the clutch: expensive habit

When you're not using the clutch, your left foot should be placed on the floor next to the clutch pedal or on the footrest, if there is one. If you drive along with your left foot resting on the clutch pedal, you will wear out your clutch prematurely.

