

## Types of roundabouts



The many different types of roundabouts include:

- \* **Normal two-lane roundabouts** - covered in previous handout.
- \* **Mini-roundabouts** - The rules are the same as for normal roundabouts, except you don't need to signal to exit because you will be too busy steering. Do not drive over a mini-roundabout unless it is necessary. There is less space, so do everything slower.
- \* **Double mini-roundabouts** - Give way separately at each roundabout. Choose an approach lane which will place you easily into the correct lane for the 2nd roundabout, eg if you are going ahead at the 1<sup>st</sup> and right at the 2<sup>nd</sup>, be in the right hand lane at both. On road signs double minis look directly linked.
- \* **Multiple roundabouts** - (eg bottom of Marlow Hill, Wycombe). Some complex junctions have mini-roundabouts at each intersection. Treat each roundabout separately.
- \* **Spiral roundabouts** - (eg Eden roundabout, Wycombe town centre). On some wide roundabouts lanes are painted to spiral out from the middle to help move traffic towards an exit. Be careful not to drift from your lane unintentionally.
- \* **Large multi-lane roundabouts** - (eg Handy Cross, Wycombe). Some large roundabouts have three or more lanes and traffic lights. There will be road signs, road markings and sometimes gantry signs to help you move into the correct lane in good time. Beware of drivers cutting you up near junctions. Aim to be in the left hand lane as you are passing the exit before the one you want.

Pass your test with:

**Wycombe Driving School**

**01494 718888**

[www.wycombedrivingschool.co.uk](http://www.wycombedrivingschool.co.uk)



## Roundabouts cont.

Here are some of the signs you will see at roundabouts



**Roundabout ahead**  
warning sign (red rim) - this sign is found on the approach to some roundabouts



**Turn left sign**  
(blue background) with left chevrons (black and white) - found on the centre circle of normal roundabouts



**Mini-roundabout sign**  
(blue background) - this sign will be near the give way line, so you can time your approach even if you can't see the roundabout

### Watch out for these guys

**Long vehicles** - they often have to take an unusual position due to their length. Watch their signals and keep well away from them so you don't get cut up.

**Cyclists/ horse riders** - they often stay in the left hand lane even when they are turning right.

**Pedestrians** - zebra crossings are often found near the exits of roundabouts.

### Common accidents

**Rear end shunts** - Keep an eye on the vehicle in front as you are about to join the roundabout because they might stop while you are looking to the right. Many rear-end shunts happen this way.

**Drivers not checking left** - Make sure you check the road is clear to the left as well as to the right. Look for pedestrians, cars shooting onto the roundabout, queues etc.