

# Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Taxi Practical Driving Test Terms and Conditions

## The Booking

You must pay for your Taxi Practical Test at the time of booking.

You are required to have an email address to make your booking online.

On completion of your booking, you will receive a confirmation and booking reference by email or post.

## Driver conduct

Examiners will be treated with respect at all times throughout the test. Obscene language and aggressive or intimidatory behaviour will not be tolerated and your test will be terminated. If the test is terminated, then Kirklees Council reserve the right to preclude individuals from applying for a test in the future.

### On the day of your test, you must bring:

- A roadworthy vehicle which is clean inside and out and has no outstanding recalls.
- An insurance certificate to show that you, the driver, are insured to drive the vehicle in which you intend to take this test and that the vehicle is **specifically covered for the purpose of a Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire test.**
- A valid driving licence and your licence check code
- Your taxi badge if you are using a licensed taxi vehicle.

**Your test will be cancelled, with no refund if you fail to comply with the above.**

The wearing of a face covering on the test is optional.

## Driving licence

You need to bring your licence and your licence check code for the examiner to validate.

To get the access code you need to go to [View or share your driving licence information](#)

You will need your National Insurance number, your driving licence and date of birth. The code is valid for 21 days.

If you do not have a photocard licence, bring a valid passport and your old-style paper licence.

## On the day of your test

Do not arrive for your driving test more than 5 minutes before your appointment time. We do not have an indoor waiting area at the venue. Toilets will be available on request.

If you come to your test with someone else e.g., a driving instructor, there is nowhere indoors for them to wait, and they will have to wait in the car park of the venue.

## Rules about the car

You must clean the inside and outside of the car before your test, tidying any unnecessary items away from the dashboard, footwells, door pockets, cup holders and seats.

The examiner may do an additional clean of some surfaces.

Your vehicle **must**:

- Be taxed.
- Have an insurance certificate to show that you, the driver, are insured to drive the vehicle in which you intend to take this test and that the vehicle is **specifically covered for the purpose of a Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire test or assessment (check with your insurance company)**.
- Be roadworthy and have a current MOT - if it is over 3 years old.
- Have no warning lights showing, for example, the airbag warning light.
- Have no tyre damage and the minimum legal tread depth on each tyre - you cannot have a space-saver spare tyre fitted.
- Be smoke-free - this means you cannot smoke in the vehicle just before, or during the test.
- Be able to reach at least 62mph and have an mph speedometer.
- Have 4 wheels and a maximum authorised mass (MAM) of no more than 3,500 kg.

## Dashcams and other cameras

You can use a camera fitted for insurance purposes, as long it faces outside of the vehicle and does not film the inside and does not record audio from inside the vehicle.

## Hire cars

You can take your test in a hire car if it meets all the conditions stated above including being **specifically covered for the purpose of a Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire test or assessment**.

## Your Test

There are 4 parts to the driving test, and it is the same for both manual and automatic cars.

- Highway Code questions
- Medical fitness and an eyesight check
- Vehicle check to make sure your vehicle is roadworthy.
- General driving ability and a reversing manoeuvre

The test is 1 hour with 40 minutes driving.

## Other people at your test

The driving examiner's supervisor may sit in on your test to audit your examiner's performance.

You are not allowed to have anyone else in the vehicle with you e.g., driving instructor.

## **ID/Licence Checks**

The examiner needs to verify your identity so if you are wearing a face covering you will need to briefly remove it.

## **Medical fitness to drive:**

Before beginning the test, you must tell us about any medical conditions that could affect your performance/fitness to drive. You are reminded that it is a legal obligation for you to notify, the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency of any notifiable medical conditions which may affect your fitness to drive.

## **Eyesight check**

Before you drive on the test, you will have to read a number plate from a distance of:

- 20 metres for vehicles with a new-style number plate which start with 2 letters followed by 2 numbers, e.g., AB51 ABC.
- 20.5 metres for vehicles with an old-style number plate.

**If you fail your eyesight check, then the test will not go ahead.**

## **Highway Code questions**

You will be asked 10 Highway Code questions before you go on your practical drive.

If you fail to answer 8 out of 10 questions correctly then your test will end at that point:

## **Your general driving ability**

- You will drive in various road and traffic conditions.
- The examiner will give you directions that you should follow.
- Driving test routes are not published, so you cannot check them before your test.

## **Driving test faults and your result**

There are 3 types of faults you can make:

- A dangerous fault - this involves actual danger to you, the examiner, the public or property.
- A serious fault - something potentially dangerous
- A driving fault - this is not potentially dangerous, but if you keep making the same fault, it could become a serious fault.

You can make a mistake and carry on with your test depending on the nature of the fault.

## **Pass mark**

You will pass your taxi practical test if you make:

- No more than 9 driving faults
- No serious or dangerous faults

### **If you pass your test**

The examiner will brief you on faults that have occurred and issue a certificate.

### **If you do not pass your test**

The examiner will offer a debrief on faults that have occurred.

You may book another test and pay again. You will not be able to book until 2 working days after your previous test.

### **Changing, Rescheduling or Cancelling Your Booking**

You can change the date of your test at no extra charge provided you do this, 5 working days before the date of your test.

### **Test cancellations**

Your driving test can be cancelled or stopped because of bad weather, problems with your car, or for other reasons.

### **Bad weather**

Taxi Practical Driving tests are not carried out in dangerous weather conditions, such as when the roads are icy or if there is flooding, thick fog, or high winds.

Call the Driver Training Team if there are any of these conditions on the day of your test to check if your practical test will go ahead.

The phone number for the driver training team is 01484 221000 ext. 75286.

If your test cannot go ahead because of bad weather, then we will:

- contact you to book another practical test.
- send you a confirmation of the booking.

You cannot claim for any out-of-pocket expenses if your test is cancelled because of bad weather.

### **Problems with you or your car**

You will have to book another test and pay again if:

- You feel unwell while taking your test or you cannot attend because you are unwell.
- Your car breaks down during the test or does not meet the rules stated above.
- You turn up late to the test or fail to turn up at all.

### **If your test is cancelled for another reason**

Sometimes we may have to cancel tests for other reasons, for example, if the examiner is unwell. If this happens, we will contact you as soon as possible to let you know your test has been cancelled and we will arrange another test free of charge.

## **Privacy and Data security**

We need to take your personal information to make a booking. You provide this to us over the telephone or through the online booking system. This information includes your name, address, date of birth, driving licence number, email address and telephone number.

All the information that you provide to us is held by us and protected according to the regulatory requirements under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

We keep all information relating to you confidential.

To process your booking, we need you to consent to providing us with this information. We require your driving licence and additional information to be able to process your booking. The booking management system is hosted on behalf of the Council within a secure data centre. No bank or credit card details are retained.

Under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) you have the right to request the erasure of all data relating to you immediately after your test. If you wish to request this, please email us at [drivertraining@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:drivertraining@kirklees.gov.uk)

You can view our [Privacy notice for taxi driver training](#)

## **Customer Care**

If you are unhappy with the service that you have received, please write to us at:

Kirklees Council, Driver Training Team, Vine Street, Huddersfield, HD1 6NT or email us at [drivertraining@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:drivertraining@kirklees.gov.uk)