

**Q:** What does 'Independent Driving' actually mean?

**A:** It means driving without step by step instruction. On test, candidates will be asked to drive without 'step-by-step' directions from their examiner for about 10 minutes. In practice this will mean following traffic signs, a series of verbal directions, or a series of both. To help candidates visualise the directions, the examiner may also show them a simple diagram.

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**Q:** Is it considered a fault if the candidate goes off route?

**A:** No, Independent driving is not a test of the candidates' orientation skills. Provided the candidate does not commit a fault, there is nothing to assess. The examiner will get the candidate back on route and continue with the independent driving section.

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**Q:** If the candidate asks for a reminder of the directions, will the examiner be able to tell them?

**A:** Yes, of course. Driving independently means making decisions – this includes deciding when it is safe and appropriate to ask for confirmation about where you are going.

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