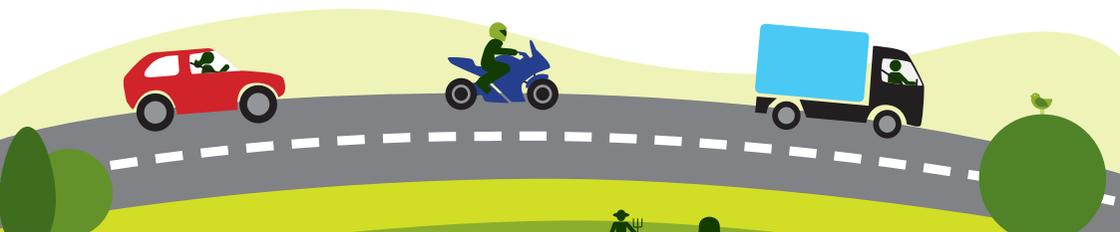
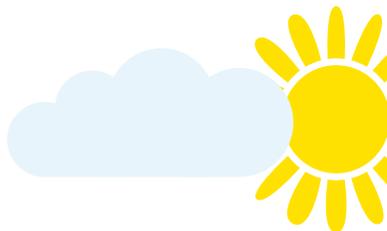




Seasonal workers

Road user guide



Introduction

This pack has been produced by West Mercia Police for workers from other countries and employers.

As a visitor to the UK, you may be unfamiliar with many of the rules of the UK roads, which in turn may make you more vulnerable.

This pack provides essential road safety advice to help reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads.

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Fatal four

Mobile phone

It's illegal to use a handheld mobile phone while driving in the UK.

- This includes holding and using a mobile phone to follow a map, read a text or check social media. It applies even if you have stopped at traffic lights or queuing in traffic
- You can only use a handheld phone if you are safely parked or need to call 999 or 112 in an emergency, as long as it's unsafe or impractical to stop first



If you are caught using a handheld mobile phone whilst driving:

- You get six penalty points on your licence and a fine of £200



- If you get six points in the first two years of passing your test you will lose your licence
- Using hands-free (e.g. for navigation) is not illegal. However if this distracts you and affects your ability to drive safely, you can still be stopped by the police
- The penalties for driving carelessly when using a handheld or hands-free phone can include disqualification, a large fine and up to two years imprisonment



Speeding

You must drive at an appropriate speed within the indicated speed limit at all times.

- Plan your journey and allow plenty of time to reach your destination
- Drive at an appropriate speed for the road and the weather conditions
- Keep a two seconds distance from the vehicle in front
- Make sure you know the speed limits for the road and restrictions for your vehicle

These speed limits apply to all roads unless there are signs to indicate otherwise. All speeds are shown in miles per hour (mph). Don't get confused over imperial and metric road signs, for example, speed limits or bridge heights.

- If you build up 12 or more penalty points within a period of three years you will be disqualified from driving
- If caught speeding by a speed camera the vehicle's registered keeper will be sent a notice of intended prosecution. You face having to go to court if you ignore the notice

The minimum penalty for speeding is a £100 fine and three penalty points

Type of vehicle	Built up areas	Single carriageway	Dual carriageway	Motorway
Cars and motorcycles	30	60	70	70
Cars towing caravans or trailers	30	50	60	60
Buses and coaches - less than 12 metres long	30	50	60	70
Goods vehicles - less than 7.5 tonnes maximum laden weight	30	50	60	70
HGVs - more than 7.5 tonnes maximum laden weight	30	50	60	60

Drink and drug driving

There are strict alcohol laws for UK drivers.

- In England, Wales and Northern Ireland the legal alcohol limit for drivers is 35 micrograms of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath. In Scotland the legal alcohol limit for drivers is 22 micrograms per 100 millilitres of breath

One drink could be enough to push you over the limit. If you're planning to drink alcohol, do not mix this with driving.



If you are convicted of drink driving you could receive:

- A minimum 12 month driving ban
- A criminal record
- A large fine
- Up to six months in prison



- An endorsement on your licence for 11 years
- Increased insurance premium
- Agree on a designated driver, taking a taxi or using public transport are all options
- Don't offer an alcoholic drink to someone you know is planning to drive
- Don't accept a lift from a driver you know has drunk alcohol or taken drugs

It is against the law to drive under the influence of certain drugs.

Some illegal drugs, such as cannabis, can stay in your system for several weeks.

The police in the UK have a roadside test that makes it easier to detect those who are driving under the influence of illegal drugs.

Driving under the influence of drugs impairs your driving ability and is extremely dangerous.

If you get caught you face:

- An unlimited fine
- A minimum 12 month driving ban
- Up to six months in prison
- A criminal record which can affect entry into other countries
- An endorsement on your driving licence for 11 years
- Increased insurance premium

Certain medicines can also affect your ability to drive, check with your doctor or pharmacist

Seatbelts

Wearing a seat belt saves lives.

It is a legal requirement in the UK to use a seat belt if one is fitted in your vehicle for the driver and all passengers. For children up to 135cm in height they should use a child restraint.

You can be fined up to £500 if you don't wear a seat belt

- Only one person is allowed in each seat fitted with a seat belt, never use the same seat belt around two passengers
- As a passenger over the age of 14 it is your responsibility to ensure you are wearing a seat belt. Failure to do so will result in a fine

You must make sure any children in the vehicle you are driving are:

- In the correct car seat and restraint for their height (under 135cm tall)
- Wearing a seat belt if they are 12 years old and above, or over 135cm tall (whichever they reach first)
- You can be fined up to £500 if a child under 14 isn't in the correct car seat or wearing a seat belt while you are driving





Road safety advice for all road users





Pedestrians checklist

- ✓ Walk on the pavements, if no pavement face the oncoming traffic, ensure you keep to the side of the road or verge
- ✓ When crossing the road always use pedestrian crossings where available
- ✓ Be safe, be seen! Make sure you are visible to motorists - fluorescent materials are most effective during the day and reflective materials at night
- ✓ Take care when under the influence of alcohol - you are more likely to make errors of judgment or behave in a way that could lead you to become involved in a collision

- ✓ Don't get distracted - listening to music, wearing earphones, chatting to friends or sending a text while crossing the road will distract you and could put you in serious danger



Pedal cyclists checklist

- ✓ It's a legal requirement in the UK to ensure your bike is fitted with a front white light and a back red light and used during the hours of darkness
- ✓ Check your bike is roadworthy and always wear a helmet
- ✓ Watch out for traffic turning ahead of you at junctions, never pass left-turning vehicles on the inside

- ✔ Be careful around large vehicles. They have blind spots directly in front of them as well as on each side and behind the vehicle. Keep your distance
- ✔ Watch out for other road users and use appropriate hand signals before turning to show your intentions
- ✔ Always adhere to traffic light signals
- ✔ Only cycle on the pavement if it is signed as a shared use path

Drivers checklist

Driving in the UK is on the left. Vehicles are typically right-hand drive.

- ✔ Ensure mirrors are correctly adjusted
- ✔ Use your indicators when turning or changing lanes
- ✔ Tyres are correctly inflated with a minimum of 3mm tread on each tyre
- ✔ Look out for other road users at junctions

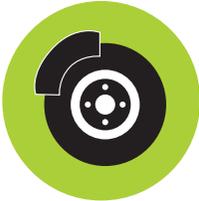
- ✔ At roundabouts give way to traffic coming from the right unless road markings tell you otherwise. Drive clockwise and signal left as you approach your exit
- ✔ Be aware of pedestrians, especially children around parked cars and schools
- ✔ Elderly people are also more vulnerable, they may not see or hear vehicles approaching or have difficulty in accurately judging speed and distance
- ✔ When you see a horse rider on the road slow down. When overtaking pass wide and slow



Motorcyclist checklist

Ensure regular vehicle maintenance checks are completed.

These should include:



Brakes



Tyre condition and pressure



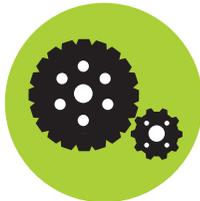
**Electrics
- lights,
indicators
and horn**



**Fuel, oil
and coolant
levels**



**Steering and
suspension**



**Chains and
sprockets**



It's a legal requirement to wear a protective helmet - Make sure it is securely fastened and complies with safety regulations.

Wear a good protective jacket, trousers, gloves and strong boots - these will help protect you should you fall off your bike. High visibility and reflective clothing is recommended as it will help you be seen in both daylight and darkness.

- ✓ Allow plenty of time to reach your destination especially in poor weather
- ✓ Take regular breaks and ride responsibly
- ✓ If you have not ridden for a while consider some refresher training e.g. www.rmtnet.co.uk/courses/learner-information/take-control/

Drivers of goods vehicles and minibuses

- Complete a walk-round check of your vehicle before each journey, check tyres and ensure everything is secure
- Check your nearside blind spot in advance of turning left for a cyclist or biker
- Ensure you know the speed restriction for your vehicle



Agricultural machinery

- Ensure correct licence requirements are held and drivers are above the minimum age to drive agricultural vehicles
- Tractors and agricultural machinery must be in a good roadworthy condition

- Tractors and equipment must have proper lighting to be driven on a public road
- When towing, ensure the tractor hitch lock is locked into position
- Drivers of slow moving vehicles should always be aware of the build-up of traffic behind them, when convenient and safe, pull over to allow traffic to pass, this will avoid motorists taking risks
- Weight limits on roads and speed restrictions also apply to agricultural vehicles not just goods vehicles, please take note of signs
- Please ensure that excessive mud or debris is not left on the highway, this can create a hazard to other road users. Any issues should be reported to the police by phoning 101





General advice





Winter weather advice

- If travelling in ice or snow; reduce your speed, keep well back from the vehicle in front and allow time to slow down
- Be aware of mud particularly on rural roads during harvest months, mud on the roads can be just as slippery as ice

Penalty points (endorsements)

- The courts can fine you and endorse your driving record with penalty points if you're convicted of a motoring offence
- Penalty points can be issued for a number of offences such as driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, speeding, using a mobile phone or no insurance
- For a full list please visit: www.gov.uk/penalty-points-endorsements

Keep essentials such as an ice-scraper, torch, blanket and shovel in your boot



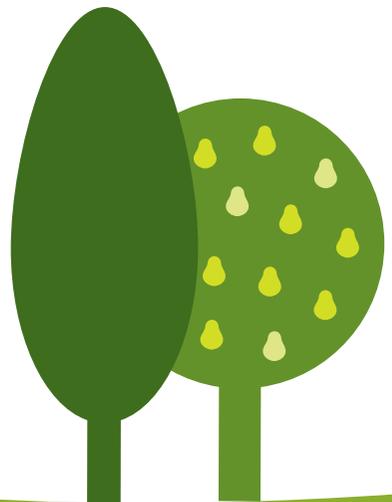


Motorway driving

- Adhere to all gantry signs on a motorway
- There are restrictions for using the far right lane such as towing or goods vehicles.

Always drive in the left-hand lane when the road ahead is clear. Only overtake using the right hand lane

For more information visit www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-drive-on-a-smart-motorway





UK legal requirements

UK legal requirements to keep a vehicle on the road

To drive a vehicle or ride a motorbike you must:

- Hold a current valid driving licence
- Have valid motor Insurance and tax your vehicle
- Have a current MOT certificate (annual legal test once vehicle reaches three years of age for vehicle safety and road worthiness)

The police can stop a vehicle to check the driver's documentation. If they direct you to stop, you should always pull over when it is safe to do so.



If stopped, the police officer may ask to see:

- Your driving licence
- Valid insurance certificate
- MOT certificate
- ID card is not a legal requirement but does assist the police

Registering a foreign vehicle and temporary imports

You can usually use a vehicle with foreign number plates without registering or taxing it in the UK if all of the following apply:

- You're visiting and don't plan to live here
- The vehicle is registered and taxed in its home country
- You only use the vehicle for up to six months in total - this can be a single visit, or several shorter visits over 12 months



If you become a resident or stay for longer than six months you **MUST** register and tax your vehicle in the UK. You must complete certain steps as soon as you bring a vehicle into the UK permanently.

- 1 Tell HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) within 14 days that the vehicle has arrived in the UK
- 2 Pay VAT and duty if HMRC tells you to

- 3 Get vehicle approval to show your vehicle meets safety and environmental standards
- 4 Register and tax the vehicle with DVLA - they'll give you a registration number so you can get number plates made up

For more information visit www.gov.uk/importing-vehicles-into-the-uk





What to do if you are involved in a road traffic collision



What to do if you are involved in a road traffic incident

If there are any injuries or you are in a vulnerable position due to other traffic dial 999 or the alternative emergency number 112.

For deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired call 18000 to use Next Generation Text Service, or use emergencySMS.

With all road traffic collisions, you must:

- Stop - it is a legal requirement
- Give the name and address of the driver and owner of the vehicle
- Provide your insurance details if requested
- Give the registration number of the vehicle
- If you are having trouble obtaining these details from another party involved or there have been any allegations made call the police on 101 whilst you are still at the scene of the collision

Remember if you feel you are in danger dial 999.

- If unable to exchange details you must report the collision in person to a police station as soon as possible and in any event within 24 hours of the collision

You will need the following documents with you:

- Vehicle registration document (V5)
- Insurance certificate
- MOT certificate
- Driving licence



Useful contact information

999

**Emergency
number**

111

**National
non-emergency
medical number**

112

**Emergency number
can be used in most
countries**

101

**Non-emergency
number for the
police**

www.westmercia.police.uk

Non-emergency email
contactus@westmercia.police.uk

www.thinksaferroads.org.uk

www.hse.gov.uk

[www.gov.uk/government/organisations/
driver-and-vehicle-licensing-agency](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/driver-and-vehicle-licensing-agency)

www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code



West Mercia
POLICE



**Safer Roads
Partnership**

IN WARWICKSHIRE AND WEST MERCIA



**John Campion
Police and Crime Commissioner
West Mercia**



**Herefordshire
Council**