



## **PREPARING FOR THE TEST**

Get as much practice as possible - but even if you can handle a car OK it's not enough for a modern driving test, you need to show the examiner you can drive safely in traffic while obeying the road rules, and handle any hazards in the appropriate manner.

You need to know exactly what the examiner is looking for in regard to required observations, signalling etc so getting professional driving lessons is strongly recommended!

Download these references ...

- <https://nt.gov.au/driving/licences/get-your-driver-licence/sit-a-driving-test> (MVR website).  
Download "A Guide to the Driving Test". This MVR document explains what you need to do before taking a test, what you will be tested on, and what happens afterwards. Refer to the list of Authorised Class C Examiners to choose an examiner.
- <http://www.drivingnt.com> (Arafura Driving Academy website).  
Click on the links in the yellow box at the bottom of the home page.  
Observations are VERY important for safe driving - the document "OBSERVATIONS" outlines when you are required to scan and check your blind spots (missing 3 required observations will fail the test)!  
The "manoeuvres" document outlines what you are required to do when performing the 3 mandatory manoeuvres (kerbside-stop/hill-start, 3-point turn, reverse parallel park).  
We strongly recommend you get lessons with a professional instructor to find out how to do these correctly!

## **THE EXAMINER**

Tests are conducted by driving instructors authorised to give Class C on-road tests (see the MVR website for a list).

NOTE: You cannot be tested by an instructor who has also given you lessons!  
DriveSafe NT participants should refer to page 2 for information.

If an instructor claims to be the "MVR's preferred examiner" this is nonsense, the list is in alphabetical order and does not endorse one instructor over the other.

If an MVR auditor accompanies the test in the rear seat don't be concerned by their presence, they will be checking the examiner is performing the test correctly.

## **THE CAR**

You will need to arrange a car for the test - you might be able to hire your instructor's car, or hire the examiner's car, or use your own if the examiner allows this.

Your own car must be a suitable type (not a convertible), registered and roadworthy, and have a front seat with a working seat belt for the examiner. It should also be reasonably clean, especially the windows & seats.

Before the test the examiner will check basic roadworthy items such as indicators, brake lights, horn, and tyre tread depth.

See page 2 for special conditions for DriveSafe NT participants.

## **THE COST**

Instructors usually charge up to \$90.20\* for conducting tests (the MVR's original test booking fee) though some might charge more.

If you are not using your own car you will have to pay a car hire fee to your driving instructor or to the examiner, depending on who's car you use.

\*If you are a Drivesafe NT participant and you are eligible for a free test, see page 2.

## **ARRANGING YOUR DRIVING TEST**

If you have an NT Learner's Licence you cannot book your test until you have held a learners licence uninterrupted for a minimum of 6 months. Time on an interstate learner's licence will count, as long as there was no gap between the interstate licence expiring and obtaining the NT licence. If in doubt contact the MVR.

When arranging the test, specify at which centre you want it done.

- Darwin tests usually start at the carparks at Parap Swimming Pool.
- Casuarina tests start & finish at the Casuarina Swimming Pool carpark.
- Palmerston tests usually start & finish at the Leisure Centre (tennis etc) in Moulden, or a convenient carpark in the shopping area.

Tests must be started and completed during daylight hours and can be done on weekends. Some car parks, especially in Palmerston's main centre, get VERY congested on Fridays!

Note: if you live in a Darwin, Casuarina or Palmerston suburb and you are using your own car for the test, some testers (e.g. John) can pick you up at your home and start & finish the test from there.

## **PASSING THE TEST IN AN AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION CAR.**

Your NT Provisional Licence will be "automatic only" for the first 12 months but you can drive a manual car during this period with a fully-licensed person sitting next to you. After 12 months the Provisional Licence will be for automatic and manual. If you wish to have a manual Provisional Licence before the 12 months is up, you can take another driving test in a manual car.

If you pass the test on an "X Condition" Licence, your licence will be upgraded to a full licence (manual and automatic).

## **FAILING THE TEST AND RE-BOOKING**

If you fail the test you can book another test straight away but not for the same day. Refer to the rear of the test marking sheet to see where you need to improve (recommended: get more driving lessons!).

## **GETTING YOUR NEW LICENCE**

After the test you will receive a copy of the test marking sheet. If you pass, you cannot drive under the conditions of your new licence until you have presented the marking sheet at an MVR and received your new licence on a plastic card (fees apply).

## **DRIVESAFE NT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS - PLEASE READ**

DriveSafe students are eligible to attempt two free\* driving tests under these conditions:

- (1) All 23 competencies have been signed off by DriveSafe registered instructors.
- (2) The student has held a Learner's Licence uninterrupted for at least 6 months.
- (3) If the student achieved their Learner's Licence through the program, they must have been on the program for at least 5 months.

\* Car hire fees may apply if not using your own car.

The assessments are given by a DriveSafe registered instructor who hasn't signed off your last group of competencies.

If the test was passed, the NT Provisional Licence will be processed and posted free of charge (it cannot be collected from an MVR).

If the second assessment is also failed, further attempts are at full cost to the participant.

**Note:** All driving tests must have in-car cameras recording both inside and outside views (aimed ahead). Please go to <http://www.drivingnt.com/rates.html#dtest> for information if you are using your own car.