

# Basic Maneuvers

## 1. Precision Right turn:

- Turn on indicator
- Check surroundings
- Reduce speed foot off gas
- Reduce speed – *Controlled Braking*
- Establish side position – 3-feet from curb (ref. pt. – curb line = middle of right ½ of hood)
- Scan intersection – *Look Left, Center, Right*
- Choose new target
- [Come to stop if appropriate – use staggered or legal stop and then safety stop]
- Establish forward Position – Front bumper even with curb (ref. pt. – curb line under passenger side mirror)
- Check for pedestrian stepping off curb
- Begin to turn the wheel
- Re-check to Left
- Transition Point: *Target lines up with rear-view mirror – accelerate and unwind wheel*
- Establish side position/Right lane position – 3-feet from curb (ref. pt. – curb line = middle of right ½ of hood) / 3-6 inches from line (ref. pt. – line = center of hood )
- Check Surroundings
- Adjust speed and lane position
- [Cancel signal if necessary]

## Precision Left turn:

- Turn on indicator
- Check surroundings
- Reduce speed foot off gas
- Reduce speed – *Controlled Braking*
- Establish side position – 3-6 inches from center line (ref. pt. – center line = 1 foot in from left edge of hood)
- Scan intersection – *Look Left, Center, Right*
- Choose new target
- [Come to stop if appropriate] – [make sure wheels are pointed straight ahead if stopped in the intersection]
- Establish forward Position – (ref. pt. – line of sight to new target does not cross curb line)
- Begin to turn the wheel
- Re-check to Left, Front Right
- Check for pedestrian stepping off curb
- Transition Point: *Target lines up with windshield corner post*
- Establish side position/Left lane position – 3-6 inches from center line (ref. pt. – center line = 1 foot in from left edge of hood)
- Check Surroundings
- Adjust speed and lane position
- [Cancel signal if necessary]

- **Stopping:**
  - **Staggered Stop:** Vehicle's front bumper is 15 feet from the stop line
    - Reference point – stop line is visible in front of the hood.
    - Advantage – Creates an escape path for other traffic
  - **Legal Stop:** Vehicle's front bumper is even with the stop line
    - Reference point – stop line appears to run under the side view mirror
    - Advantage – You are required to come to a complete stop and yield right of way
  - **Safety Stop:** Vehicle's front bumper is even with the curb line
    - Reference point – curb line appears to run under the side view mirror
    - Advantage – Provides best view of the intersection; forward position for a right turn
- **Changing Lanes/Passing:**
  1. Check ahead, to the sides and to the rear for a safe gap in traffic.
  2. Signal your intention to move left or right.
  3. Re-check blind areas to the rear in the direction of your intended lane change.
  4. When conditions are safe, steer into the new lane, adjusting your speed to the flow of traffic.
  5. Once you reach the new lane, cancel your turn signal and recheck your vehicle's speed and position.
- **Turnabouts:**
  - Traveling around the block – best option & least risky
  - Two-point Turn – see text pp.195-198
  - U- Turn – see text p.199
  - Three-point Turn – see text p. 200
- **Parking:**
  - **Curb Parking:** Use Right Side Reference Point
  - **Angled parking:** see text pp. 202-203
  - **Perpendicular Parking:** see text pp. 203-205
- **Backing into a Perpendicular Parking Spot:**
  - **SIDE POSITION:** 2-3 feet from parked cars, signal.
  - **FORWARD POSITION:** Your body aligned with the center of the parking space.
  - **45-DEGREE TARGET:** Use the outside edge of driver's side mirror to find a stationary object.
  - **CREEP AND TURN WHEEL FAST:** Align to new target.
  - **LINE UP THE CAR WITH SPACE:** Look over right shoulder.
  - **BACK TO REAR PIVOT POINT:** Shift to Reverse and back to where the corner of the parked is aligned with the rear window corner post.
  - **INCH AND TURN WHEEL FAST:** Turning wheel fully to the right.
  - **STRAIGHTEN WHEELS:** Observe when the car is straight in the space.
  - **BACK TO REAR REFERENCE POINT:** Look over your Left or Right shoulder.
- **Parallel Parking:**
  - Check traffic to the rear, signal your intentions using your brake lights and right turn signal.
  - Position your vehicle 2-3 feet from the vehicle you will be parking behind. (Line up the edge of the vehicle in the middle of the right side of the hood.) Pull even with the vehicle. Adjust the passenger side mirror down.
  - Drive straight back until the back end of the vehicle you are parking behind is at the rear pivot point (disappears into the rear windshield's corner post/ reappears in the rear "triangle window"). Quickly turn the wheel completely to the right, continue to back slowly.
  - When the "center post" (separating the front and back seat areas) lines up with the back end of the vehicle you are parking behind, straighten the wheel. Continue to back in a straight line.
  - When the side mirror covers the tail light of the vehicle you are parking behind, turn the wheel quickly to the left. Continue to back slowly.
  - When your car is parallel to the curb (using the side mirror to confirm) shift into drive, straighten the wheel, and drive to the middle of the parking space.