

Prepare your car and yourself — avoid a Non-Conducted test

If your car or documents aren't right, the examiner will refuse your test.

Your test is marked **Non-Conducted** — you lose your fee and must re-book and re-pay. Use this checklist **the evening before** and again **on the morning** of your test.

SECTION 1 — DOCUMENTS (bring all of these)

- Valid Learner Permit — in date on the day of your test
 - Check the expiry on the back of your permit
- DO NOT forget to bring your Learner Permit into the test centre office**
- NEW 2026** Original or printed copy of your Motor Insurance Certificate ★ NEW RULE — March 2026
 - Must show you are insured to drive the vehicle. Digital phone copies are NOT accepted — bring paper.
- NEW 2026** If NOT named on the insurance cert — also bring a letter or email (on headed paper) from your insurer confirming you are covered to drive this vehicle
 - The tester will view and return all documents. Names of others can be redacted.
- Road Tax disc — valid & in date, displayed on windscreen
- NCT disc — valid & in date, displayed on windscreen
 - Check the small print for the exact expiry date — not just the month
- Insurance disc — white background with green stripe, visible on windscreen
 - Check small print for exact date of expiry

★ **NEW from 9 March 2026:** You must present a physical Certificate of Motor Insurance (original or printed copy). Digital/phone screenshots are NOT acceptable. If you are not named on the cert, you also need a letter or headed email from your insurer. Failure = test not conducted.

SECTION 2 — YOUR CAR (exterior)

- L-Plates — clearly visible front and back (magnetic L-plates are fine)
 - Red L on white background, min. 15 cm high with 2 cm border
- Number plates — front and back, clean and readable
- No cracks in the windscreen that obstruct your view
- No external damage protruding from the car
 - Cosmetic dents are OK — nothing sharp or sticking out
- All tyres — check for damage, cuts or chunks of rubber missing (strict)
- All tyres — good tread depth (not worn down)
- All tyres — all wheel nuts/lock nuts present

- No spare or temporary wheels fitted
- All bulbs and lights working — dipped, full beam, DRL, fog
- Brake lights working (not blown) — ask someone to check while you press the pedal
- Indicator lights working — all four corners
- Front and rear wipers working properly
- Car externally clean including all glass and windows

■ SECTION 3 — UNDER THE BONNET (check the night before)

- Engine oil — check dipstick, level between MIN and MAX
- Coolant — check reservoir level (cold engine only)
- Brake fluid — check reservoir level under bonnet
- Windscreen washer fluid — mix solution with water, not just water
- No warning lights on the dashboard when the engine is running

■ "Service Due" notification is OK — all other warning lights should be off

■ SECTION 4 — YOUR CAR (interior)

- Mirrors — clean and clear, internal and both externals
- Car internally clean — no rubbish or clutter
- No smell of cigarette smoke or nicotine inside the car
- No dash cam fitted (examiner may ask you to remove it)
- Minimise wires — no chargers, GPS leads or aux cords visible
- Primary controls working — pedals, steering, handbrake
- Secondary controls working — wipers, lights, horn, windows
- Enough fuel — at least ¼ tank minimum
- No modifications that are illegal or not covered by insurance

■ SECTION 5 — YOU (on test day)

- ♦ **Learner Permit — bring into the test centre office (DO NOT leave in the car)**
 - Must be valid and in date on the day — check the expiry date on the back
- NEW 2026** ♦ **Motor Insurance Certificate — physical original or printed copy ★ NEW RULE 2026**
 - Phone/digital screenshots NOT accepted. If not named on cert, also bring a headed letter or email from your insurer confirming cover for this vehicle.
- Arrive early — park up and be in the waiting room 15 minutes before your test
- Bring the car key — and make sure you're insured to drive that specific vehicle

Lock the car before entering the test centre — unlock it when you come back out

Glasses — if you need them to drive, bring them

Phone — turn off or put on silent, do not connect via Bluetooth

State of mind — well rested, not tired, angry or emotional

■ *Tiredness and stress directly affect your driving — get a good night's sleep*

Revise your road signs and Rules of the Road before the test

Know your car registration number (not critical but helpful)

✓ All boxes ticked? You're ready — Good Luck! ■

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