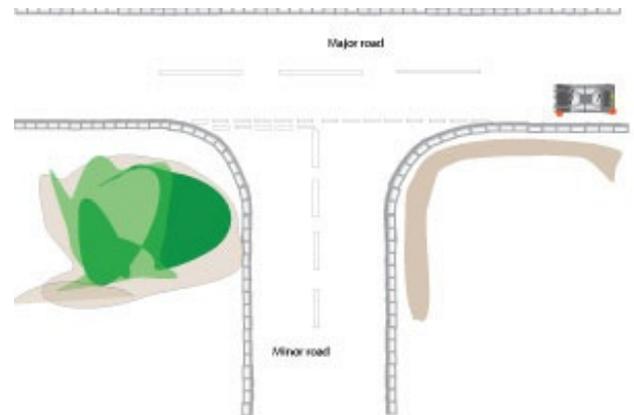


# Left turn and emerge

May 6, 2012

A meeting of two or more roads is called a junction the most common of these is a 'T' or 'Y' shape, when looking at the junctions we apply the following rule to describe and name the roads.

The major road is defined as the road on which the give way line runs along the side of the road parallel to the left hand (nearside) kerb. The fact that we name them major and minor bares no resemblance to their importance, it is only a label with which we can identify the junction layout.



## Left turn.

Moving from the major road into the minor road is called a 'turn'. On your approach to the junction check your centre mirror and left door mirror and signal left.

Reduce your speed to 10 mph and select second gear keep both feet off the pedals and allow the car to drive around the corner. It is important to check the left door mirror as at these low speeds a cyclist may have emerged from a drive way and be along the side of your vehicle. Do not steer left too soon as the front wheels may clear the corner but the rear wheels will take the short cut over the kerb. Look into the road you are turning into taking notice of any parked vehicles near to the junction as this will cause you or other vehicles to be displaced and possibly cross the centre line of the road. Once in the new road re-check you centre mirror to see if any one has followed you round the corner (new road new mirror check).

## Left emerge.

On approach to the junction use the MSM routine and consider if the junction is 'open' or 'closed'. An 'open' junction is a junction into which you have a clear view left and right before your arrival at the give way line, in these cases you can determine if it is safe to emerge well before the end of the road, and will be able to treat the give way line as a give way without having to actually stop.

A 'closed' junction on the other hand presents you with an obstructed view into the major road, this may be because of high fences, buildings, or parked vehicles near to the junction. Treat a closed junction with extra caution and stop on the give way line making at least two checks in each direction for oncoming traffic. When you see an opportunity prepare the car to move off into the space. Timing here is essential as we must not affect another road user by our actions. Before you emerge be aware of blind spots and obstructions that may displace you or other roads users over the centre line.



Mirror signal manoeuvre (MSM) as you approach the junction keeping close to the nearside kerb, follow the kerb to the give way line on a closed junction use first gear and cover both the clutch and brake should you need to stop on the line. Check left and right at least twice and assess if it is safe for you to proceed. Upon entering the new road re-check your centre mirror to see what is now behind you (new road new mirror check) cancel signal if necessary and accelerate.