

Who is this for?

Are you:

- An experienced driver, with a full UK licence?

Are you wanting to:

- Return to driving after a significant break, such as illness, injury or living abroad?
- Return to driving after a collision or other incident?
- Re-gain your confidence and enjoyment of driving?
- Achieve up-to-date, safe, systematic, fuel efficient driving?
- Recognise whether and how your driving is changing as you get older?
- Identify and address any bad driving habits you may have acquired over the years?
- Reassure family or friends, if they are concerned about your driving?
- Gain professional support to help make the decision to continue, or to retire from driving.

How do I request an assessment?

Please complete and return the included form by post or email. Once we have received your payment (if appropriate), we will send you a list of available assessors to contact and book an assessment at a mutually convenient time and place.

Application form return address:

Road Safety Team, Wiltshire Council,
County Hall, Bythesea Road,
Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14 8JN

Who do I contact?

Road Safety Team, Wiltshire Council, County
Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire
BA14 8JN

01225 713700

roadsafetydriving@wiltshire.gov.uk

DRIVE PLUS

Practical driving
assessments



Wiltshire Council

What is involved?

The driving assessment is not a test! It's a drive of around 40 minutes in your own car* with one of our friendly assessors, on roads you are familiar with. You will be able to talk about your driving as you go and are free to ask questions. You may also ask to cover any specific issues that concern you.

After the drive you will have the opportunity to discuss your performance in more detail with the assessor, who will offer a professional opinion on your driving and areas to consider for improvement, if relevant. The total session time is 1- 1½ hours.

*If you would prefer to drive a car provided by the assessor, this can be arranged but may incur an additional charge.

The assessor will carry out an eyesight check before you drive – you will be asked to read a standard number plate at 67 feet (20m), as specified in the Highway Code.

gov.uk/driving-eyesight-rules

All our assessors are Approved Driving Instructors (ADI) with experience of working with adult drivers, including in some cases those with additional needs

How much does it cost?

The assessment costs £50, payable in advance by debit or credit card via our online payment portal, wiltshire.gov.uk/pay-online. If you would prefer to pay by card over the phone, please call us on **01225 713700**. We are unable to accept cash or cheque payments.

If you are a volunteer driver for a Wiltshire-based Community LINK scheme and are aged 79 years or over, Community First will cover the cost of your assessment – please include the name of your local scheme on the form.

If you have been referred by your GP or another appropriate medical professional, there is no charge for this assessment.

What do I need on the day?

Please ensure you have the following available on the day of your assessment:

- your driving licence, which must be valid,
- your vehicle's MOT certificate (if applicable)
- your vehicle's insurance certificate
- your booking reference code
- any spectacles or lenses needed for driving

You are welcome to bring along a friend or family member for support on the day, but please mention this to the instructor when booking.

What happens next?

Your assessor may suggest options to help you improve your driving, for example simple tips to try, practical refresher training or attending a Drive Plus workshop. There is no obligation to take further training with your assessor, or any other driving instructor or to attend a workshop – all advice is offered in good faith to help you remain driving safely for longer.

You will receive a copy of the assessors written report either on the day, or by email afterwards. We treat this report as confidential, but you may choose to share it with your family, GP or others, as you wish.

You may like to check out these web links:

- Highway Code – refresh and update your knowledge
gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code
- DVLA - Renew your licence online
gov.uk/renew-driving-licence-at-70
- Older Drivers Forum
olderdriversforum.com

Important information

- Please note that, as a driver it is your legal responsibility to notify DVLA of any medical condition or disability that affects your ability to drive safely.
gov.uk/health-conditions-and-driving.
- You **must not** drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs, including certain prescription medications.
gov.uk/drug-driving-law

If your assessor considers that you are unfit to drive on the day of the assessment due to medical or other impairment, they will not continue with the assessment and you may forfeit your payment.