



# JOB of the Week



**Job name:** Driving instructor

**Job description:** Driving instructors teach people the skills and knowledge they need to drive safely and pass their driving test (theory and practical)

**Tasks you will undertake in the job:** As a Driving instructor you'll:

- checking each learner's driving knowledge and ability
- planning a series of lessons to get learners ready for their driving test
- teaching about road safety, driving laws and the Highway Code
- giving instruction on the use of vehicle controls, steering, turning, reversing and parking safely
- demonstrating how to deal with emergency situations
- discussing basic vehicle checks
- keeping records of appointments and payments
- managing your business
- help prepare students for the theory and practical elements of the driving test
- carry out vehicle checks daily and ensure the vehicle(s) being used for lessons and the driving tests is (are) regularly serviced and maintained and meet all safety standards

### Career Progression

With experience and training you could move into specialist areas like training disabled drivers. You might also train drivers of passenger carrying vehicles, large goods vehicles (LGV) or emergency services vehicles.

GOV.UK has information on professional development and if you're highly experienced, you could become a driving examiner.



**Skills required for this job (core competencies):**

Communication	Resilience	Organisation	Teamwork
Problem Solving	Initiative	Creativity	Digital literacy

### Restrictions and regulations for Driving instructors:

You'll need to: pass motoring conviction checks; pass enhanced background checks (DBS); be able to read a licence plate at 90 feet or 27.5m, with glasses or contact lenses if worn; have a full UK or EU driving licence, held for at least 3 years and be over 21 years of age

**Salary:** Driving instructors are typically paid a starting wage of £15 000, this increases with experience; experienced Driving instructors can expect to earn approximately £30 000 p.a.



**Working hours:** Working hours are usually around 30-40 hours per week (variable). It is likely that you will work during some evenings and weekends (or on your own schedule if you are self-employed – see below)

### Qualifications to become a Driving Instructor:

You can get into this job through: specialist courses run by private training organisations. You first need to apply to become an approved driving instructor (you can find training providers on the Approved Driving Instructor Register Guide).

You'll need to pass the approved driving instructor part 1 and part 2 exams. You'll then get a licence to give instruction and legally charge for lessons.

You must also pass the part 3 exam to get onto the register of approved driving instructors.

**Benefits and limitations of self-employment:** Many driving instructors are self-employed, they work for themselves and not a company. This means they have to find their own clients / customers and manage their own accounts including taxes and insurance costs. There are many benefits to working on your own and for yourself but challenges too. To find out if this is a route you could be confident in, visit the following sites:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/self-employment/is-self-employment-right-for-you>

<https://www.gov.uk/working-for-yourself>

<https://www.simplybusiness.co.uk/knowledge/articles/2021/06/going-self-employed-in-the-uk-a-self-employment-guide/>

<https://rsaccountancy.co.uk/self-employed-tax/>

<https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/work/self-employment/thinking-of-starting-up-in-business>

**Essential skills you need to show:** To succeed as a Driving instructor, the following personal skills and attributes would give you an advantage:

- knowledge of teaching and the ability to design courses
- customer service skills
- the ability to work on your own; leadership skills and to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- the ability to come up with new ways of doing things; patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations using excellent verbal communication skills
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device)

**This job in the future:** The workforce is projected to grow by 1%, creating 100 jobs; in the same period, 69.1% of the workforce is likely to retire, creating 30 300 job opportunities.

[www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com)

[www.successatschool.org](http://www.successatschool.org)

[www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)

[www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors)

[www.ucas.com/careers-advice](http://www.ucas.com/careers-advice)

[www.kudos/cascaid.co.uk/#/](http://www.kudos/cascaid.co.uk/#/) (you all have a log on for this service)

[www.careersbox.co.uk](http://www.careersbox.co.uk) (careers videos)

Helpful sites for careers information  
GAT careers links

<http://airhead.io/public/launchpads/XqbuOMJgb0OfqvMPCykZA>

