

10. Meeting vehicles

The term 'meeting vehicles' applies to any situation where the road width is restricted and there is not enough space for two vehicles to pass safely at their normal speed.

You will 'meet' vehicles where there are parked cars, road works, narrow bridges, single-track roads, and in other similar situations.

As you approach a 'meeting' situation, your first job is to decide who has priority. Normally, if the obstruction is on your side of the road, you will need to give way.

Where possible, time your approach by slowing down to arrive when the road is clear. If this is not possible you will need to decide whether there is enough room to proceed with caution, or if it would be better to stop and give way. It is not always easy to make this decision on the move and quite often you won't know. This is perfectly OK! Simply follow the safety rule:

If you don't know - don't go!

When giving way, leave plenty of space between yourself and the obstruction (a **minimum** of two car lengths), this will maximise your forward vision and make it easier to move off when the road is clear, doing this will also help cars behind to realise that you are waiting to give way and not pulling in to park.

After giving way, make sure that it is safe to move off by checking your mirrors, blind-spots and the road ahead. You might need an extra blind-spot check if you are waiting at an angle (as shown in the diagram).

Take special care if other drivers flash their headlights. Remember, flashing headlights simply alert you to the other drivers presence - make absolutely sure that the situation is safe before proceeding.

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