

Driving Lessons On ‘Dodging Potholes’

Learning to drive can be a challenging time for anyone, but with ever-increasing traffic (especially heavy traffic) on the UK's roads, one Coventry driving school has adopted a new topic for their driving lessons!

December 7, 2009 (FPRC) -- ‘Traditional’ driving lessons have included topics such as reverse parking exercises, observations at junctions, emergency stop etc. But now, a Coventry driving school has added ‘dodging potholes’ to its syllabus on driving lessons – not only for the sake of the driving school car, but also to save the suspension on the pupils’ new car after passing their test.

At the moment, a pupil could be ‘faulted’ for not avoiding anything ‘obvious’ – this would be down to the discretion of the examiner on the day. If the examiner feels that the pupil should have taken evasive action to avoid any hazard (in this case a pothole) this can be deemed to be a safety issue.

At first glance, this could be seen as a waste of the pupils’ in-car driving time, but the savings in the long-term can easily outstrip the few minutes devoted to this topic, designed to draw the pupils’ attention to the risks involved. This ‘extra topic’ will also cover the importance of early identification and ‘appropriate action’ to avoid the additional problem of a late or ‘harsh’ response to the hole in the road.

This problem is certainly not confined to the city of Coventry driving lessons, with most, if not all towns, villages and especially large cities like Birmingham suffering from this common issue. This, however, is the first time we are aware of any driving school actually adding this to their syllabus, but as news spreads it is likely to be a much addressed subject as driving instructors everywhere say, ‘that’s actually quite obvious!’.

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Keywords

[driving lessons](#)

[Coventry](#)

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