

## What is Advanced Driving?

The definition of “Advanced” driving is the ability to control the position and speed of the vehicle safely, systematically and smoothly, using road and traffic conditions to make reasonable progress unobtrusively, with skill and responsibility. This skill requires a positive but courteous attitude and a high standard of driving competence based on concentration, effective all round observation, anticipation and planning. All this must be co-ordinated with good handling skills. The vehicle will always be in the right place at the right time, travelling at the right speed with the correct gear engaged and can always be stopped safely in the distance that can be seen to be clear.

Would you like to drive to this standard? Then why not join the 100 000+ Members of the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM) who have all passed the Advanced Driving test, whether in a car, minibus, lorry or on a motorcycle. Why have they done this? As an ego-trip? No. So that they can display a badge on their car? No. But because they want to be safer on the road, want to be more confident in their driving, to be more economical with fuel and, basically, to enjoy their driving!

IAM drivers can get better insurance quotes, discounts on AA membership, airport parking, Satnav systems and much more. Not to mention, saving fuel by driving to a system which, with economical driving, saves you money as well.

There are over 200 Groups affiliated to the IAM, whose volunteer Observers coach you to improve your driving and to pass the Advanced test. Watford and the surrounding area is covered by the North West London and Chilterns Group, with over 300 Members, whose qualified Advisers assist car and minibus drivers to improve. For those on two wheels, contact Middlesex Advanced Motorcyclists.



The Advanced test is not as impersonal as the ordinary driving test, and is carried out by an IAM Examiner who holds a police advanced certificate. It consists of a drive of 1-1 ¼ hours over all types of road, with some basic manoeuvres in addition. The Examiner WANTS you to pass, and, after the proper coaching by our Group’s Advisers you will hopefully do so. Driving will be more pleasurable from then on and, because you will be more aware of what is happening around you, more confident to deal with situations. So it is a MUST for everyone!

The IAM operate the “Skill for Life” programme for all drivers at a fixed cost, and has launched a new product, ‘Momentum’ specifically for younger drivers. Full details are available on their website [www.iam.org.uk](http://www.iam.org.uk) or by telephoning them on 020 8996 9600. The Contact for the above mentioned car group, NW London and Chilterns, can be reached on 0844 5897034 or an email to [info@nwlondonchilternsiam.org.uk](mailto:info@nwlondonchilternsiam.org.uk). Alternatively, you can visit our comprehensive website at [www.nwlondonchilternsiam.org.uk](http://www.nwlondonchilternsiam.org.uk) or follow us on twitter @NWLondonIAM. Please write or give us a call for further information.

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