

Checking Vehicle and Acceleration

# Pre-driving Checks and Procedures

Supplies: Worksheet; pencil; two desks per pair of students.

Instructions:

Divide the class into groups of two:

* Have each pair put their desks in line, making sure they have enough room to get around the desks. (The desks represent a four-door sedan).
* Have students practice the correct procedures, used on the check sheet.
* Each student takes their turn of being the driver and the observer.

The observer should record the drivers’ actions and guide them in the correct procedures to use.

* Have the driver explain each procedure and tell why they are important for safe driving practices.
* After the first driver has successfully completed the exercise, switch roles and repeat the exercise.
* After all groups are finished, have class discussion on the importance of each procedure used.

# Accelerate and brake smoothly

Supplies: One long balloon per student; one file folder per student; staplers; rulers; black markers; duct or masking tape.

Picture of a brake alteration

Instructions:

Instruct student to inflate balloons to about 9-10 inches. (Do not over inflate.)

* Insert the balloon in the file folder and roll the end of the folder over just enough to cover the balloon with an inch or two excess overlapping.
* Staple the two ends of the folder to hold the balloon in place.
* Cover the seam (the upside) and the staples with tape.
* Draw a 2” X 5” accelerator pedal on the right edge of the up side.
* Leave a 2” gap and draw a 5” X 2” brake pedal.

Good braking habits include keeping the heel on the floor, pivoting between the brake and accelerator. Ball of foot on the pedal. Squeeze the pedal.

On your command, have students practice acceleration and braking without popping the balloon.