

RED TRAINING - PERMIT TO TOW (PTT) STANDARDS SCHEME



Background

The Government has announced that car drivers from Autumn 2021 will no longer require a test to tow a trailer, which means if you passed your car driving test from 1 January 1997, you'll now be allowed to tow trailers up to 3,500kg MAM. If you passed your test prior to this date, you already had the required licence to tow a trailer. It is expected that this law will change very soon but the DVSA has already stopped offering tests for the B+E licence in anticipation of this change.

Government Advice

In the same document announcing the abolishment of the B+E test, the Government gave the following advice: ***'It's best to take training from a driving instructor if you want to start driving a car and trailer'***.

PTT Scheme

RED Training is of firm belief that training to tow a trailer should be completed and assessed to a competent level. Every employer has a duty of care under health and safety legislation to ensure that employees are properly trained for any task assigned to them. This should include the challenging task of towing and manoeuvring a trailer.

The RED PTT consists of 1-, 2- or 3-day courses offered nationwide or at its Donington Park Training Centre. The courses are a mix of theory and practical training with an assessment at the end of each course. Upon successful completion, the trainee will receive a PTT ID Card valid for 3, 4 or 5 years from date of training, refresher training should be completed prior to stated expiry.

RED Training Options

One day course (**Basic – RED12BAS**) with 3-year expiry

*This course is only suitable for drivers who tow infrequently, only tow **one** type of trailer that doesn't require advanced manoeuvres or loading and load security*

- Introductions
- Video presentation
- Vehicle checks
- Practical couple & uncouple
- Driving (forwards)
- Straight reverse
- Final driving assessment 40 mins
- Wrap up

Two-day course (**Intermediate- RED12INT**) with 4-year expiry

*This course is suitable for drivers who tow more regularly, only tow **one** type of trailer that may require advanced manoeuvres but **no** loading and load security*

- Introductions & recap
- Full presentation
- Practical couple & uncouple recap
- Vehicle checks
- Intermediate driving on mixed routes
- Intermediate reversing (as per DVSA previous requirement)
- Final driving & advanced manoeuvres assessment 60 mins
- Wrap up

Three-day course (**Advanced – RED12ADV**) with 5-year expiry

*This course is suitable for drivers who tow more regularly, may be required to tow more than one trailer type that may require advanced manoeuvres, and conducts **loading and load security***

- Introductions & recap
- Loading video and discussion
- Practical loading/unloading – Load safety & security
- Practical couple & uncouple. Multiple coupling types.
- Vehicle checking
- Advanced driving on complex routes
- Reverse (to the right) corner reverse cones on site
- Final driving, advanced manoeuvres & Loading assessment 80 mins
- Wrap up

If the trainee does not meet the minimum standard by demonstrating that they can complete all the tasks and manoeuvres require, a further training session and re-assessment will be recommended.

<p>PERMIT TO TOW</p> <p>NAME: A.N. OTHER</p> <p>EMPLOYEE NUMBER: 123456 78910</p> <p>ISSUE DATE: 20.09.2021</p> <p>EXP DATE: 20.09.2024</p> <p>TRAINER: <i>J.S. Smith</i></p>	
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Benefits

- Standardised training throughout the fleet - Should be applicable to **ALL** employees who tow trailers, irrespective of law changes and previous acquired rights
- Reduce the risk of having an incident - Trained drivers have been proven less likely to be involved in a road traffic incident
- Improved Fuel Consumption - Advanced driving techniques teach you the most cost-effective way to drive keeping fuel consumption to a minimum
- Less wear and tear to your vehicle - By using the 'system of car / van control' techniques, you're driving will be smoother, resulting in less wear and tear
- Corporate perspective – Advanced drivers will be more courteous and thoughtful with other road users, particularly important in liveried large vehicles and trailers



Achievements upon successful completion

One day course (Basic – RED12BAS)

- Being able to perform a comprehensive vehicle and trailer safety check with commentary on one trailer type
- Being able to perform coupling and uncoupling safely and competently on one trailer type
- Able to perform professionally and competently basic trailer Parking & Manoeuvring exercises (straight reverse) with precision and commentary
- Being assessed as competent as a PTT driver, covering basic driving on localised roads
- Understand and appreciate 'Sharing the Road' with other road users including cyclists, pedestrians and how to perform professionally in this environment
- Issue of Permit To Tow (PTT) BAS ID card valid for 3 years

Two-day course (Intermediate- RED12INT)

- As above plus
- Able to perform professionally and competently advanced trailer Parking & Manoeuvring exercises with precision and commentary
- Intermediate reversing (as per DVSA previous requirement)
- Being assessed as competent as a PTT driver, covering all areas from Urban through to multi lane roads
- Issue of Permit To Tow (PTT) INT ID card valid for 4 years

Three-day course (**Advanced – RED12ADV**)

- As above plus
- Being able to perform coupling and uncoupling safely and competently on **multiple** trailer types
- Being able to perform a comprehensive vehicle and trailer safety check with commentary on **multiple** trailer & vehicle types
- Gain knowledge and deep understanding of safe loading and load security practices with a trailer
- Issue of Permit To Tow (PTT) ADV ID card valid for 5 years

“Never undertake any job unless you have been trained and assessed as competent”

