

System of Car Control

Drill Number: 5.2

Name: Clutch action for Gear changes

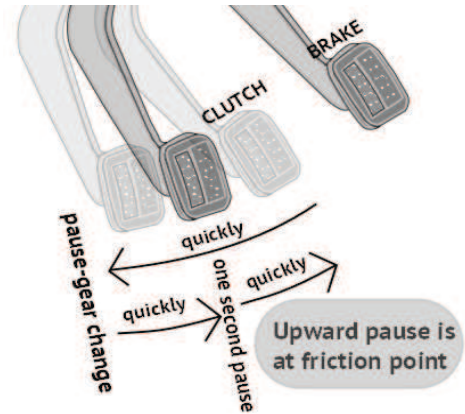
PURPOSE

For smooth gear changing the Learner needs to develop the correct action with the clutch. This is important for effective and efficient gear changing.

Environment

Prefer low traffic situation

- suburban streets
- Low traffic situation
- Flat road or very slight incline



The action of the clutch when changing gears is essentially the same action as in basic clutch control. The Learner pushes the clutch down and selects a gear and then brings the clutch to the friction point quickly and holds it there for a car length, before fully releasing. However, when changing to intermediate gears the learner holds the clutch at the friction point for just one second (about a cars length or so)

Description - Gear Changing

While the Learner is developing the gear changing skills, the Instructor should manage the brake pedal and accelerator pedal to allow the Learner to focus on the gears and clutch.

Static Drill

- Have the learner push the clutch to the floor and hold for one second.
- Have them let the clutch up about half way (to friction point) and pause for one second.
- Fairly quickly release the clutch all the way up and take foot off the pedal
- Repeat the above action several times until the action is good

Let us go mobile now

- Have the learner get the car moving using just basic clutch control
- (No accelerator and 1st gear)
- Accelerate and when the the car is at the correct speed have the learner change to second gear using the correct clutch technique as above. (If the action is not correct after a few gear changes -move to the side of the road and repeat the part of the drill at the top in the static position)

NOTE: It is important to get this correct early so that the Learner can have smooth and efficient gear changing.

Errors:

- Learner bringing clutch up too slowly without a clear pause
- Not hitting the pause at the correct spot (at friction point)