Section 12
Basic Vehicle Control Skills Test

This Section Covers

- **Skills Test Exercises**
- **Skills Test Scoring**

Your basic control skills could be tested using one or more of the following exercises off-road or somewhere on the street during the road test:

Straight line backing.
Offset back/right
Offset back/left
Parallel park (driver side).
Parallel park (conventional).
Alley dock.

These exercises are shown in Figures 12-1 through 12-6.

12.1 SCORING

Crossing Boundaries (encroachments)
Pull-ups
Vehicle Exits
Final Position

Encroachments – The examiner will score the number of times you touch or cross over an exercise boundary line with any portion of your vehicle. Each encroachment will count as an error.

Pull-ups – You will not be penalized for initial pull-ups. However, an excessive number of pull-ups, will count as errors.

Vehicle Exits – You may be permitted to safely stop and exit the vehicle to check the external position of the vehicle. When doing so, you must place the vehicle in neutral and set the parking brake(s). Then, when exiting the vehicle, you must do so safely by facing the vehicle and maintaining three points of contact with the vehicle at all times. If you do not safely secure the vehicle or safely exit the vehicle it may result in an automatic failure of the basic control skills test.

Final Position – It is important that you finish each exercise exactly as the examiner has instructed you. If you do not maneuver the vehicle into its final position as described by the examiner, you will be penalized and could fail the basic skills test.

12.2 EXERCISES

12.2.1 – Straight Line Backing

You may be asked to back your vehicle in a straight line between two rows of cones without touching or crossing over the exercise boundaries. (See Figure 12.1.)

12.2.2 – Offset Back/Right

You may be asked to back into a space that is to the right rear of your vehicle. You will drive straight forward and back your vehicle into that space without striking the side or rear boundaries marked by cones. You must place your vehicle completely into the space. (See Figure 12.2)

12.2.3 – Offset Back/Left

You may be asked to back into a space that is to the left rear of your vehicle. You will drive straight forward and back your vehicle into that space without striking the side or rear boundaries marked by cones. You must place your vehicle completely into the space. (See Figure 12.3)

12.2.4 – Parallel Park (Driver Side)

You may be asked to park in a parallel parking space that is on your left. You are to drive past the parking space and back into it bringing the rear of your vehicle as close as possible to the rear of the space without crossing side or rear boundaries marked by cones. You are required to get your vehicle completely into the space. (See Figure 12.4)

12.2.5 – Parallel Park (Conventional)

You may be asked to park in a parallel parking space that is on your right. You are to drive past the parking space and back into it bringing the rear of your vehicle as close as possible to the rear of the space without crossing side or rear boundaries marked by cones. You are required to get your vehicle completely into the space. (See Figure 12.5)

12.2.6 – Alley Dock

You may be asked to sight-side back your vehicle into an alley, bringing the rear of your vehicle as close as possible to the rear of the alley without going beyond the exercise boundary marked by a line or row of cones. You are required to get your vehicle completely into the space with your entire vehicle straight with the alley. (See Figure 12.6.)

Figure 12.1: Straight Line Backing

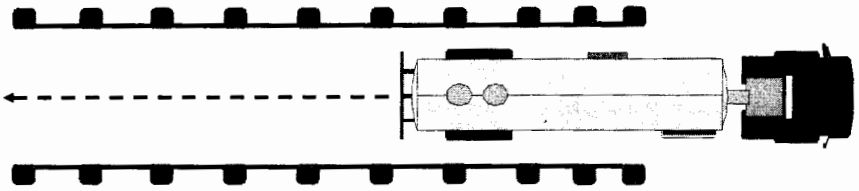

Figure 12.2: Offset Back/Right

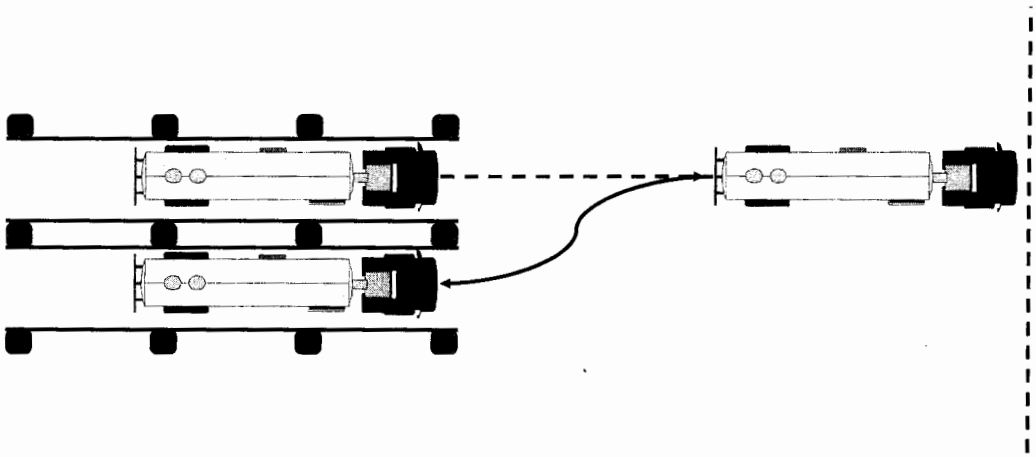

Figure 12.3: Offset Back/Left

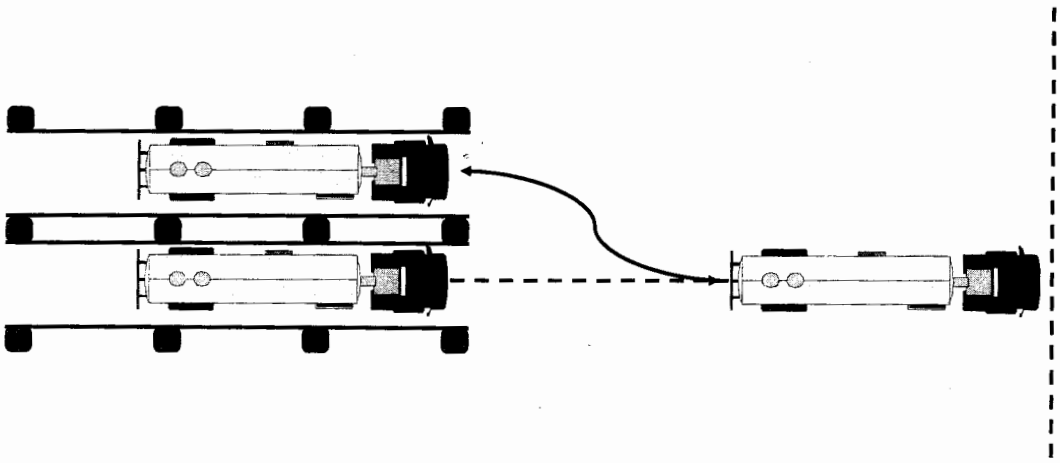

Figure 12.4: Parallel Park (Driver Side)

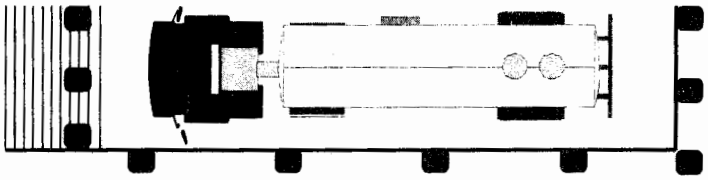

Figure 12.5: Parallel Park (Conventional)

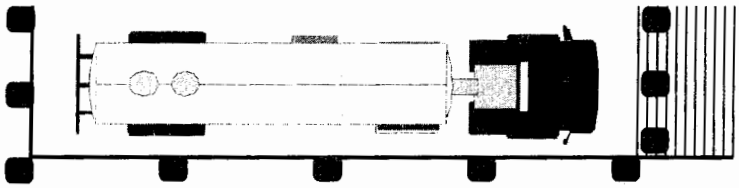
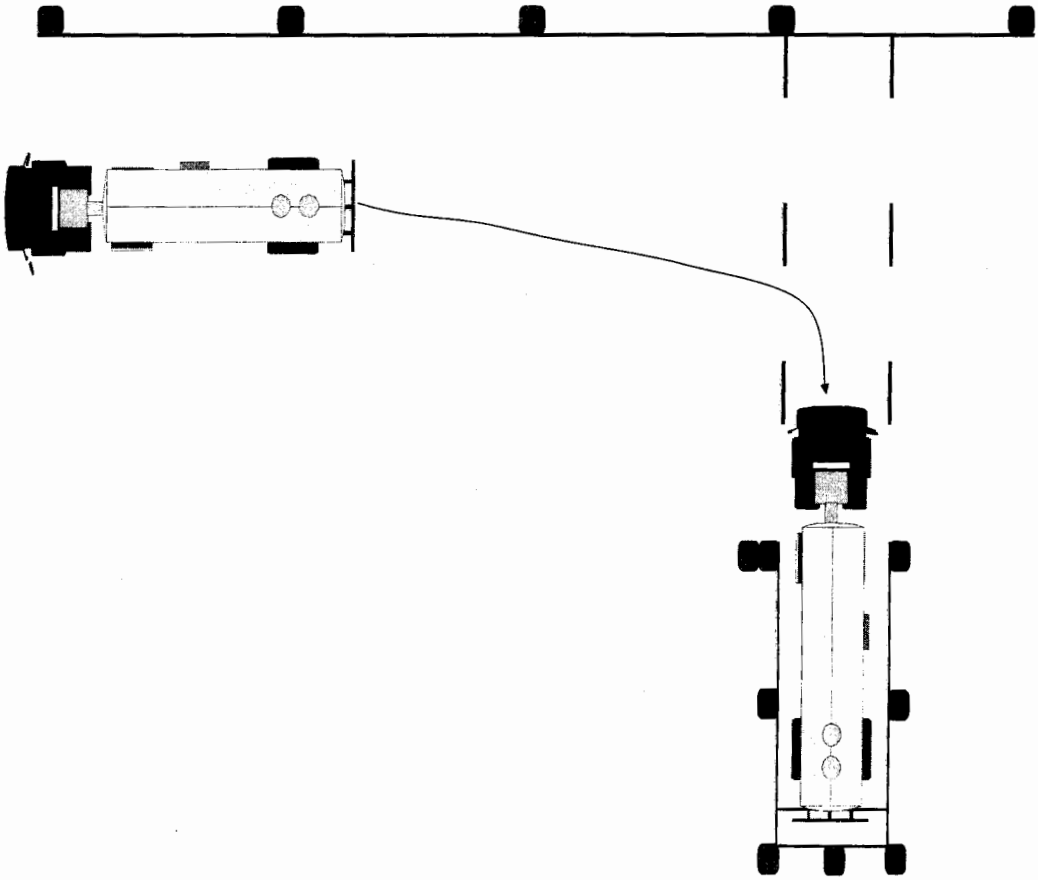
Figure 12.6: Alley Dock