

ARE YOU A PROFESSIONAL DRIVER?

The challenge

Recent research carried out on behalf of the Health and Safety Authority (HSA) identified that in 2007 there were over 1,500 injuries and 14 fatalities¹ in Ireland relating to workplace transport safety; a large number of these involved drivers. Many of these injuries could be prevented if drivers took a few sensible precautions.

“But I’m a good driver already...”

“...then try the professional workplace driver challenge.”

The professional workplace driver challenge

Yes No

Part 1 – YOURSELF

1. Do you arrive at work refreshed and well rested? <i>Why? Driving when you are tired can be as dangerous as driving when you are over the drink drive limit.</i>	✓	✗
2. Do you always wear your Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as your High Visibility jacket? <i>Why? PPE is there to protect you and let people know you are there.</i>	✓	✗
3. Do you always travel at a safe speed and keep to speed limits? <i>Why? Speed is a factor in many incidents. Speed limits are there to protect yourself and others.</i>	✓	✗
4. Do you stick to the workplace rules? <i>Why? Rules are there to protect you and others, highlight the ones that are difficult to apply to your boss.</i>	✓	✗
5. Do you report unsafe behaviours, near-misses and accidents? <i>Why? Management need to know if people are behaving unsafely and if there are near-misses or accidents, it could be you that suffers.</i>	✓	✗

WORKPLACE TRANSPORT CASE STUDY: DRIVER CHECKLIST

¹ These injury and fatality figures exclude the following industry classifications: ‘Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry’, ‘Fishing’, ‘Mining and Quarrying’ and ‘Construction’.

The professional workplace driver challenge

Yes No

Part 2 – YOUR SCHEDULE

6. Do you turn up for work giving yourself a chance to prepare for the shift?
Why? Being punctual gives you a chance to make sure everything is in place before you drive.

✓ X

7. Do you check for any last minute alterations to your schedule?
Why? Picking up on changes to orders and other arrangements can save wasted journeys and help you do the job.

✓ X

8. Are you sure you always know what the task requires before you operate your vehicle?
Why? If you know what you're doing, you will pay more attention to your surroundings when you are driving.

✓ X

Part 3 – YOUR VEHICLE

9. Do you know what to do if you have unsafe or insecure loads?
Why? Unsafe or insecure loads are clearly a hazard, you need to be clear what to do to stop the situation getting worse.

✓ X

10. Do you walk round and check your vehicle and loads, using a checklist?
Why? Checking your vehicle ensures that you and others are protected.

✓ X

Part 4 – YOUR WORKPLACE

11. Do you always explain to others in the area what you are doing?
Why? Explaining to others what you are doing gives them a chance to get to a position of safety.

✓ X

12. Are you actively thinking about what you see and hear?
Why? Understanding your surroundings helps you make better decisions and anticipate others correctly.

✓ X

13. Do you try to anticipate pedestrian and other vehicle movements as well as changing road conditions?
Why? Don't assume that someone will see you, expect the worst.

✓ X

14. Do you use your voice, where possible to alert others?
Why? Your voice is a good way to grab attention and others will appreciate your communication.

✓ X

15. Do you always stick to marked road/routes?
Why? Not using appropriate routes increases the chances of an accident with pedestrians.

✓ X

16. Do you give pedestrians priority in the workplace?
Why? Giving pedestrians priority cuts the chances of you hitting them.

✓ X

If you answered 'yes' to all questions, well done!

If there were some questions where you answered 'no', what do you need to do to make the difference?

“Professional workplace driving helps keep you, your colleagues, customers and the public safe”