

PNGC

Tractor Driving and Glider Towing Syllabus

Only persons holding a full UK driving license and authorised by the duty instructor, CFI, or Ground Engineering Manager may teach this syllabus.

Prospective tractor drivers may be too young to hold a UK driving license and therefore must be taught good habits in line with UK driving test standards.

1. Daily Inspection

- Oil
- Water
- Tires
- Fuel/fueling

2. Safety

- Don't turn too tight
- Don't brake too hard
- Tractor driver is responsible for the combined tractor/glider combination
- No-One on rear platform when towing, except for instruction

3. Starting

- Close decompressor
- Set throttle
- In Neutral
- Check beacon is on

4. Stopping

- Shut throttle
- Pull decompressor
- Turn electrics off
- Make sure beacon is off

5. Use of gearbox

- Do Not Change Gear In Motion, Or at High Revs
- 3 High for general driving,
- 2 High for towing gliders

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6. Approaching the Glider

- Do Not drive directly at the glider, aim to miss if the brakes fail
- Position for the tow by driving around the glider, so a skid will take you away from the glider
- Park at wingtip or tail , facing the direction of the tow

7. Observation

- Monitor wing walker
- Check direction
- 10/90 wing walker to direction

8. Use of radio

- Correct VHF procedures