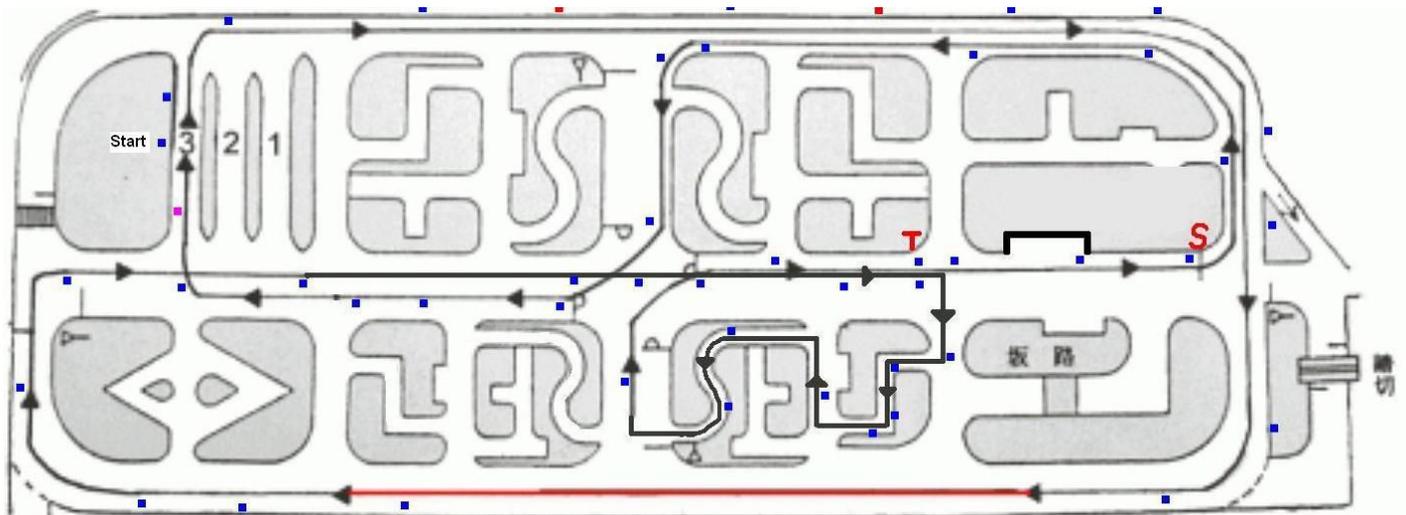


# Point by Point Maebashi Driving Test

By C. John Quito / Updated by Aidan Koch



- **Blinker & Mirror Key**
  - **LB/RB** = Left/Right Blinkers
  - **LM/CM/RM** = Left/Center/Right Mirror
  - **LS/RS** = Left/Right Shoulder
  - **RLR** = Look Right, Left, and Right again
- As you enter the car, before you close the door, look back via the slightly open door (checking traffic conditions). Close the door with both hands (loud noises scare the instructors it seems)
- Check and adjust the mirrors (it doesn't matter if they are just right - touch the center one and look at EACH of them for 3 seconds)
- Put on your seat belt
- Put your right hand on the steering wheel (2 o'clock position)
- Put your foot on the brake
- Put the car into 'Drive'
- Remove the emergency hand brake
- Look at your left, center, then right mirror for 1 second each
- Turn on your right signal
- Look over your right shoulder (for at least 2 blinks from the turning light)
- Look forward and pull out a little to the right to begin the driving part of the test
- As you approach the end of the driveway, **RB, RLR, RM, RS**, turn right towards the lane with your first set of road obstructions
- Stay close to the center line
- There will be an obstacle on the left side of your lane. Staying close to the center line, **CM, RB, RM, RS**, and intrude on the opposite lane. Make sure the center lane is going through the center of your car
- Approach the first obstruction at *15 km/h*. As you pass the obstruction, **CM, LB, LM, LS**, turn back into the left lane
- Head towards the left side of your lane while picking up a little bit of speed, up to *25-30 km/h*
- Approach the curve at an accelerated pace, then brake down (over a course of 2-3 seconds) to *20 km/h* before you begin turning
- Release the brake and turn to the right. You are aiming to be within 30 cm of the left white line during the whole turn (to prevent cyclists from squeezing through)

- From the driver seat, try to make it look like the white line is going through the left headlight of the car
- You'll also need to do the hand cross over for this turn. I ended up with proper hand positioning but turning my hands to hold the wheel at 9 and 12 positions. They will look to see if you are holding the wheel properly
- Coming out of the turn, speed up towards the intersection to *30 km/h*
- Let go of the gas, **RLR**, and then press step on the gas to get to *30 km/h* again.
  - If you must break, do so only a little bit. You just need to show you are slowing down when coming to an intersection where you have the right of way
- Coming to the next curve, slow down to *20 km/h*, **RLR**, and go towards the left side of your lane
  - Again, aim for the left white line to be going through your left headlight during the turn
- Coming out of the turn, get towards the center of your lane and pick up the speed to *48-50 km/h* (And not any faster!)
  - The trick I learned here is to watch the dial until it hits *48 km/h* and immediately let go of the gas. The rest of the motion will take you to exactly *50km/h*, meeting their mark and keeping you safe.
- Approaching the curve, lightly press on your brake. Only enough to light your brake light and slow down a bit
- Press on the brake again, firmly enough to slow you down to *25 km/h*
- Press on the brake lightly to slow down to *20 km/h*, less being strongly preferred. **CM, RB, RM, RS**, move towards the center line, let go of the break, and make the turn. Watch your hands again
- Coming out of the turn, stay towards the center line and immediately **RLR, RB, RM, RS**, and approach the intersection. You have the right-of-way so you don't need to stop. If you came into the turn too fast, you will barely have time to do all this
- You want to turn into the outer left lane and get to cruising speed
- Slow down, **RLR**, and then continue on at cruising speed
- At the intersection:
  - Green light: slow down, **RLR**, and continue on
  - Yellow/Red light: slow down, stop, as it turns green, **RLR**, go straight
- In the middle of the intersection, **CM** (they will watch you for this), **RB, RM, RS**
- As you completely pass the intersection, go towards the center line of your lane in preparation to turn right. There will be a tall hedge (marked as **T** on the map) on your left at the upcoming intersection
- **RM, RS**, turn into the right line to make the turn
- Slow down to *km/h* but do not stop. Approach slowly, gaining a wider viewing angle from the obstructive hedge and **RLR, RS**, and turn right
- Coming out of the right turn, immediately **RB, RM, RS**, and slowly turn right into the 90-degree turning section. You want your car to be idling through this. Try not to use your brakes
- Approach the first turn from the right side of the lane, as the corner meets your left mirror, turn the steering wheel all the way to the left, and follow through. Watch your hands when you turn!
- Approach the second turn from the left side of the lane. **RM, RB**, and **RS**. When the corner meets your right mirror, turn your steering wheel all the way to the right
- Do not stop at any time. Try to keep the **RB** as you approach the exit from the turn, **RLR, RM, RS**, and turn right
- As you are turning, right flick the **LB**, enter the lane, **LM, LS**, and turn left when the corner meets your left mirror, into the S-curve portion
- Let the car idle though this and try to keep your car in the center of the lane while you take the first curve
- Again, do not stop. When you begin turning right for the S-curve, **RLR, RB, RS**, and turn into the innermost lane. You are about to turn right again

- Try to keep the right blinker on as you enter the lane, **RM, RS**, and go towards the right side of the innermost lane (you're trying to cut off cyclists who like to sneak in between lanes) -
  - Green light: **RLR, RS** (again), and turn right
  - Yellow/Red light: Stop before the line, hiding the line with the hood of the car. When it turns green, **RLR, RS**, and turn right
- As you return to the lane with the tall hedge (**T**) on your left, try to get to cruising speed and stay on the outer lane.
- As you approach the hedge, slow down to *5 km/h*, edge forward, **RLR**, and then slowly go forward.
- Accelerate up to *20 km/h*
- Stop at the stop sign (marked an **S** on the map). Hide the white line with the hood of the car. Your **LB** should have been on the whole time during the previous two steps. **RL** (do not look right the second time), **LS**, then look right again. Turn left hugging the left side of the lane (you are trying to stop cyclists from squeezing in).
- Get to cruising speed, slow down before the curve to *20km/h*, and turn again hugging the left side of the lane.
- As you return the wheel on the straight away, get to cruising speed and keep in the center of your lane.
- **CM** (they will watch you for this), **LB, LM, LS**, begin hugging the left side of your lane.
- Slow down to *20km/h*, **LS**, and turn left into the inner lane (you are about to turn right).
- While you are turning into the lane, hit the **RB, RM, RS**, and immediately hug the right side of the inner lane.
- Keep the **RB** on the whole time
  - Green light: Do NOT stop, **RLR, RS**, and turn right.
  - Yellow/Red light: stop, hiding the marker with the hood of your car. As it turns green **RLR, RM, RS**, go forward and turn right.
- Immediately **CM, RB, RM**, and **RS** out of the turn. Hug the right side of your lane.
- You will go into the right lane prior to the entrances of the car port. **RB** should have reset and should not be in use after switching lanes.
- As you come to part before you turn, (the lane will seem to have ended) **RLR**, move forward, and halfway through the intersection (lots of people forget this) **RM, RB, RS** then turn.
- In the middle of the turn, **LB, LS**, straightening out as you enter the driving port. Again **LS**, and hug the left side of the lane.
- Drive up to the second post (where the seats are) with the **LB** on. Stop when the pole is right in front of the hood (marked from my POV when it looks like the pole is within the first  $\frac{1}{4}$  of my hood). Turn off the **LB**.
- Keeping your right hand on the steering wheel, pull the Emergency Hand Brake.
- Shift into gear into Park. Return the hand to the steering wheel.
- He will then hand you your papers, but still be watching you.
- Remove your foot from the brake and **RM**.
- Open your door with both hands slightly, and look to the back (seeing if cars are coming). Get out of the car, and close the door with both hands.