

## Reverse Park (Bay)

**Purpose:** To reverse park the car safely off road, into a parking bay, whilst giving due consideration to other road users. This will usually be done at the test centre at the beginning or end of the driving test.

### Key points:

**Observation:** Looking mainly in the direction of travel, you must be on the lookout for other road users (including pedestrians) throughout the manoeuvre. You must not rely on the exterior/interior mirrors rather than effective all-round observations

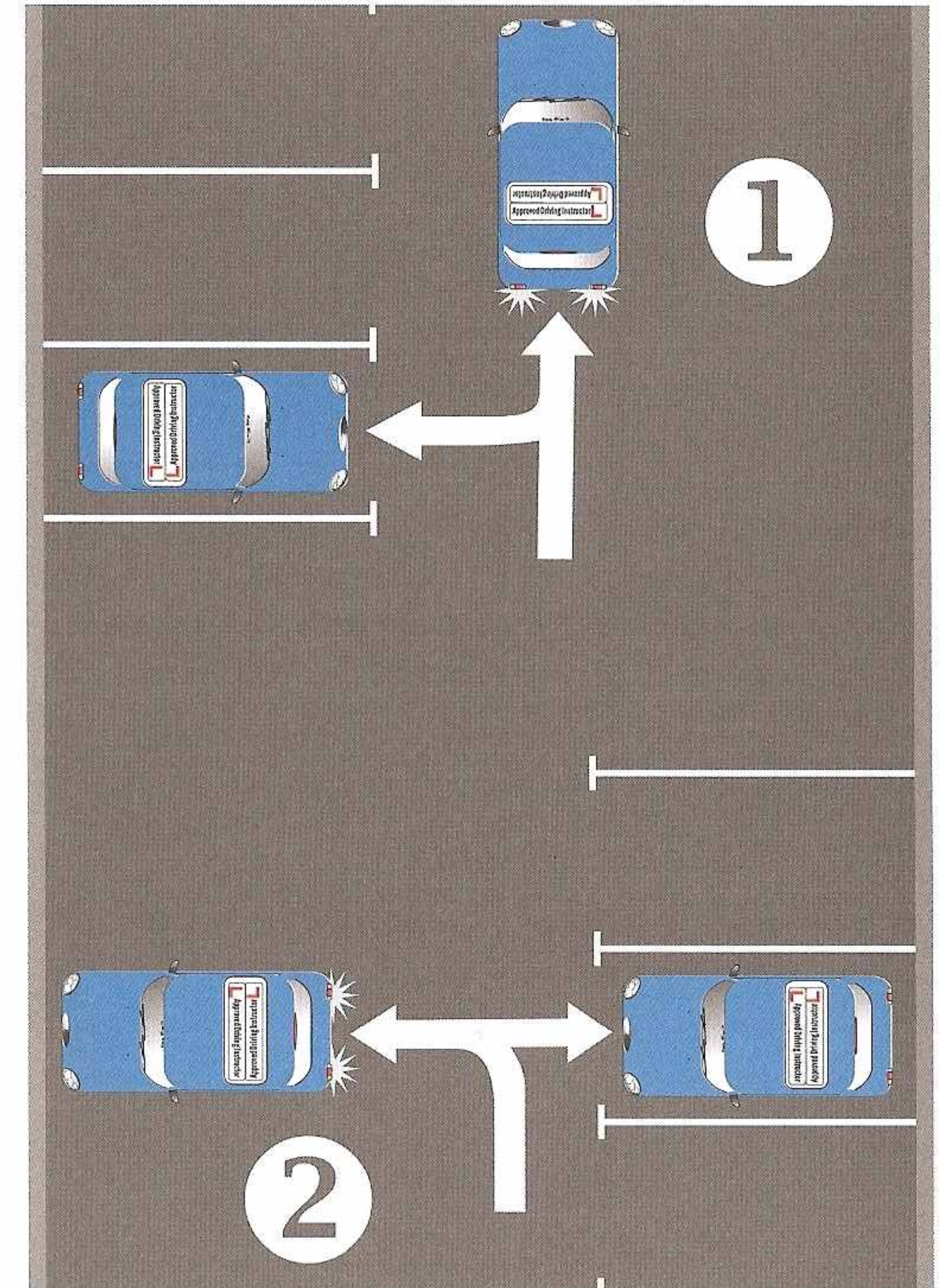
**Control:** Reverse under full control, safely and slowly. This gives you time to make effective observations and maintain accuracy.

**Accuracy:** Reverse into a bay neatly without swinging from side to side and finishing as central as possible.

**Performing the manoeuvre:** It is mainly done in one of two ways (illustrated right):

1. This way is the same as a reverse around a sharp corner. Position the car at a right angle to the bay and about a pavement width away. The rear of the car should be slightly forward of the bay marking that will finish up on the nearside (offside if reversing to the right). Apply the handbrake and select reverse gear to show your intention to others. This is your 'point of turn' so check all-round as you are about to start to steer left into the space and in doing so the front of the car will swing out into the path of other road users. If it is safe to do so move and steer to full left lock (right lock if reversing to the right). Keep checking all-round as you enter the bay. When the car is almost parallel steer to straighten up and ease back so that the front of the car is inside the parking bay.

2. On approach chose which bay you are going to reverse into. After checking it is safe steer the car into a position directly ahead of the bay. If you are out of line you can correct this as you reverse. After carrying out all-round observations reverse slowly back looking to the rear and checking your position with quick glances in your exterior mirrors. Once the front of the car is inside the bay brake to a halt and secure the vehicle.



### Quick Quiz

1. In the way it is carried out which other manoeuvre is similar to bay parking?
2. Which of the above methods would you say is the safest and why?
3. Why is it important to carry out all-round observations throughout this manoeuvre?
4. True or false? If necessary you may pull forward to correct your position during the manoeuvre.