

Vehicle Marshal (Banksman) — Safe System of Work

Display a copy where the work is done.

Before you start

- Confirm you are the authorised marshal for this manoeuvre, and that the driver knows it is you.
- Agree the signals with the driver before anything moves. Both of you confirm.
- Walk the route. Check for obstructions, overhead lines, pedestrians, soft ground, drains.
- Clear the area and keep it clear. You have the authority to stop anyone entering.
- Check your hi-vis is suitable and visible in today's conditions.
- Agree the stop signal and the rule that loss of contact means stop.

The numbers that get checked

Item	Requirement	Why
Position	At the side, forward of the rear of the vehicle, NEVER in its path	The path is where people are killed
Visibility rule	If you cannot see the driver's face or eyes in the mirror, they cannot see you	The single most useful rule to teach
Loss of contact	Vehicle STOPS immediately	Removes all judgement from the moment it goes wrong
Number of marshals	ONE per manoeuvre	Two people signalling is worse than none
Hi-vis	Appropriate class for the conditions, clean, not faded	A grey hi-vis is not hi-vis
Reversing	Designed out wherever reasonably practicable	A marshal is a control of last resort, not a first choice

While you are working

- Stand at the side, forward of the rear of the vehicle, never in its path.
- Keep yourself visible in the driver's mirror at all times.
- Use clear, deliberate, unhurried signals. Do not improvise.
- Watch the whole area, not just the vehicle.
- Stop the manoeuvre the moment anything changes.
- Never walk backwards while signalling.

Stop immediately if

- You lose sight of the driver, or the driver loses sight of you.
- Anyone enters the area on foot.
- The vehicle does something you did not signal.
- A second person starts signalling.
- Conditions change - light, weather, ground.

- You are not sure. Stop first, sort it out after.

Scope and limitations — read before use

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