

Starting & Driving Your Model A Ladies Driving Class

PRE-DRIVING VEHICLE CHECK

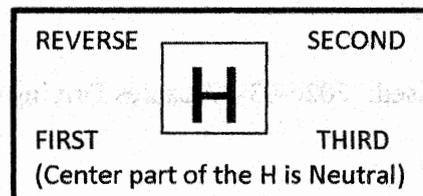
1. Walk around our car, overall check
 - A. Tires Low? Air up to about 30 lbs or proper pressure.
 - B. Check for any chucks, rocks, bricks, behind wheels, remove.
2. Check water/coolant in your radiator, fill if necessary
3. Check oil, they all leak a little, fill if necessary
4. Turn your battery disconnect on if you have one, some are under the hood or inside the car

OPEN YOUR DOOR

1. Sit down, check your mirrors, adjust
2. Turn on gas valve under dash, in front of passenger (Righty tighty (closed), Lefty loosey (open))
3. Be sure both levers behind your steering wheel, on the column, right and left, are UP. Pull down the right lever (throttle/gas) two little clicks (starting position).
4. Be sure you are in Neutral (move shift lever back and forth), left foot on brake. Parking brake on! Turn on the Key
5. As you step on the starter (right foot-up high on the firewall), pull out the choke & release (little knob in front of passenger). Don't hold it out, you will flood the carburetor. This step might take a couple of tries.
6. When the car starts, release parking brake, give it a little gas with the pedal (right foot), then pull the left lever all the way down, this lever is called the Spark Advance.

NOW WE ARE READY TO DRIVE!

1. Left foot depresses the clutch all the way down, hold, with your right hand shift into first gear. Remember your transmission is an H configuration.
2. Now ease out on the clutch and give it a little gas and you're rolling forward. As you hear the motor start to increase we are ready for second.
3. Depress the clutch, push the gear shift to Neutral, release the clutch, depress the clutch again and shift into second gently, ease out the clutch. This is called "double clutching", it takes a little practice and every car is a little different. As we move a little faster, we are ready for third.
4. Depress the clutch, push the gear shift to Neutral, release the clutch, depress the clutch again and shift into third gently, ease out the clutch.



STOPPING

Down shifting Model A's is not easy and takes a lot of practice, even for the most seasoned drivers. I have found the easiest way is to take your foot off the gas, as the car slows depress the clutch (left foot) and apply the brake (right foot). When you come to a Complete Stop, shift into first. If you try to shift into first early you will grind the gears, this makes the husbands very upset.

DRIVING COMPLETE

1. With clutch depressed, foot on brake, shift into neutral, set parking brake, turn off key.
2. Push both levers on your steering column up.
3. Turn off Gas Valve!
4. Turn off battery disconnect. I leave my hood up in the garage to remind me to turn it on and to check the oil before closing the hood. I usually connect a battery tender also if the car will sit for any amount of time. Again with the hood up, it reminds you to disconnect the tender too.