

Car Skills Day: Croft Joining Instructions



The information in this document is essential for the IAM RoadSmart Skills Day event. Please ensure that you read all instructions BEFORE the day. If anything is unclear, or if you have any questions, please email support@iam.org.uk or call 0300 303 1134.

Getting to Croft

Address: Croft Circuit, West Lane, Dalton-on-Tees, Darlington DL2 2PL
Telephone: 01325 721815

Please allow plenty of time for your journey, with a refuelling stop if necessary.

Arrival information

Main gates open from 08:00. On arrival, drive towards the main building by the control tower where there is ample parking near the garages. Please arrive promptly for registration.

Timetable of the day

There are two car sessions each day at the track. Refer to the timings below for the half day that you have booked.

Morning session		Afternoon session	
08:00	Registration	12:30	Registration
08:45	Safety briefing followed by meeting your personal instructor	13:15	Safety briefing followed by meeting your personal instructor
09:30 – 12:30	Morning circuit session	13:45 – 16:45	Afternoon circuit session

The Safety Briefing is compulsory, and you will not be allowed on circuit if you have not attended this briefing.

Fuel

There is a petrol station at Toll Bar Garage, 2 miles south on the A167. The postcode DL6 2JA.

You are advised to arrive with adequate fuel for about 100 miles of driving, please note that you are unlikely to achieve your usual economy.

Vehicle security

Please note that the Skills Days are advertised on the IAM RoadSmart website and also on the various circuits' events pages. Therefore, information about the event is in the public domain. This may make it easy to guess where your vehicle may be parked prior to the event. When staying in accommodation near one of the circuits, please take extra care to secure your vehicle carefully using devices in addition to standard manufacturers steering lock.

Spectators

Although they will not be able to participate in the driving, guests are welcome at the event ... perhaps they'll want to book for the next Skills Day?

Pets

Please note that as our Skills Days are run at motor racing circuits, it is a condition of entry that no dogs other than registered assistance dogs are allowed inside the circuit boundary. No pets are allowed.

Catering

There are facilities on-site to purchase food and drink, with breakfast available from 8:00. Please feel free to bring a packed lunch if you prefer.

Bottled water is not supplied as we are trying to reduce unnecessary plastic waste. We encourage you to bring your own refillable drinking bottle to use the drinking water supply at the circuit to top up your bottles

How to prepare yourself and your vehicle

Vehicle checks

Please do the basic checks on the vehicle on the day, in particular, check:

- All oil and water levels are correct.
- All tyres are inflated to the manufacturer's recommended pressures with sufficient tread depth.
- You have sufficient fuel for the event (please note that you are likely to use more fuel than usual).
- Your brake fluid has been changed in accordance with the manufacturer's maintenance requirements.
- Registration plates are visible. Please do not remove or attempt to cover up registration plates on the vehicle.

Vehicle eligibility

PLEASE NOTE – Skills Days are a road-based training event using a circuit as a classroom. They are not designed for drivers of supercars getting the maximum performance from their vehicle. It is primarily aimed at drivers of cars from mainstream manufacturers, they may well be the higher performance models, but the sole emphasis is on driver development not outright speed. There is a 90-mph maximum speed limit in place.

Cars must be fully closed cockpit or convertibles with a working roof that includes manufacturers roll over protection. Kit cars without bodywork or windscreens cannot be accommodated. If you are in any doubt as to the suitability of your vehicle, please contact IAM RoadSmart for advice.

You and your vehicle must be fully road legal to participate in this event and fitted with seat belts. You should possess a current full driving licence for the class of vehicle and the vehicle should be covered by a current test certificate (MOT) or be maintained to MOT standards.

Noise

Noise is a very sensitive local issue. Noise testing is in operation. Please ensure your exhaust is fully road legal – standard exhausts only – no modified exhausts. There is a static limit of 95dB(A) but there is also an average max of 70dB over any given hour. This is monitored at the circuit and remotely by the local authority. If it is exceeded, or is likely to be exceeded, the circuit will be closed until the level has dropped. Vehicles failing the test may be prevented from entering the circuit by

track officials, IAM RoadSmart cannot refund your day if you present a machine for noise testing and fail. All questions on noise testing must be directed to Croft Circuit direct and not to IAM RoadSmart.

In-car cameras

Any in-car cameras need to be properly fitted and not obscuring the driver's or instructor's vision.

Speed limits

Your car or motorcycle can meet and maintain the national speed limit when it is safe and legal to do so. There is a 90-mph maximum speed limit in place.

Insurance

Please note IAM RoadSmart Support Team are unable to offer any guidance on the appropriate insurance.

Driving on the circuit

If you have never driven on a circuit before, you may feel a little apprehensive at first. This is understandable, but the circuit is a smooth ribbon of tarmac with good grip. The fundamental difference is the complete absence of the public and oncoming traffic.

There are, however, a few basic rules that you must obey. They will be explained to you at the briefing, and you will have the opportunity to ask questions at that time. You should also remember that there will be marshals on the circuit and they have various coloured flags which they may use to control the session. These will be explained to you at the briefing, but rest assured that your instructor will be fully familiar with them and will explain the significance of any flags that are displayed.

Your allocated IAM RoadSmart instructor will give you guidance. Your instructor will ensure that your driving, and the circuit environment, remains safe for your benefit and that of others. You are required to follow their guidance, and should you not do so, or should you take any risks, the instructor has the right to refuse you any further time on circuit.

This is a day and a driving experience that IAM RoadSmart want you to enjoy to the full and remember for a long time. If you do have any problems on the day, or think there is something we could do better, please tell us. The days develop and improve through your feedback.

Publicity

IAM RoadSmart may use photographs and videos taken at Skills Days in publicity and marketing materials. Your attendance at an event may mean that you are featured in such photographs and videos and you are deemed not to object to the taking of such photographs and videos as detailed above. If you do not wish to be included in any photograph and/or video, please notify the event organiser at the relevant event prior to the photographs and/or videos being taken.

Terms and conditions

Refer to our website for T&Cs.

Don't forget

Preparing for the day

Before you arrive, please remember to:

- ✓ Ensure your car meets the vehicle eligibility requirements
- ✓ Ensure you have a valid driving licence for the class of vehicle
- ✓ Ensure your vehicle is properly maintained and has a current MOT certificate if required. You may want to refer to: <https://www.gov.uk/check-mot-status>
- ✓ Check your insurance coverage [add link to letter]
- ✓ Check your kit
- ✓ Secure your vehicle if staying overnight locally
- ✓ Notify us if you need any special assistance (e.g. you plan to bring a registered assistance dog)

On the day:

- ✓ Conduct vehicle safety checks
- ✓ Arrive with a full tank of fuel or enough for 100 miles
- ✓ Bring any glasses or eyewear required
- ✓ Bring a refillable water bottle
- ✓ Bring your ticket (on a mobile device or a printout)
- ✓ Don't miss the safety briefing
- ✓ Leave pets at home
- ✓ Follow all instructions carefully for your safety and others
- ✓ Have fun!