

Standardized Field Sobriety Tests

Administrative Procedures & Clues

Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus Test – Administrative Procedures

1. Have suspect remove eyeglasses.
2. Verbal Instructions:
 - Put feet together, hands at the side.
 - Keep head still.
 - Look at the stimulus.
 - Follow the movement of the stimulus with the eyes only.
 - Do not move your head.
 - Keep looking at the stimulus until told the test is over.
 - Do you understand?
3. Position the stimulus 12-15 inches from suspect's nose, slightly above eye level.
4. Check for equal pupil size and resting nystagmus.
5. Check for Equal Tracking (2 seconds out / 2 seconds back to center)
6. Check for Lack of Smooth Pursuit (2 seconds out / 2 seconds back to center)
7. Check for Distinct and Sustained Nystagmus at Maximum Deviation (4 second hold)
8. Check for Onset of Nystagmus Prior to 45 degrees (minimum 4 seconds to reach 45 degrees)
9. Total the clues.
10. Check for Vertical Nystagmus (4 second hold)

*Reminder: Always check the suspect's left eye first, checking each eye twice.

Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus Test - Clues

1. Lack of Smooth Pursuit
2. Distinct and Sustained Nystagmus at Maximum Deviation
3. Onset of Nystagmus Prior to 45 degrees

Walk and Turn Test - Administrative Procedures

1. Place your left foot on the line and your right foot in front of left touching heel-to-toe.
2. Demonstrate heel-to-toe stance.
3. Place arms down at sides.
4. Demonstrate arms to sides.
5. Maintain this position.
6. Do not start until told to do so.
7. Do you understand so far?
8. Take 9 heel-to-toe steps down the line.
9. Demonstrate 3 heel-to-toe steps.
10. Turn, leaving your front foot on the line, taking several small steps with your other foot.
11. Demonstrate turn.
12. Take 9 heel-to-toe steps back up the line.
13. Watch your feet.
14. Keep your arms at your sides.
15. Count out loud.
16. Once you start walking do not to stop until the test is complete.
17. Do you understand all the instructions?

Walk and Turn Test - Clues

1. Cannot maintain balance
2. Starts too soon
- ✓ 3. Stops while walking
- ✓ 4. Does not touch heel-to-toe
5. Steps off line
6. Raises arms for balance
7. Turns improperly or loses balances during turn
8. Takes wrong number of steps

Walking Stage

Cannot maintain balance (starting position)
Start too soon
Stops while walking
Heel to Toe
Off line
Raises arms for balance
Turns improperly
Steps - wrong number

2 or more clues BAC at .08 or above (79%)

One Leg Stand Test - Administrative Procedures

1. Stand with feet together.
2. Place your arms at side.
3. Demonstrate stance.
4. Do not start until instructed.
5. Do you understand so far?
6. When I tell you to begin, raise 1 foot approximately 6 inches off the ground.
7. Demonstrate raising 1 foot off the ground.
8. Keep your raised foot parallel to the ground.
9. Keep both legs straight.
10. Keep your arms at sides.
11. Look at your elevated foot.
12. Count out loud in the following manner: one thousand and one, one thousand and two, one thousand and three, and so on until told to stop.
13. Do you understand all the instructions?

Instruction ① Balance & counting phase

One Leg Stand - Clues:

1. Puts foot down
2. Raises arms for balance
3. Sways
4. Hops

Puts foot down
Uses arms for balance 4"
Sways
Hops