

Video transcript: Getting on the road

Before I bought my car, I used to buy clothes or go to the pub or whatnot, you know. But now I've actually cut down on my social life quite a lot to be able to afford to pay for my car. I think I've saved about £500-£600 towards my driving lessons, and then whilst I was using that money to pay for my lessons, I was still earning more money to pay for stuff like the car after that. I mean, at the moment, what I do now is; I earn just over £400 a month, so that £250, £260 goes on the car, and what I've got left goes on petrol, a little bit on insurance, and any spare money that I've got I save in case something goes wrong with the car. Obviously my service is due quite soon, so I'll have to pay for that as well.

When I first started off learning to drive, I got my first 10 block of driving lessons, because it's cheaper to buy in a block than it is to buy it singular. So my parents paid for the first block of ten for my 17th birthday, and after they were up I saved the money to buy the next block of ten, then I bought another block of ten. That was £180 a time, so I paid for two of those myself, paid for my theory myself, and paid for my driving test myself. That was £90, £80 because you've got to pay for your test, the hire of the car during the test, and the lesson before your test.

It was £6,500. I thought to myself, in one whole piece, that's a lot of money. But if I work out how much I can afford to pay a month, and do it that way, then it's quite cheap. So I ended up paying about £250 a month with insurance as well, so therefore I can afford to pay it off monthly.

I prefer it to how it was when I was 16, because getting buses and public transport, it's not the greatest of things to rely on, but now I've got more freedom. Even though I'm paying for it, I've got more freedom to get around, get to where I want to go, so I think it's brilliant, to be honest with you.