

Road Traffic (Motor Vehicles, Wearing of Seat Belts) Rules

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ROAD TRAFFIC ACT (CHAPTER 276, SECTION 75)

ROAD TRAFFIC (MOTOR VEHICLES, WEARING OF SEAT BELTS) RULES

R 34

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Citation

1. These Rules may be cited as the Road Traffic (Motor Vehicles, Wearing of Seat Belts) Rules.

Definitions

2. In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires —

“approved child restraint” means any child restraint meeting the American Standard FMVSS 213; the British Standards B.S. 3254: Part 2: 1988, B.S. AU 202a: 1988, or B.S. AU 185:1983; the Australian Standard AS 1754-1975 (including AS 1754.1-1989 Part 1, AS 1754.2-1989 Part 2 and AS 1754.4-1989 Part 4); the European Standard ECE R44; the Japanese Standard JIS D0401-1990, or such other standards as may be approved by the Minister from time to time;

“body-restraining seat belt” means a seat belt designed to provide restraint for both the upper and lower parts of the trunk of the wearer in the event of an accident to the vehicle;

“booster seat cushion” means a device designed for a child to sit on in order to raise the height of such child to a level suitable for the proper fit of a seat belt;

“business service passenger vehicle” means a motor-car registered in the name of —

- (a) a statutory board, company, firm, society, association or club and used for the owner’s business; or
- (b) an individual and used for the purpose of any trade, business, profession or vocation,

but does not include a motor-car used —

- (i) for the carriage of goods other than samples;

- (ii) for the carriage of passengers for hire or reward; and
- (iii) for instructional purposes for reward;

“child restraint” means a device which is designed to secure a child in a vehicle and to thereby prevent or lessen injury to its user in the event of an accident to the vehicle, and which may either be fitted directly to a suitable anchorage or used in conjunction with an adult seat belt and held in place by the restraining action of that belt;

“heavy goods vehicle” means a goods vehicle the maximum laden weight of which exceeds 3 metric tons, but does not include any construction equipment, engineering plant, trivan, recovery vehicle and any vehicle used as a mobile canteen or mobile bank;

“lap belt” means a seat belt, anchored at not less than two points, which passes across the front of the wearer’s pelvic region and which restrains the lower part of the wearer’s torso;

“light goods vehicle” means a goods vehicle the maximum laden weight of which does not exceed 3 metric tons but does not include any construction equipment, engineering plant, trivan, motor-cycle with a side-car attached to it, recovery vehicle and any vehicle used as a mobile canteen or mobile bank;

“private hire car” means a motor-car which does not ply for hire on any road but is hired under a contract, express or implied, for the use of the motor-car as a whole;

“seat belt” means a belt installed in a motor vehicle pursuant to the Road Traffic (Motor Vehicles, Seat Belts) Rules, which belt is intended to be worn by a person in the vehicle and designed to prevent or lessen injury to its wearer in the event of an accident to the vehicle and includes, in the case of a restraining device for a young person, any special chair to which the belt is attached;

[\[R 15.\]](#)

“specified passenger’s seat” means —

- (a) in the case of a vehicle which has a forward facing front seat alongside the driver’s seat, such seat, and in the case of a vehicle which has more than one such seat, the one furthest from the driver’s seat; or
- (b) if the vehicle has no seat which is the specified passenger’s seat under paragraph (a), the forward-facing front seat for a passenger which is foremost in the vehicle and furthest from the driver’s seat, unless there is a fixed partition separating such seat from the space in