

Road Traffic (Motor Vehicles, Lighting) Rules

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THE SCHEDULE

Legislative History

ROAD TRAFFIC ACT (CHAPTER 276, SECTIONS 6 AND 140)

ROAD TRAFFIC (MOTOR VEHICLES, LIGHTING) RULES

R 10

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(25th March 1992)

[1st January 1975]

Citation

1. These Rules may be cited as the Road Traffic (Motor Vehicles, Lighting) Rules.

Definitions

- 2.—(1) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires —

“dipped beam” means a beam of light emitted by a headlamp, being a beam which is deflected downwards or both downwards and to the left to such an extent that it is at all times incapable of dazzling any person who is on the same horizontal plane as the vehicle at a greater distance than 7.5 metres from the lamp and whose eye-level is not less than one metre above that plane;

“front lamp”, in relation to a vehicle, means a lamp which is capable of showing

to the front of the vehicle a light and is fitted not more than 300 millimetres nearer the vertical plane passing through the longitudinal axis of the vehicle than the furthest point of the vehicle on the same side thereof;

“headlamp” means a lamp on a vehicle which is designed, when lit, to illuminate the road in front of the vehicle;

“hours of darkness” means the time between 7.00 p.m. and 7.00 a.m.;

“illuminated area” means, in relation to a lamp, the area of the orthogonal projection on a vertical plane at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle of that part of the lamp through which light is emitted;

“low beam” means a beam of light emitted by a lamp other than a headlamp, being a beam which is deflected downwards or both downwards and to the left to such an extent that it is at all times incapable of dazzling any person who is on the same horizontal plane as the vehicle at a greater distance than 7.5 metres from the lamp and whose eye-level is not less than one metre above that plane;

“main beam” means a beam of light emitted by a headlamp, being a beam which is not a dipped beam;

“matched pair”, in relation to lamps fitted on or to a vehicle, means a pair of lamps, one on each side of the vertical plane passing through the longitudinal axis of the vehicle (disregarding for the purpose of ascertaining such axis, any side-car attached thereto) in respect of which the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) each lamp in the pair is alike in respect of shape, size and power and is at the same height above the ground; and
- (b) the distances between the centre of each lamp in the pair and the vertical plane passing through the longitudinal axis of the vehicle do not vary by more than 25 millimetres;

“rear lamp”, in relation to a vehicle, means a lamp which is capable of showing to the rear of the vehicle a red light visible from a reasonable distance;

“width” means the width of a vehicle measured between vertical planes parallel to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and passing through the extreme projecting points thereof exclusive of any driving mirror and direction indicator.

(2) Neither of the expressions “front lamp” and “rear lamp” shall include any lamp carried by a vehicle for any one or more of the following purposes only:

- (a) for use as, or to illuminate, a direction indicator;
- (b) for intimating the intention of the driver of the vehicle to stop or to slow

down;

- (c) for showing a light to the rear when reversing the vehicle; and
- (d) for the internal illumination of the vehicle.

(3) For the purposes of the Schedule —

“centre plane”, in relation to a vehicle, means the vertical plane through the longitudinal axis of the vehicle; and

“side plane”, in relation to a vehicle, means a vertical plane parallel to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and passing through the extreme projecting points on a side of the vehicle exclusive of any driving mirror or lamp.

Lamps to be fitted on or to a vehicle

3. In the case of a vehicle of a description specified in column 1 of the Schedule the type of lamps specified in column 2 of the Schedule and the number thereof specified in column 3 of the Schedule in relation to that description of vehicle shall be fixed on the vehicle in accordance with the requirements with respect to the lateral position of those lamps, their maximum height from the ground and otherwise, which are specified in relation to that description of vehicle in columns 4, 5 and 6 of the Schedule.

Lights to be carried by vehicles at night

4.—(1) Subject to these Rules, every vehicle on a road shall during the hours of darkness carry —

- (a) two lamps, each showing to the front a white light visible from a reasonable distance; and
- (b) two lamps, each showing to the rear a red light visible from a reasonable distance.

(2) It shall be the duty of a person who causes or permits a vehicle to be on any road during the hours of darkness to provide the vehicle with lamps in accordance with these Rules.

Lamps to be lit during hours of darkness

5.—(1) When any motor vehicle is in motion during the hours of darkness on a length of road, every lamp required to be carried by the motor vehicle by virtue of these Rules shall be kept lit.

(2) Every headlamp of a vehicle shall, when lit under paragraph (1), emit a dipped beam if —

- (a) there are on the road along which the vehicle is moving street lamps placed not more than 150 metres from each other; and
- (b) the lamps are lit.

(3) For the purposes of this rule, it shall not be necessary for the front lamps of a vehicle to be kept lit if the vehicle is being drawn by another and the distance between the two vehicles is less than 1½ metres.

Headlamps to be switched off while vehicle is stationary

6. No headlamp carried by a vehicle shall be kept lit while the vehicle is stationary on a road:

Provided that this rule shall not apply to headlamps used —

- (a) on any vehicle during an enforced stoppage of the vehicle; or
- (b) on a public service vehicle when stopping to pick up or set down passengers.

Maintenance of lamps

7. Every lamp fitted to or on a motor vehicle shall be kept unobscured and in a clean and efficient condition.

Internal illumination

8. Except with the approval of the Registrar, no vehicle shall have fitted in its interior any lamp visible to an observer to the front or to the rear of the vehicle unless such lamp is necessary for the purpose of internal illumination of the vehicle.

Additional lamps on breakdown vehicles

9.—(1) One or more lamps showing an amber light may be carried on a breakdown vehicle.

(2) Each lamp carried in pursuance of this rule shall be so fixed to the vehicle that the centre of the lamp is at a height of not less than 1½ metres from the ground and that it is on or as near as practicable to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle.

(3) The light shown by each lamp carried in pursuance of this rule shall be in the form of a concentrated beam or beams rotating in a substantially horizontal plane.

(4) No breakdown vehicle shall carry a lamp showing an amber light in pursuance of this rule except while it is being used in connection with, and is in the immediate vicinity