

Correct as at 21st March 2018. It may be superseded at any time.

Extract taken from: NZTA Vehicle Portal > VIRMs > Entry certification (new light vehicles) > Technical bulletins

Technical bulletins

1 New light vehicle compliance - allowable modifications

The modifications detailed in this bulletin do not require low volume vehicle certification and can be carried out prior to a warrant of fitness being issued.

Fitting or modification to:	Modification allowed provided that:
Cosmetic body kits (including the fitment of side skirt, rear spoiler, front air dam, mud flaps, utility flat decks, utility tray bodies, utility canopies/tray liners/tonneau covers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fitting system does not weaken the vehicle structure, and • the kit or components do not present any forward-facing external projections, and • none of the frontal impact components have been removed where the vehicle is required to comply with a frontal impact occupant protection standard, and • the performance of any lamp is not affected as a result of the kit or components.
Wheels	<p>The wheels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are a non-OE item of known and reputable brand, and • would be considered an appropriate fitment for the vehicle type by the wheel manufacturer, and • are not modified, and • do not have spacers or adaptors fitted. <p>The tyre tread:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does not protrude beyond the unmodified original body panels (including unmodified factory-fitted mudguard extensions), or • protrude beyond the unmodified original body panels, but is covered by aftermarket or modified mudguard extensions or modified body panels, and the track width has increased by no more than 25mm from OE.
Tyres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have an outer circumference that is not more than five percent greater than OE, and • are an appropriate selection for rim width, and • have tread that does not extend beyond the original or modified body panels or guard extension.
Tow bars	The fitting of the tow bar does not weaken the vehicle structure.
Springs and shock absorbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The springs or shock absorbers are direct replacements, and • replacement springs are contained within unmodified OE seats throughout full suspension travel, and • replacement springs are self-retaining in their seats at full extension, without the use of non standard devices such as

<p>Fitting or modification to:</p>	<p>wire-ties, straps, or external spring locators, and Modification allowed provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • replacement springs have not been heated or cut, and
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • springs and spring seats are not height adjustable (unless OE), and • replacement shock absorbers, including air-adjustable units, fit unmodified OE mountings, and • suspension maintains sufficient travel for safe operation when fully laden, and
<p>Springs and shock absorbers (cont.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suspension components maintain sufficient clearance from unmodified bump stops when fully laden, and • a minimum of 100mm ground clearance (unladen and without driver) exists below any part of the vehicle structure, or any steering, braking or suspension component¹, and • the normal relationship between front and rear suspension height is not unduly affected. <p>¹ Does not include such items as exhaust pipes and exterior body panels that do not contribute to the structural strength of the vehicle.</p>
<p>Blocks for leaf springs to adjust their ride height (up or down)</p>	<p>The blocks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • securely fitted, and • constructed from metal, and • designed for the purpose, and • firmly seated over not less than the OE seat area, and • not more than 50mm in height.
<p>Overlays (Note 1)</p> <p>See below for overlays on windscreens, front side windows, rear and rear side windows, and sun roofs</p>	<p>Overlays do not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have any bubbling or other defect that could unreasonably impair vision, or • have a mirrored effect that is sufficient to dazzle other road users, or • affect the performance of any high-mounted stop lamp fitted to the vehicle.
<p>Windscreens (Note 1)</p>	
<p>Stickers (Note 1)</p>	<p>Stickers are wholly within 100mm of the top or bottom edge, or 50mm of the side edges, unless required or permitted by legislation, eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a licence label • a road user licence label • a WoF label • an alternative fuel sticker.
<p>Anti-glare band overlay (Note 1)</p>	<p>The overlay:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is transparent, and • does not extend below the bottom edge of the vehicles OE sun visors when they are folded down as far as possible towards the windscreen, and • does not contain print below a line that is 100mm below and parallel to the top edge of the windscreen.
<p>Clear or transparent stone guard overlay (Note 1)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vehicle is not of class MA or MC, and • the overlay is applied only to the bottom edge of the windscreen, and

Fitting or modification to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the top edge of the overlay does not extend any higher than the highest point of the steering wheel.
Radio antennae	Antennae are wholly within 100mm of any edge.
Front side windows	
Transparent overlays (Note 1)	The overall visible light transmittance (VLT) is not reduced to below 35%.
Stickers	Stickers are wholly within 100mm of the bottom edge, or 50mm of any other edge, unless required or permitted by legislation.
Radio antennae	Antennae are wholly within 100mm of any edge.
Rear and rear side windows (behind the drivers seat) class MA vehicles except stretch limousines and body transfer vehicles:	
Transparent overlays (Note 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The overall visible light transmittance (VLT) is not reduced to below 35%, and the vehicle is equipped on both sides with external rear-view mirrors.
Stickers	The stickers are wholly within 100mm of any edge, unless required or permitted by legislation.
Radio antennae	Antennae are wholly within 100mm of any edge.
Rear and rear side windows (behind the drivers seat) any vehicle class except MA, but including stretch limousines and body transfer vehicles:	
Overlays and other modifications	The vehicle is equipped on both sides with external rear-view mirrors.
Stickers	Stickers may be applied anywhere on the glazing but, if not wholly within 100mm of any edge, the vehicle must be equipped on both sides with external rear-view mirrors.
Radio antennae	In-service requirements for condition and performance are met.

Note 1 Definitions

Windscreen means all glazing extending across the front of a vehicle that is not parallel to the vehicles longitudinal centreline, but does not include a wind deflector. No fitting or overlays of stickers are permitted to the windscreen except those previously mentioned.

Laminated glass means glazing consisting of two or more pieces of sheet glass, plate glass or float glass bonded together by one or more intervening layers of plastic material.

Overlay means a transparent, translucent or opaque self-adhesive or clinging film that is applied to large areas, or the whole, of a piece of glazing, including anti-glare band overlays, stone guard overlays.

Anti-glare band overlay means a tinted overlay that is transparent and that is applied along the top edge of the windscreen for the purpose of reducing glare from the sun.

Stone guard overlay means a clear overlay that is transparent and that is applied along the bottom edge of the windscreen for the purpose of preventing damage to the windscreen from stones and other debris thrown up by other vehicles.

Sticker means a self-adhesive or clinging film, with or without print on it, that is applied for purposes such as, but not limited to,

advertising, identification, information, or for aesthetic or legal reasons.

Note 2

Damage includes any unrepaired damage and attempted visible repairs.

Note 3

Visible light transmittance (VLT) is the proportion of visible light that passes through glazing, measured perpendicular to the glazing. Overall VLT is the VLT of the glazing together with any overlays.

Note 4

Any OE opaque edging (usually black) is not considered part of the windscreen when determining the boundaries of the CVA, or the areas permitted for stickers, print on an anti-glare band, or radio antennae.

Note 5

Perforated overlays are usually made from printed-on materials. They are therefore not transparent and may be fitted only where stickers are allowed.

Page amended **4 March 2013** (see [amendment details](#)).