

Correct as at 5th June 2026. It may be superseded at any time.

Extract taken from: In-service certification (WoF and CoF) > Motorcycles > Tyres, wheels and hubs > Mudguards

## 10-3 Mudguards

### Reasons for rejection

#### Mandatory equipment

1. A mudguard (Note 1) over a road wheel is missing where it is reasonable and practicable to fit a mudguard, unless the vehicle is:

- a) in an unfinished condition legally used under the authority of trade plates, or
- b) not capable of exceeding a speed of 30km/h.

2. A mudguard does not cover the full width of the tread of the tyre or tyres fitted to a road wheel (Figure 10-3-1 and Figure 10-3-2).

#### Condition

- 3. A mudguard is not securely fixed to the vehicle.
- 4. A mudguard is so constructed or damaged that it is likely to present a hazard to road users.

#### Modification

5. A modification affects a mudguard, and:

- a) is not excluded from the requirements for LVV specialist certification (Table 10-3-1), and
- b) is missing proof of LVV specialist **or accepted overseas** certification, ie:
  - i. the vehicle is not fitted with a valid LVV certification plate, or
  - ii. the operator is not able to produce a valid modification declaration or authority card **, or**
  - iii. the vehicle has not been certified to an accepted overseas system as described in [Technical bulletin 13](#)

#### Note 1 Definitions

**Mudguard** means a fitting, inclusive of any portion of the vehicle and of any mudflaps attached, that serves to intercept material thrown up by a wheel more or less on the plane of the wheel.

**Tyre tread** means the portion of a tyre that contacts the road.

**Modify** means to change a vehicle from its original state by altering, substituting, adding or removing a structure, system, component or equipment, but does not include repair.

**Repair** means to restore a damaged or worn vehicle, its structure, systems, components or equipment to within safe tolerance of its condition when manufactured, including replacement with undamaged or new structures, systems, components or equipment.

**Table 10-3-1. Modifications that do not require LVV certification**

Fitting of or modification to:	LVV certification is never required:
Modified mudguards, including flared wheel arches or the addition of mudguard extensions *	• in-service requirements for condition and performance must be met (see also <a href="#">Table 10-1-1</a> ).
Any modification for the purposes of law enforcement or the provision of emergency services	

\* Some vehicles fitted with flared wheel arches or mudguard extensions will require LVV certification as a result of aftermarket wheel fitments and tyre size changes. See [Table 10-1-1](#)

**Figure 10-3-1. Size and position of mudguards which are incorporated into the body**

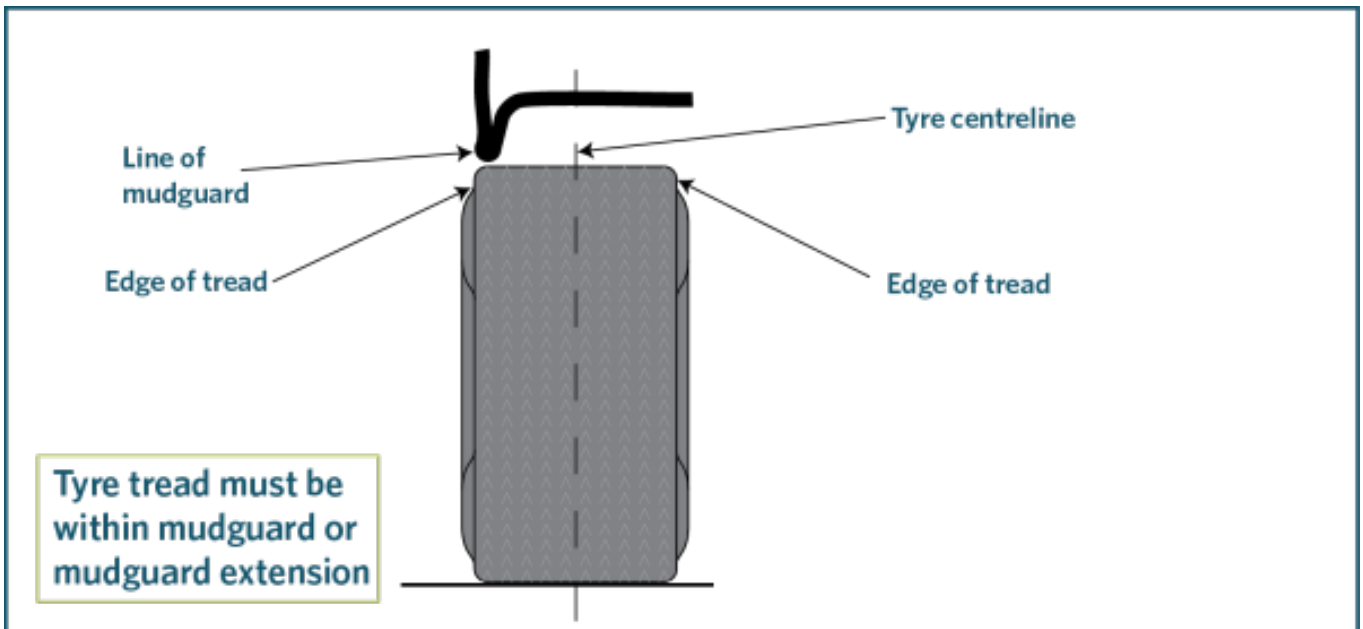
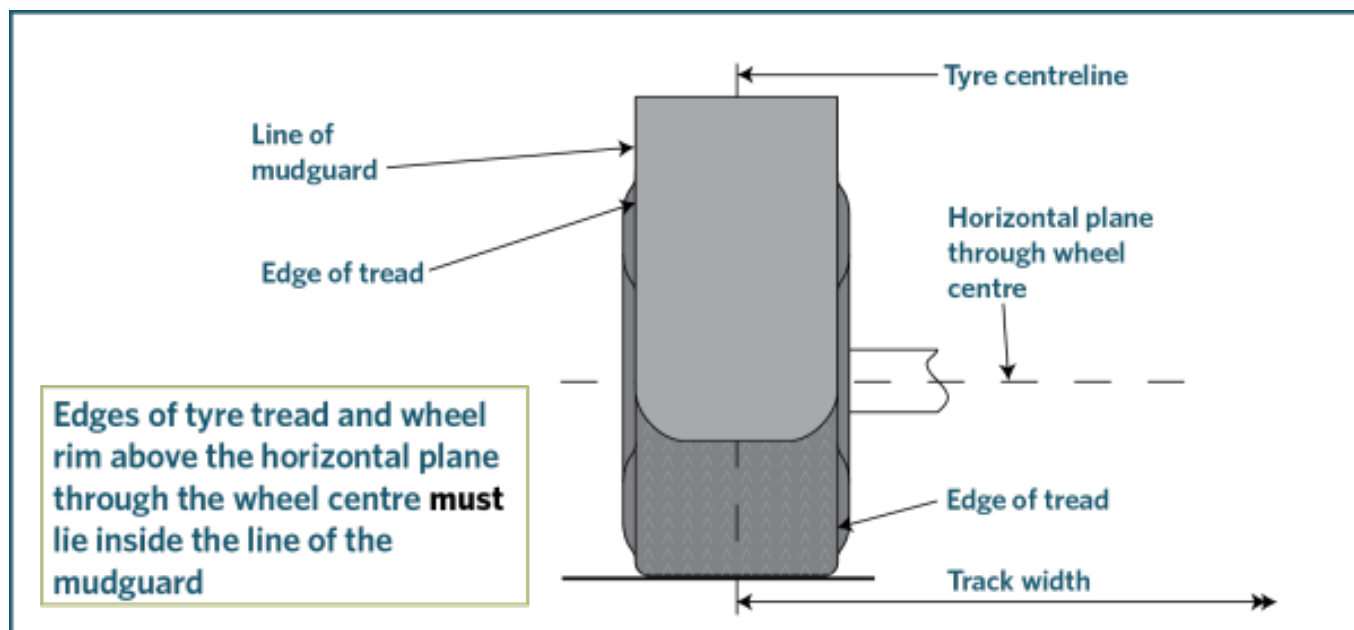


Figure 10-3-2. Size and position of individual mudguards



## Summary of legislation

### Applicable legislation

- [Land Transport Rule: Tyres and Wheels 2001](#)
- [Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Equipment 2004](#)

### Mandatory equipment

1. A motorcycle must be fitted with a mudguard over each road wheel if it is reasonable and practicable to do so.
2. A mudguard must cover no less than the width of the tyre tread on each road wheel.
3. A motorcycle fitted with twin tyres or close-spaced multiple tyres must be fitted with a mudguard over each wheel on the rear axle that provides continuous protection from a horizontal line tangent to the top of the tyre tread to a line with a slope of 1 in 3 rising rearward from the tyre's contact point on the road.
4. The following vehicles are not required to be fitted with mudguards:
  - a) a vehicle in an unfinished condition used under the authority of trade plates and operated in accordance with the Compliance Rule
  - b) a vehicle not capable of exceeding a speed of 30km/h.

### Condition

5. A mudguard must be securely fixed to the vehicle and must be constructed so that it does not present a hazard to road users.

### Modification

6. A modification that affects a mudguard must be inspected and certified by a low volume vehicle specialist certifier, unless the vehicle:

a) is excluded from the requirement for LVV certification (Table 10-3-1), and

b) has been inspected in accordance with the requirements in this manual, including those for equipment, condition and performance.

Page amended **1 December 2016** (see [amendment details](#)).