

Correct as at 26th June 2026. It may be superseded at any time.

Extract taken from: In-service certification (WoF and CoF) > Motorcycles > Vehicle interior > Frontal impact airbags

## 7-6 Frontal impact airbags

### Reasons for rejection

#### Mandatory equipment

1. A deployed frontal impact airbag has not been replaced.
2. An OE airbag warning light system has been removed from a vehicle fitted with airbags.
3. A motor vehicle has a sign, light or other device that indicates the vehicle is fitted with an airbag when it is not fitted with an airbag.

#### Condition and performance

4. An airbag cover:
  - a) is damaged, or
  - b) has deteriorated, or
  - c) shows signs of tampering or inadequate repair.
5. Additional equipment has been fitted that may affect the proper performance of the airbag.
6. The airbag warning light:
  - a) does not operate, or
  - b) indicates a fault in the system.

#### Modification

7. A modification (Note 2) affects an airbag system (eg an airbag has been removed, or made inoperable, including retro-fitting a switch), and:
  - a) is not excluded from the requirements for LVV specialist certification (Table 7-6-1), 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**
8. A motor vehicle that has had an airbag system removed or made inoperable and been certified as above does not:
  - a) have all OE signs, lights, or other devices that indicated the vehicle was fitted with an airbag removed, or
  - b) if the signs, lights, or other devices cannot be readily removed, have a label that indicates an airbag has been removed permanently attached in a prominent location where it is clearly visible to any occupant of the seating

position that was previously protected by the airbag.

### Note 1 Definitions

**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.

### Note 2

Some modifications are permitted, but they must always be LVV certified. The only modifications permitted are:

- fitting a switch to render an airbag temporarily inoperable, and
- the removal or permanent deactivation of an airbag in a vehicle that:
  - is at least 14 years old, or
  - has been adapted for a person with a disability, or
  - has been extensively modified for motorsport use.

**Table 7-6-1. Modifications that do not require LVV certification**

Fitting of or modification to:	LVV certification is never required:
Any modification for the purposes of law enforcement or the provision of emergency services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• in-service requirements for condition and performance must be met.</li></ul>

## Summary of legislation

### Applicable legislation

- [Land Transport Rule: Frontal Impact 2001](#).

### Mandatory equipment

1. A frontal impact airbag and its operating system must remain operational if the vehicle was originally manufactured with a frontal impact airbag.
2. An airbag warning light system must remain operational if it was fitted by the vehicle manufacturer.
3. A motor vehicle must not have a sign, light, or other device that indicates the vehicle is fitted with an airbag if it is not fitted with an airbag.
4. A motor vehicle must not have a light or other device indicating an airbag operating system is operable if it is inoperable.

### **Permitted equipment**

5. A switch may be installed as OE to render an airbag temporarily inoperable.

### **Condition and performance**

6. An airbag and its operating system must be safe and in good condition.

7. An airbag warning light fitted by the manufacturer must remain operational.

### **Modification**

8. A motor vehicle that has had an airbag removed or made inoperable must either:

- a) have all OE signs, lights, or other devices that indicated the vehicle was fitted with an airbag removed, or
- b) if the signs, lights, or other devices cannot be readily removed, have a label that indicates an airbag has been removed permanently attached in a prominent location where it is clearly visible to any occupant of the seating position that was previously protected by the airbag.

9. A modification that affects an airbag system must be inspected and certified by an LVV Specialist Certifier, unless the vehicle is:

- a) excluded from the requirement for LVV specialist certification (Table 7-6-1), 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](#)).