

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 It may be superseded at any time.

Extract taken from: In-service certification (WoF and CoF) > Heavy vehicles > Vision > Windscreen wipe and wash

5-3 Windscreen wipe and wash

Reasons for rejection

Mandatory equipment

1. A vehicle that has a windscreen is not fitted with a windscreen wipe system.
2. A vehicle manufactured on or after 1 January 1992 is not fitted with a windscreen wash system.
3. A vehicle manufactured on or after 1 January 1960 is fitted with wipers that are not power driven.

Condition

Windscreen wipe system

4. The wiper operating device is missing.
5. A wiper arm or wiper blade is:
 - a) missing, or
 - b) insecure, or
 - c) damaged so as to affect the performance of the wipers.
6. The wiper operating mechanism is:
 - a) missing, or
 - b) insecure, or
 - c) damaged so as to affect the performance of the wipers.

Windscreen wash system

7. A wash system component is missing or insecure.
8. The wash operating device is missing.

Performance

Windscreen wipe system

9. A windscreen wiper does not wipe the windscreen effectively, preventing adequate forward vision by the driver.
10. The wiper operating device is unable to activate the wiper system.

Windscreen wash system

11. A windscreen wash nozzle does not discharge washer liquid directly onto the windscreen.
12. The wash operating device is unable to activate the wash system.

Modifications

13. A modification affects a windscreen wipe system, and:
 - a) is not excluded from the requirements for specialist certification (Table 5-3-1), and
 - b) is missing proof of specialist **or accepted overseas** certification, ie:
 - i. the vehicle is not fitted with a valid certification plate, or
 - ii. the operator is not able to produce a valid modification declaration or authority card.

Table 5-3-1. Modifications that do not require specialist certification

Fitting of or modification to:	Specialist certification is never required:
Removal of a windscreen wash system from a vehicle manufactured before 1/1/1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• in-service requirements for condition and performance must be met.
Any modification for the purposes of law enforcement or the provision of emergency services	

Summary of legislation

Applicable legislation

- [Land Transport Rule: Glazing, Windscreen Wipe and Wash, and Mirrors 1999.](#)

Mandatory equipment

1. A vehicle manufactured before 1 January 1992 that is fitted with a windscreen must have a windscreen wipe system.
2. A vehicle manufactured on or after 1 January 1992 that is fitted with a windscreen must have a windscreen wipe and wash system.
3. Windscreen wipers must be power driven, unless they follow OE specifications in a vehicle manufactured before 1 January 1960.

Permitted equipment

4. A vehicle may be fitted with a wash system when this is not required.

Condition

5. A vehicle's windscreen wipe system must be efficient and within the vehicle manufacturer's operating limits.

Performance

6. The equipment fitted must be capable of keeping an adequate area of the windscreen clean and clear so that the vehicle may be operated safely under all reasonably foreseeable conditions.

Modifications

7. An OE windscreen washing system may be removed from a vehicle manufactured before 1 January 1992.

8. A modification to the windscreen wipe system must be inspected and certified by an specialist certifier unless the vehicle:

a) is excluded from the requirement for specialist certification (Table 5-3-1), and

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

Page updated 28 February 2022 (see [details](#))