

Correct as at 17th May 2026. It may be superseded at any time.

Extract taken from: In-service certification (WoF and CoF) > Heavy trailers > Lighting > Direction indicator lamps

4-5 Direction indicator lamps

Reasons for rejection

Mandatory and permitted equipment

1. Refer to [general trailer pages](#).
2. A heavy trailer is fitted at the rear with:
 - a) only one top-mounted lamp, or
 - b) more than one pair of top-mounted lamps, or
 - c) top-mounted lamps that are not mounted as close as is practicable to the top corners of the bodywork.
3. A pair of forward-facing or rearward-facing direction indicator lamps (other than top-mounted lamps):
 - a) in the case of a vehicle with one pair, is fitted at a height from the ground exceeding 1.5m (or 2.1m where fitting below 1.5m is not practicable due to the shape of the bodywork of the vehicle), or
 - b) in the case of a vehicle with two pairs:
 - i. the lower pair is fitted at a height from the ground exceeding 1.5m (or 2.1m where fitting below 1.5m is not practicable due to the shape of the bodywork of the vehicle), or
 - ii. the other pair is fitted at a height from the ground exceeding 2.1m.
4. A heavy trailer is fitted with top-mounted lamps at the front of the trailer.

Condition

5. Refer to [general trailer pages](#).

Performance

6. Refer to [general trailer pages](#).

Note 1

A forward-facing permitted lamp that does not comply with the equipment, condition and performance requirements must be made to comply or be removed from the vehicle.

Note 2

Direction indicator lamp means a lamp designed to emit a flashing light to signal the intention of the driver to change the direction of the vehicle to the right or to the left.

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.

Summary of legislation

Applicable legislation

- [Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Lighting 2004](#).

Permitted equipment

1. A heavy trailer may be fitted with an additional pair of lamps at the rear of the vehicle that must be symmetrically mounted as near the top corners of the bodywork of the vehicle as is practicable (top-mounted lamps).
2. Forward-facing or rearward-facing direction indicator lamps (excluding top-mounted lamps) may be mounted as follows:
 - a) one pair at a height from the ground not exceeding 1.5m, or if this is not practicable due to the shape of the bodywork of the vehicle, not exceeding 2.1m, and
 - b) a second pair at a height from the ground not exceeding 2.1m.

Condition

3. Refer to [general trailer pages](#).

Performance

4. Refer to [general trailer pages](#).

Modifications

5. Refer to [general trailer pages](#).