

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 It may be superseded at any time.

Extract taken from: In-service certification (WoF and CoF) > Unclassified vehicles > Lighting > Side-marker lamps

4-8 Side-marker lamps

Reasons for rejection

Prohibited equipment

1. A vehicle with a length of less than 6m is fitted with side-marker lamps.

Condition

2. A lamp is insecure.
3. A lens is missing or has a hole, crack or other damage that allows moisture or dirt to enter.
4. A reflector is damaged or has deteriorated so that light output is reduced.

Performance

5. When switched on, a lamp emits a light that is not:
 - a) diffuse, or
 - b) substantially red or amber to the rear, or
 - c) substantially white or amber to the front, or
 - d) steady.
6. Where a lamp comprises an array of light sources (eg LEDs), fewer than 75% of these operate.

Note 1 Definitions

Side-marker lamp means a position lamp designed to be fitted to the side of a vehicle or its load.

Position lamp means a low-intensity lamp that is designed to indicate to road users the presence and dimensions of a vehicle being:

- a) a forward-facing position lamp (front side lamp), or
- b) a rearward-facing position lamp (rear side lamp or tail lamp), or
- c) a side-marker lamp, or
- d) an end-outline marker lamp (including cab roof lamp).

Note 2

A side-marker lamp that does not comply with the equipment, condition and performance requirements must be made to comply or be disabled so that it does not emit a light.

Summary of legislation

Applicable legislation

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

Permitted and prohibited equipment

1. A vehicle with a length of 6m or more may be fitted with one or more side-marker lamps.
2. A vehicle with a length of less than 6m must not be fitted with side-marker lamps.

Condition

3. A lamp must be in good condition.

Performance

4. A side-marker lamp must operated in a way that is appropriate for the lamp and the vehicle.
5. A side-marker lamps must emit light that is:
 - a) diffuse, and
 - b) substantially red or amber to the rear, and
 - c) substantially white or amber to the front, and
 - d) steady.
6. Where a side-marker lamp comprises an array of light sources (eg LEDs), at least 75% of these must operate.