

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 It may be superseded at any time.

Extract taken from: PRS & QMS > PRS: Light vehicle repair certification > Technical part > Vehicle structure

2 Vehicle structure

Requirements

	What the NZTA expects of you	How the NZTA will assess your performance
<p>2.1.1</p> <p>2.2.1</p>	<p>Correct technical decisions</p> <p>You thoroughly inspect all components and and correctly determine whether the chassis rails complies with all NZTA requirements, taking into account technical information provided by the NZTA such as the VIRM: Light vehicle repair certification.</p>	<p>The NZTA will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • talk to you • observe you at work • inspect vehicles which you have certified • inspect inspection and certification documents you use and complete • inspect information you enter into the NZTA computer system. <p>The NZTA may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take into account outcomes from complaints, random re-inspections and ‘mystery shopper’ exercises since your last review.
<p>2.1.2</p> <p>2.2.2</p>	<p>Technical competence</p> <p>You are competent in all technical aspects relating to chassis rails. This means you are competent in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of chassis rails • NZTA requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to chassis rails and the assessment of chassis rails • NZTA guidelines relating to chassis rails • the operation of the equipment used for inspecting chassis rails. 	<p>The NZTA will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • talk to you • ask questions to check your competence relating to chassis rails and the assessment of chassis rails • observe you at work • inspect inspection and certification documents you use and complete • inspect your Training record. <p>The NZTA may administer a short test on chassis rails and the assessment of chassis rails.</p>

2.1.3

2.2.3 **Technical equipment**

You have:

- a hand-held inspection lamp
- a mirror
- assorted hand tools
- a tape measure.

The equipment is in good condition and working order.

The NZTA will inspect your technical equipment.

Scores

	Score			
	0	1	2	3
2.1.1	<p>2.2.1 Correct technical decisions</p>			
2.2.1				
	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the chassis rails comply with all NZTA requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance is likely to compromise the outcome of the certification process.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> chassis rail has been heated, and there are no manufacturer's instructions for this a crush zone has been repaired without the manufacturer's instructions. 	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the chassis rails comply with all NZTA requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance may compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a chassis rail has been sectioned too close to a crush zone, suspension, steering or engine mount, so that it may affect the performance of that component. 	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the chassis rails comply with all NZTA requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance is unlikely to compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a chassis rail has been repaired using an alternative repair method and there is no evidence that the manufacturer's instructions have been sought. 	<p>You thoroughly inspect all components and correctly determine whether the chassis rails comply with all NZTA requirements.</p>
2.1.2	<p>2.2.2 Technical competence</p>			
2.2.2				

<p>You demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some competence in the technical aspects relating to repairs to chassis rails, or • a level of competence that may compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users. <p>This means there are some gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of chassis rails, or • the NZTA requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to chassis rails, or • NZTA guidelines relating to chassis rails, or • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting chassis rails. <p>This means there are significant gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the 	<p>You demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adequate competence in the technical aspects relating to chassis rails, or • a level of competence that is unlikely to compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users. <p>This means there are minor gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of chassis rails, or • the NZTA requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to chassis rails, or • NZTA guidelines relating to chassis rails, or • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting chassis rails. 	<p>You can demonstrate comprehensive competence in the technical aspects relating to chassis rails, including their compliance with Land Transport Rules.</p> <p>This means you can demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of, and skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of chassis rails • the NZTA requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to chassis rails • NZTA guidelines relating to chassis rails • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting chassis rails. 	
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<p>2.1.3</p> <p>2.2.3</p>	<p>Technical equipment</p>			
	<p>Not all of the specified equipment is available. Where equipment is available, some or all of it is not in working order.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available and in working order, but some or all of it is in poor condition.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available, in working order and in at least adequate condition.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available and in good condition and working order.</p>

Requirements

	What the Transport Agency expects of you	How the Transport Agency will assess your performance
<p>2.3.1</p>	<p>Correct technical decisions</p> <p>You thoroughly inspect all components and and correctly determine whether the sill repair complies with all Transport Agency requirements, taking into account technical information provided by the Transport Agency such as the VIRM: Light vehicle repair certification.</p>	<p>The Transport Agency will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • talk to you • observe you at work • inspect vehicles which you have certified • inspect inspection and certification documents you use and complete • inspect information you enter into the Transport Agency computer system. <p>The Transport Agency may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take into account outcomes from complaints, random re-inspections and ‘mystery shopper’ exercises since your last review.
<p>2.3.2</p>	<p>Technical competence</p>	

You are competent in all technical aspects relating to sill repairs. This means you are competent in:

The Transport Agency will:

- talk to you
- ask questions to check your competence relating to sill repairs and the assessment of sill repairs
- observe you at work
- inspect inspection and certification documents you use and complete
- inspect your [Training record](#).

The Transport Agency may administer a short test on sill repairs and the assessment of sill repairs.

- the ability to carry out sill repairs
- The ability to carry out sill repairs (i.e. [V](#) repairs)
- The ability to carry out sill repairs
- The ability to carry out sill repairs
- the ability to carry out sill repairs

2.3.3

Technical equipment

You have:

- a hand-held inspection lamp
- a mirror
- assorted hand tools
- a tape measure.

The equipment is in good condition and working order.

The Transport Agency will inspect your technical equipment.

Scores

	Score			
	0	1	2	3
2.3.1	<p>Correct technical decisions</p>			
	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the sill repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance is likely to compromise the outcome of the certification process.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a sill that has been improperly sectioned. 	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the sill repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance may compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a sill has been repaired and the repair method has not been thoroughly inspected, eg whether an insert has been used, overlap length etc. 	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the sill repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance is unlikely to compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a sill has been repaired using an alternative repair method and there is no evidence that the manufacturer's instructions have been sought • replacement foam in a pillar has not been inspected. 	<p>You thoroughly inspect all components and correctly determine whether the sill repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p>
2.3.2	<p>Technical competence</p>			

<p>You demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some competence in the technical aspects relating to repairs to sill repairs, or • a level of competence that may compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users. <p>This means there are some gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of sill repairs, or • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to sill repairs, or • Transport Agency guidelines relating to sill repairs, or • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting sill repairs. <p>This means there are significant gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the 	<p>You demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adequate competence in the technical aspects relating to sill repairs, or • a level of competence that is unlikely to compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users. <p>This means there are minor gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of sill repairs, or • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to sill repairs, or • Transport Agency guidelines relating to sill repairs, or • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting sill repairs. 	<p>You can demonstrate comprehensive competence in the technical aspects relating to sill repairs, including their compliance with Land Transport Rules.</p> <p>This means you can demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of, and skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of sill repairs • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to sill repairs • Transport Agency guidelines relating to sill repairs • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting sill repairs.
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<p>2.3.3</p>	<p>Technical equipment</p>			
	<p>Not all of the specified equipment is available. Where equipment is available, some or all of it is not in working order.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available and in working order, but some or all of it is in poor condition.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available, in working order and in at least adequate condition.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available and in good condition and working order.</p>

Requirements

	What the Transport Agency expects of you	How the Transport Agency will assess your performance
<p>2.4.1</p> <p>2.5.1</p>	<p>Correct technical decisions</p> <p>You thoroughly inspect all components and and correctly determine whether the pillar repair complies with all Transport Agency requirements, taking into account technical information provided by the Transport Agency such as the VIRM: Light vehicle repair certification.</p>	<p>The Transport Agency will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • talk to you • observe you at work • inspect vehicles which you have certified • inspect inspection and certification documents you use and complete • inspect information you enter into the Transport Agency computer system. <p>The Transport Agency may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take into account outcomes from complaints, random re-inspections and 'mystery shopper' exercises since your last review.
<p>2.4.2</p> <p>2.5.2</p>	<p>Technical competence</p>	

You are competent in all technical aspects relating to pillar repairs. This means you are competent in:

The Transport Agency will:

- talk to you
- ask questions to check your competence relating to pillar repairs and the assessment of pillar repairs
- observe you at work
- inspect inspection and certification documents you use and complete
- inspect your [Training record](#).

The Transport Agency may administer a short test on pillar repairs and the assessment of pillar repairs.

- the ability to carry out pillar repairs
- The Transport Agency will require you to provide evidence of your competence to carry out pillar repairs and the assessment of pillar repairs
- The Transport Agency will require you to provide evidence of your competence to carry out pillar repairs and the assessment of pillar repairs
- the ability to carry out pillar repairs

2.4.3

2.5.3 **Technical equipment**

You have:

- a hand-held inspection lamp
- a mirror
- assorted hand tools
- a tape measure
- a trammel bar.

The equipment is in good condition and working order.

The Transport Agency will inspect your technical equipment.

Scores

	Score			
	0	1	2	3
<p>2.4.1</p> <p>2.4.1 Correct technical decisions</p>	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the pillar repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance is likely to compromise the outcome of the certification process.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a pillar that has been improperly sectioned. 	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the pillar repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance may compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a sill has been repaired and the repair method has not been thoroughly inspected, eg whether an insert has been used, overlap length etc. 	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the pillar repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance is unlikely to compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a pillar has been repaired using an alternative repair method and there is no evidence that the manufacturer's instructions have been sought • replacement foam in a pillar has not been inspected. 	<p>You thoroughly inspect all components and correctly determine whether the sill repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p>
<p>2.4.2</p> <p>2.5.2 Technical competence</p>				

<p>You demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some competence in the technical aspects relating to repairs to pillar repairs, or • a level of competence that may compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users. <p>This means there are some gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of pillar repairs, or • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to pillar repairs, or • Transport Agency guidelines relating to pillar repairs, or • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting pillar repairs. <p>This means there are significant gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of pillar repairs, or • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to pillar repairs, or • Transport Agency guidelines relating to pillar repairs, or • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting pillar repairs. 	<p>You demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adequate competence in the technical aspects relating to pillar repairs, or • a level of competence that is unlikely to compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users. <p>This means there are minor gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of pillar repairs, or • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to pillar repairs, or • Transport Agency guidelines relating to pillar repairs, or • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting pillar repairs. 	<p>You can demonstrate comprehensive competence in the technical aspects relating to pillar repairs, including their compliance with Land Transport Rules.</p> <p>This means you can demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of, and skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of pillar repairs • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to pillar repairs • Transport Agency guidelines relating to pillar repairs • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting pillar repairs.
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<p>2.4.3</p> <p>2.5.3</p>	<p>Technical equipment</p>			
	<p>Not all of the specified equipment is available. Where equipment is available, some or all of it is not in working order.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available and in working order, but some or all of it is in poor condition.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available, in working order and in at least adequate condition.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available and in good condition and working order.</p>

Requirements

	What the Transport Agency expects of you	How the Transport Agency will assess your performance
<p>2.6.1</p> <p>2.7.1</p>	<p>Correct technical decisions</p> <p>You thoroughly inspect all components and and correctly determine whether the bumper and plastic repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements, taking into account technical information provided by the Transport Agency such as the VIRM: Light vehicle repair certification.</p>	<p>The Transport Agency will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • talk to you • observe you at work • inspect vehicles which you have certified • inspect inspection and certification documents you use and complete • inspect information you enter into the Transport Agency computer system. <p>The Transport Agency may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take into account outcomes from complaints, random re-inspections and 'mystery shopper' exercises since your last review.
<p>2.6.2</p> <p>2.7.2</p>	<p>Technical competence</p>	

2.6.3

2.7.3 **Technical equipment**

You have:

- a hand-held inspection lamp
- a mirror
- assorted hand tools.

The equipment is in good condition and working order.

The Transport Agency will inspect your technical equipment.

Scores

	Score			
	0	1	2	3
2.6.1	<p>2.7.1 Correct technical decisions</p>			
2.7.1				
	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the bumper and plastic repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance is likely to compromise the outcome of the certification process.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a non-mechanical energy absorber has been repaired. 	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the bumper and plastic repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance may compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a plastic fuel line has been repaired instead of replaced. 	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the bumper and plastic repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance is unlikely to compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the source of a replacement energy absorbing bumper is unknown (make, model and year). 	<p>You thoroughly inspect all components and correctly determine whether the bumper and plastic repairs comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p>
2.6.2	<p>2.7.2 Technical competence</p>			
2.7.2				

<p>You demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some competence in the technical aspects relating to repairs to bumper and plastic repairs, or • a level of competence that may compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users. <p>This means there are some gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of bumper and plastic repairs, or • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to bumper and plastic repairs, or • Transport Agency guidelines relating to bumper and plastic repairs, or • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting bumper and plastic repairs. <p>This means there are significant gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the 	<p>You demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adequate competence in the technical aspects relating to bumper and plastic repairs, or • a level of competence that is unlikely to compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users. <p>This means there are minor gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of bumper and plastic repairs, or • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to bumper and plastic repairs, or • Transport Agency guidelines relating to bumper and plastic repairs, or • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting bumper and plastic repairs. 	<p>You can demonstrate comprehensive competence in the technical aspects relating to bumper and plastic repairs, including their compliance with Land Transport Rules.</p> <p>This means you can demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of, and skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of bumper and plastic repairs • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to bumper and plastic repairs • Transport Agency guidelines relating to bumper and plastic repairs • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting bumper and plastic repairs. 	
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<p>2.6.3</p> <p>2.7.3</p>	<p>Technical equipment</p>			
	<p>Not all of the specified equipment is available. Where equipment is available, some or all of it is not in working order.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available and in working order, but some or all of it is in poor condition.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available, in working order and in at least adequate condition.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available and in good condition and working order.</p>

Requirements

	What the Transport Agency expects of you	How the Transport Agency will assess your performance
<p>2.8.1</p>	<p>Correct technical decisions</p> <p>You thoroughly inspect all points of attachment and and correctly determine whether the repair complies with all Transport Agency requirements, taking into account technical information provided by the Transport Agency such as the VIRM: Light vehicle repair certification.</p>	<p>The Transport Agency will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • talk to you • observe you at work • inspect vehicles which you have certified • inspect inspection and certification documents you use and complete • inspect information you enter into the Transport Agency computer system. <p>The Transport Agency may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take into account outcomes from complaints, random re-inspections and ‘mystery shopper’ exercises since your last review.
<p>2.8.2</p>	<p>Technical competence</p>	

2.8.3

Technical equipment

You have:

- a hand-held inspection lamp
- a mirror
- assorted hand tools.

The equipment is in good condition and working order.

The Transport Agency will inspect your technical equipment.

Scores

	Score			
	0	1	2	3
2.8.1	Correct technical decisions			
	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all points of attachment or correctly determine whether the repairs to the points of attachment comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance is likely to compromise the outcome of the certification process.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a headlamp cannot be securely attached/adjusted as per the manufacturer's instructions. 	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the repairs to the points of attachment comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance may compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a side-mirror cannot be securely attached/adjusted as per the manufacturer's instructions a rear-side lamp cannot be securely attached as per the manufacturer's instructions. 	<p>You do not thoroughly inspect all components or correctly determine whether the repairs to points of attachment comply with all Transport Agency requirements.</p> <p>The area of non-compliance is unlikely to compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a front-side light cannot be securely attached as per the manufacturer's instructions. 	<p>You thoroughly inspect all components and correctly determine whether the vehicle structure complies with all Transport Agency requirements.</p>
2.8.2	Technical competence			

<p>You demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some competence in the technical aspects relating to repairs to points of attachment, or • a level of competence that may compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users. <p>This means there are some gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of repairs to points of attachment, or • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to repairs to points of attachment, or • Transport Agency guidelines relating to repairs to points of attachment, or • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting repairs to points of attachment. <p>This means there are significant gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the 	<p>You demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adequate competence in the technical aspects relating to repairs to points of attachment, or • a level of competence that is unlikely to compromise the safety of vehicle occupants or other road users. <p>This means there are minor gaps in your knowledge of, or skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of repairs to points of attachment, or • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to repairs to points of attachment, or • Transport Agency guidelines relating to repairs to points of attachment, or • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting repairs to points of attachment. 	<p>You can demonstrate comprehensive competence in the technical aspects relating to repairs to points of attachment, including their compliance with Land Transport Rules.</p> <p>This means you can demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of, and skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of repairs to points of attachment • the Transport Agency requirements (including VIRM requirements) relating to repairs to points of attachment • Transport Agency guidelines relating to repairs points of attachment • the operation of the equipment you use for inspecting repairs to points of attachment.
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<p>2.8.3</p>	<p>Technical equipment</p>			
<p>Not all of the specified equipment is available. Where equipment is available, some or all of it is not in working order.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available and in working order, but some or all of it is in poor condition.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available, in working order and in at least adequate condition.</p>	<p>All specified equipment is available and in good condition and working order.</p>	