



# Road Traffic Act 1988

## 1988 CHAPTER 52

### PART VII

#### MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

*Forgery, false statements, etc.*

#### **173 Forgery of documents, etc.**

- (1) A person who, with intent to deceive—
- forges, alters or uses a document or other thing to which this section applies, or
  - lends to, or allows to be used by, any other person a document or other thing to which this section applies, or
  - makes or has in his possession any document or other thing so closely resembling a document or other thing to which this section applies as to be calculated to deceive,
- is guilty of an offence.
- (2) This section applies to the following documents and other things—
- any licence under any Part of this Act [<sup>F1</sup>or in the case of a licence to drive any counterpart of such licence,]
  - any test certificate, goods vehicle test certificate, plating certificate, certificate of conformity or Minister's approval certificate (within the meaning of Part II of this Act),
  - any certificate required as a condition of any exception prescribed under section 14 of this Act,
  - <sup>F2</sup>(cc) any notice removing a prohibition under section 69 or 70 of this Act;]
  - any plate containing plated particulars (within the meaning of Part II of this Act) or containing other particulars required to be marked on a goods vehicle by sections 54 to 58 of this Act or regulations under those sections,
  - any records required to be kept by virtue of section 74 of this Act,

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/02/1991. This version of this provision has been superseded.*

*Changes to legislation: Road Traffic Act 1988, Section 173 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 11 August 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

- (f) any document which, in pursuance of section 89(3) [<sup>F3</sup>or 117(2)] of this Act, is issued as evidence of the result of a test of competence to drive,
- (g) any badge or certificate prescribed by regulations made by virtue of section 135 of this Act,
- (h) any certificate of insurance or certificate of security under Part VI of this Act,
- (j) any document produced as evidence of insurance in pursuance of Regulation 6 of the <sup>M1</sup>Motor Vehicles (Compulsory Insurance) (No. 2) Regulations 1973,
- (k) any document issued under regulations made by the Secretary of State in pursuance of his power under section 165(2)(a) of this Act to prescribe evidence which may be produced in lieu of a certificate of insurance or a certificate of security, and
- (l) any international road haulage permit.

(3) In the application of this section to England and Wales “forgeries” means makes a false document or other thing in order that it may be used as genuine.

[<sup>F4</sup>(4) In this section “counterpart”, in relation to a licence to drive under Part III of this Act, has the same meaning as in that Part.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words inserted by S.I. 1990/144, regs. 2(1), 3, **Sch. 1 para. 11(a)**
- F2** S. 173(2)(cc) inserted (*prosp.*) by Transport Act 1982 (c. 49, SIF 107:1), s. 23(3) (as amended (15.5.1989) by Road Traffic (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988 (c. 54, SIF 107:1), s. 4, **Sch. 2 Pt. I para. 12**)
- F3** Words repealed (1.4.1991) by Road Traffic (Driver Licensing and Information Systems) Act 1989 (c. 22, SIF 107:1), ss. 7, 16, Sch. 3 para. 22, **Sch. 6**
- F4** S. 173(4) inserted by S.I. 1990/144, regs. 2(1), 3, **Sch. 1 para. 11(b)**

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 173 applied with modifications by S.I. 1987/1378, **reg. 25(3)** (as amended by S.I. 1990/842, **reg. 9**)

#### Marginal Citations

- M1** S.I. 1973 / 2143.

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**Changes to legislation:**

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