

---

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

---

**1989 No. 1796**

**The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989**

**PART III**

**REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE MAINTENANCE AND USE  
OF LAMPS, REFLECTORS, REAR MARKINGS AND DEVICES**

**Maintenance of lamps, reflectors, rear markings and devices**

**23.**—(1) No person shall use, or cause or permit to be used, on a road a vehicle unless every lamp, reflector, rear marking and device to which this paragraph applies is in good working order and, in the case of a lamp, clean.

(2) Save as provided in paragraph (3), paragraph (1) applies to—

(a) every—

- (i) front position lamp,
- (ii) rear position lamp,
- (iii) headlamp,
- (iv) rear registration plate lamp,
- (v) side marker lamp,
- (vi) end-outline marker lamp,
- (vii) rear fog lamp,
- (viii) retro reflector, <sup>F1</sup>...
- (ix) rear marking of a type specified in Part I of <sup>F2</sup>... Schedule 19,
- [<sup>F3</sup>(x) daytime running lamp,
- (xi) headlamp cleaning device, and
- (xii) reversing lamp,]

with which the vehicle is required by these Regulations to be fitted; and

(b) every—

- (i) stop lamp,
- (ii) direction indicator,
- (iii) running lamp,
- (iv) dim-dip device,
- (v) headlamp levelling device, <sup>F4</sup>...
- (vi) hazard warning signal device, [<sup>F5</sup>and
- (vii) front fog lamp,]

with which it is fitted.

- (3) Paragraph (2) does not apply to—
- (a) a rear fog lamp on a vehicle which is part of a combination of vehicles any part of which is not required by these Regulations to be fitted with a rear fog lamp;
  - (b) a rear fog lamp on a motor vehicle drawing a trailer;
  - (c) a defective lamp, reflector, dim-dip device or headlamp levelling device on a vehicle in use on a road between sunrise and sunset, if any such lamp, reflector or device became defective during the journey which is in progress or if arrangements have been made to remedy the defect with all reasonable expedition; <sup>F6</sup> ...
  - (d) a lamp, reflector, dim-dip device, headlamp levelling device or rear marking on a combat vehicle in use on a road between sunrise and sunset; [<sup>F7</sup>or
  - (e) a front fog lamp or a daytime running lamp on a vehicle which was first registered before 1st March 2018.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Word in reg. 23(2)(a)(viii) omitted (20.5.2018) by virtue of [The Road Vehicles Lighting \(Amendment\) Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/852\)](#), regs. 1, **6(a)(i)**
- F2** Words in reg. 23(2)(a)(ix) omitted (1.10.1994) by virtue of [The Road Vehicles Lighting \(Amendment\) Regulations 1994 \(S.I. 1994/2280\)](#), regs. 1(2), **17(3)**
- F3** Reg. 23(2)(a)(x)-(xii) inserted (20.5.2018) by [The Road Vehicles Lighting \(Amendment\) Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/852\)](#), regs. 1, **6(a)(ii)**
- F4** Word in reg. 23(2)(b)(v) omitted (20.5.2018) by virtue of [The Road Vehicles Lighting \(Amendment\) Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/852\)](#), regs. 1, **6(b)(i)**
- F5** Reg. 23(2)(b)(vii) and word inserted (20.5.2018) by [The Road Vehicles Lighting \(Amendment\) Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/852\)](#), regs. 1, **6(b)(ii)**
- F6** Word in reg. 23(3)(c) omitted (20.5.2018) by virtue of [The Road Vehicles Lighting \(Amendment\) Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/852\)](#), regs. 1, **6(c)(i)**
- F7** Reg. 23(3)(e) and word inserted (20.5.2018) by [The Road Vehicles Lighting \(Amendment\) Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/852\)](#), regs. 1, **6(c)(ii)**

#### Commencement Information

- I1** [Reg. 23](#) in force at 1.11.1989, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989, Section 23.