## REGULATIONS REVOKED

| Title of Regulations | Number | Extent of revocation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The Road Vehicles <br> (Registration and Licensing) <br> Regulations 1971 | 1971/450 | Regulations 17 to 22 and Schedules 2 and 3. |
| The Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 1972 | 1972/1865 | Regulation 6. |
| The Road Vehicles <br> (Registration and Licensing) <br> Regulations (Northern Ireland) <br> 1973 | S.R. \& O. (N.I.) 1973 No. 490 | Regulations 18 to 23 and Schedule 2 and 3. |
| The Road Vehicles <br> (Registration and Licensing) <br> (Amendment) Regulations $1975$ | 1975/1089 | The whole instrument. |
| The Road Vehicles <br> (Registration and Licensing) <br> (Amendment) (No. 2) <br> Regulations (Northern Ireland) <br> 1976 | 1976/2180 | Regulation 2(6), (8) and (9). |
| The Road Vehicles <br> (Registration and Licensing) <br> (Amendment) Regulations <br> 1984 | 1984/814 | The whole instrument. |

## REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION PLATES

## PART 1

## VEHICLES REGISTERED AND NEW REGISTRATION PLATES FITTED ON OR AFTER 1ST SEPTEMBER 2001 (MANDATORY SPECIFICATION)

1. The plate must be made of retroreflecting material which, as regards its construction, colour and other qualities, complies with the requirements of-
(a) the British Standard specification for retroreflecting number plates published on 15 January 1998 under number BS AU 145d ${ }^{\text {M1 }}$, or
(b) any other relevant standard or specification recognised for use in an EEA State and which, when in use, offers a performance equivalent to that offered by a plate complying with the British Standard specification,
and which, in either case, is marked with the number (or such other information as is necessary to permit identification) of that standard or specification.

## Marginal Citations

M1 Published by the British Standards Institution, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL. The ISBN number is 0580289850 . Copies may be obtained by post from BSI Customer Services, Sales Department, at the above address or from a BSI sales outlet.
2. Where the registration mark is displayed on the front of the vehicle, it must have black characters on a white background.
3. Where the registration mark is displayed on the back of the vehicle, it must have black characters on a yellow background.

## PART 2

## VEHICLES REGISTERED ON OR AFTER 1ST JANUARY 1973 AND BEFORE 1ST SEPTEMBER 2001 (OPTIONAL SPECIFICATION)

1. The plate must be made of reflex-reflecting material which, as regards its construction, colour and other qualities, complies with the requirements of-
(a) the British Standard Specification for reflex-reflecting number plates, published on 11 September 1972 under the number BS AU 145a ${ }^{\text {M2 }}$, or
(b) any other relevant standard or specification recognised for use in an EEA State and which, when in use, offers a performance equivalent to that offered by a plate complying with the British Standard specification,
and which, in either case, is marked with the number (or such other information as is necessary to permit identification) of that standard or specification.

## Marginal Citations

M2 Published by the British Standards Institution, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL, being the first revision of the standard first published in 1967. The ISBN number is 0580073270 . Copies may be obtained by post from BSI Customer Services, Sales Department, at the above address or from a BSI sales outlet.
2. Where the registration mark is displayed on the front of the vehicle, it must have black characters on a white background.
3. Where the registration mark is displayed on the back of the vehicle, it must have black characters on a yellow background.

## PART 3

## VEHICLES REGISTERED BEFORE 1ST JANUARY 1973 (OPTIONAL SPECIFICATIONS)

A. Requirements where the vehicle carries a registration plate which is constructed so that the mark may be illuminated from behind by virtue of the translucency of its characters.

1. The registration mark must be formed of white translucent characters on a black background on the surface of that plate.
2. When the registration mark is illuminated during the hours of darkness, the characters on that plate must appear white against a black background.
B. Requirements where the vehicle carries a registration plate which is not so constructed.

Either of the following is permitted-

1. A plate made of reflex-reflecting material complying with the requirements of the British Standard Specification for reflex-reflecting number plates published on 31 October 1967 under the number BS AU $145{ }^{\mathrm{M} 3}$ and which displays black characters on a white background where it is fixed on the front of the vehicle and black characters on a yellow background where it is fixed on the rear of the vehicle.

## Marginal Citations

M3 Published by the British Standards Institution, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL, the standard having been revised in 1972 to BS AU 145a, as to which see the immediately preceding footnote.
2. A plate displaying white, silver or light grey letters and numbers on a black surface having every character indelibly inscribed on the surface or so attached to the surface that it cannot readily be detached from it, which may either-
(a) be made of cast or pressed metal with raised characters, or
(b) consist of a plate to which separate characters are attached, or
(c) consist of a plastic plate having either reverse engraved characters or characters of a foil type, or
(d) consist of an unbroken rectangular area on the surface of the vehicle which is either flat or, if there is no flat area where the mark is required to be displayed, an area which is almost flat.

SCHEDULE 3

## LAYOUT OF REGISTRATION MARKS

## PART 1

TABLE A
PERMITTED LAYOUTS FOR REGISTRATION MARKS

## (1) <br> Description of mark

1.A group consisting of two letters and two numbers followed by a group of 3 letters (for example DE51 ABC).

## (2)

## Permitted layouts

Diagrams 1a and 1b.

Status: Point in time view as at 31/12/2020
Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Road
Vehicles (Display of Registration Marks) Regulations 2001. (See end of Document for details)
2.A group consisting of a single letter and not more than 3 numbers followed by a group of 3 letters (for example A123 ABC).
3.A group of 3 letters followed by a group consisting of not more than 3 numbers and a single letter (for example ABC 123A).
4.A group of 4 numbers followed by a single letter or a group of 2 letters (for example 1234 $\mathrm{AB}, 1234 \mathrm{~A}$ ).
5.A group of not more than 3 numbers followed Diagrams 5 a and 5 b. by a group of not more than 3 letters (for example $123 \mathrm{ABC}, 123 \mathrm{AB}, 12 \mathrm{~A}$ ).
6.A group of not more than 3 letters followed by a group of not more than 3 numbers (for example ABC 123, AB 123, A 12).
7.A single letter or group of 2 letters followed by a group of 4 numbers (for example AB 1234, A 1234).
8. A group of 3 letters followed by a group of 4 numbers (for example ABZ 1234, being a form of mark issued only in Northern Ireland).
9.A group of 4 numbers followed by a group of Diagrams 9 a and 9 b . 3 letters (for example 1234 ABZ, being a form of mark issued only in Northern Ireland).

## PART 2

## DIAGRAMS SHOWING PERMITTED LAYOUTS

Diagram 1a


Diagram 1b

## DE5I ABC

Diagram 2a

## Al23 ABC

Diagram 2b


Diagram 2c


Diagram 3a

## ABC I23A

Diagram 3b

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    ABC
    123A
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Diagram 4a

## I234 AB

Diagram 4b

## 12 34 AB

Diagram 5a

## I23 AB

Diagram 5b


## AB I23

Diagram 6b


Diagram 7a
AB I234

[^0]

Diagram 8a

## ABZ 1234

Diagram 8b


# 1234 ABZ 

Diagram 9b

## 1234 <br> ABZ

## PART 3

TABLE B

## STROKE AND CHARACTER WIDTH, SPACING AND MARGINS

## (1) Relevant dimension

1.Character width (all new registration plates from 1.9.01 except replacement of "classic" plates)
2.Character width (other registration plates)

| 3.Stroke width | 16 mm. | 14 mm. | 10 mm. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4.Space between two <br> characters within <br> group: general rule | 13 mm. | 11 mm. | 10 mm. |


| 5. Horizontal space <br> between groups | 38 mm. | 33 mm. | 30 mm. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 6.Vertical space <br> between groups | 19 mm. | 19 mm. | 13 mm. |
| 7.Minimum margin | 13 mm. | 11 mm. | 11 mm. |
| 8.Pressed/embossed <br> plates fixed before | 13 to 37 mm. | 11 to 33 mm. |  |
| 1.9 .01 and "classic" <br> plates: space permitted <br> between " $\mathrm{I} "$ or " 1 " and <br> another character |  |  |  |
| 9.Pressed/embossed <br> plates fixed before <br> 1.9.01 and "classic" <br> plates: space permitted <br> between characters if <br> both "I" or " 1 " | 13 to 60 mm. | 11 to 54 mm. |  |

## PART 1



PART 2
FONT PRESCRIBED FOR CHARACTERS 64 MILIMETRES IN HEIGHT


## Status:

Point in time view as at $31 / 12 / 2020$.

## Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Road Vehicles (Display of Registration Marks) Regulations 2001.


[^0]:    Diagram 7b

