

View to the rear

12. (1) No person shall drive on any road—

- (a) any motor vehicle, other than a heavy vehicle or commercial, unless it is equipped with a rear view mirror or mirrors, which enable the driver to have a clear and adequate reflection of traffic to the rear of the vehicle including the right and left rear of the vehicle; or
- (b) a motor cycle equipped with two wheels, unless it is equipped with at least one rear view mirror fitted at the right side and adjusted as to enable the driver to have a clear and adequate reflection of traffic to the right rear of the motor cycle; or
- (c) a heavy vehicle or commercial vehicle unless two externally fitted rear view mirrors on either side of the vehicle which are so fitted and adjusted to enable the driver to have a clear view of traffic to the rear of the vehicle.

(2) The rear view mirrors referred to in subsection (1) shall be of such size and quality as to enable the driver to have clear and adequate view and designed for use on vehicles for this specific purpose and approved by the Standards Association of Zimbabwe.

(3) Whenever the vision of the driver of a motor vehicle which is drawing a trailer or trailers on any road is impaired for any reason so that he cannot become aware of any other vehicle to his right or left rear, he shall ensure that a person who is a holder of a valid learners' licence or tractor drivers permit or driving licence is carried on one of the trailers in a position which affords an uninterrupted view to the rear and which enables him both to communicate to the driver the effect of signals given by drivers of other vehicles behind his vehicle and to receive and communicate to the drivers of those vehicles, by means of appropriate hand signals, an indication of the intention of the driver of his vehicle to stop or to change direction.

Certain motor vehicles to be able to move backwards and forwards

13. No person shall drive on any road a motor vehicle whose net mass exceeds three hundred and twenty kilograms unless the vehicle

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is capable of being driven so that it may travel both backwards and forwards.

PART III
EQUIPMENT

Tyres

14. (1) No person shall fit or drive a vehicle on any road if the vehicle's wheels being designed for use with rubber tyres, are not equipped with such tyres.

(2) No person shall drive a motor vehicle or trailer on any road—

- (a) if the vehicle or trailer is equipped with pneumatic tyres the rubber covering on any one of the tyres is so worn that the tread depth is less than one millimetre anywhere on the tyre; or
- (b) if the vehicle or trailer is equipped with pneumatic tyres which are not designed to allow regrooving, such tyres are regrooved; or
- (c) if the tyre is damaged such that the cord used in the manufacture of the tyre is exposed; or
- (d) if the tyre has a lump or bulge apparently caused by separation or partial failure of its structure, or shows any lifting of the tread rubber if any of which fouls any part under any condition.

(3) No person shall regroove any tyre whose bead diameter is less than 400 millimetres and which is not designed to allow regrooving and is clearly marked as such by the manufacturer of the tyre.

(4) No person shall drive a vehicle on any road unless the vehicle is fitted with tyres and wheels designed for and capable of at least—

- (a) carrying adequately and safely at least the maximum permissible axle mass of the vehicle; and
- (b) safely attaining the maximum speed permissible in Zimbabwe in respect of such vehicle.

(5) No person shall drive on any road a motor vehicle or trailer equipped with pneumatic tyres unless the tyres are of the appropriate size and correctly inflated in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

(6) No person shall drive on any road a vehicle if—

- (a) any tyres on any one axle of the vehicle are of a different size or type or construction; or
- (b) tyres are fitted or arranged in a manner which may interfere with or is likely to interfere with the driver's control of the vehicle or cause the driver to lose control of the vehicle in whatever way or under any driving conditions; or
- (c) any tyre fitted to the vehicle is in such a state of disrepair or in such a condition as to cause damage to the road surface or pose danger to persons on or in such vehicle.

(7) No person shall fit or drive on any road a passenger public service vehicle or a heavy vehicle if the front axle of such a vehicle is equipped with retreaded tyres.

(8) In the case of a passenger public service vehicle fitted with single tyres, on the front and rear axles, all such tyres shall not be retreaded tyres.

Red light visible from front and white light visible from rear prohibited

15. (1) Subject to the provisions of section 30, no person shall display on any vehicle a red light visible from the front of the vehicle.

(2) Subject to sections 27 and 28, no person shall drive a vehicle on any road if there is displayed on the vehicle, any white light which is visible from the vehicle's rear.

Lamps: pedal cycles

16. (1) No person shall ride a pedal cycle on any road unless a lamp is fitted to the front of the cycle, showing a white light, the intense part of the beam of which strikes the road at a distance of not less than three metres and not more than thirty metres ahead of the pedal cycle.

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(2) A pedal-cycle may, in addition to the lamp referred to in subsection (1), be fitted with one or more lamps emitting a red light directly to the rear.

Lights: animal drawn vehicles

17. No person shall drive an animal drawn vehicle on any road at night unless the vehicle is provided with—

- (a) two substantially white lights visible at a distance of seventy-five metres from the front of the vehicle; or
- (b) one substantially white light in front of the foremost animal, visible at a distance of seventy-five metres from the front of the animal.

Lamps: motor vehicles other than motorcycles

18. (1) No person shall drive any motor vehicle, other than a motor-cycle, on any road unless the vehicle is equipped with lamps which shall—

- (a) comply with the requirements of this section; and
- (b) be kept undamaged, properly secured and in an efficient operating condition at all times.

(2) A motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, shall be equipped with—

- (a) two or four headlamps, attached to the front of the vehicle; and
- (b) two white or amber side lamps, not exceeding seven watts in power, which shall be fitted in such a manner as to show the width of the vehicle to within four hundred millimeters measured from the outside edge of the widest portion of the vehicle and at the same height from ground level.

(3) If a motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, is equipped with two headlamps, the headlamps shall be—

- (a) of equal luminous intensity, and shall direct a steady beam of white light or amber light or any other light approved by S.A.Z ahead of the vehicle; and

- (b) fitted at the same height on either side of the longitudinal axis of the vehicle, equidistant from such axis, and each headlamp shall be in such position that no part of the vehicle or its fittings or fixtures extend laterally on the same side as the headlamp more than four hundred millimetres beyond the outside edge of the headlamp.

(4) If a motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, is equipped with four headlamps, the headlamps shall be—

- (a) of equal luminous intensity and shall direct a steady beam of white or amber light ahead of the vehicle; and
- (b) fitted in pairs at the same height and in a similar manner on either side of the longitudinal axis of the vehicle equidistant from such line, and the headlamps shall be in such a position that no part of the vehicle or its fittings extend laterally on the same side of any pair of headlamps more than four hundred millimetres beyond the outside edge of the lens of the outside headlamp:

Provided that vehicles equipped with headlamps fitted such that part of the vehicle or its fittings extend laterally more than four hundred millimetres from the outer headlamp and registered before 31st March, 2011, and equipped with side lamps complying in this respect may be used on a road.

(5) The headlamps of a motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, shall be—

- (a) capable of illuminating the road for a distance of at least seventy metres on main beam and fifty metres on dipped beam, directly in front of the vehicle; and
- (b) so focused and directed as to avoid dazzling the vision of the driver of any approaching vehicle on a level road; and
- (c) equipped with a control, operated by the driver, to extinguish or deflect downwards or to change the direction of the headlamp beams towards the left in such a manner as to render them incapable of dazzling the vision of the driver of any approaching vehicle.

Pass-lamps or fog-lamps

19. (1) Notwithstanding section 18, a motor vehicle may, in addition to headlamps, be equipped with not more than two lamps commonly known as “pass-lamps” or “fog-lamps” fitted in accordance with this section.

(2) If a motor vehicle is fitted with lamps referred to in subsection (1), they shall be—

- (a) fitted to the front of the vehicle at a height not exceeding six hundred millimetres above ground level measured from the centre of the lamp and equidistant from the longitudinal axis of the vehicle; and
- (b) so focused and directed as to avoid dazzling the vision of the driver of any approaching vehicle on a level road.

Lamps: motor cycles

20. (1) No person shall drive a motor cycle, whether with or without a side-car, on any road unless the motor cycle and, where appropriate the side-car, are equipped with lamps which shall—

- (a) comply with the requirements of this section; and
- (b) be kept undamaged, properly secured and in an efficient operating condition at all times.

(2) A motor cycle shall be equipped with not more than two headlamps, which shall—

- (a) direct a steady beam of white or amber light ahead of the motor cycle; and
- (b) be capable of illuminating the road for a distance of at least fifty metres directly in front of the motor cycle; and
- (c) be so focused and directed as to avoid dazzling the vision of the driver of any approaching vehicle on a level road; and
- (d) be equipped with a control, operated by the driver, to deflect downwards or to change the direction of the headlamp beam towards the left in such a manner as to render it incapable of dazzling the vision of the driver of any approaching vehicle on a level road.

(3) A side-car attached to a motor cycle shall be equipped with a lamp, not exceeding seven watts in power, so placed that no part of the side-car on the off or nearside, as the case may be, extends laterally more than four hundred millimetres beyond the outside edge of the lens of the lamp.

Tail-lamps: motor vehicles

21. (1) No person shall drive a motor vehicle, other than a motor cycle with or without a side-car, on any road unless the vehicle is equipped with at least two tail-lamps which shall—

- (a) comply with the requirements of this section; and
- (b) be kept undamaged, properly secured and in an efficient operating condition at all times:

(2) Each of the tail-lamps referred to in subsection (1) shall—

- (a) be fitted to the rear of the vehicle on either side of the vehicle's longitudinal axis and shall be fitted—
 - (i) within four hundred millimetres on either side of the vehicle measured from the outside edge of the lens to the outside edge of the widest portion of the vehicle; and
 - (ii) not more than one comma five metres and not less than three hundred millimetres above ground level measured from the centre of the lens; and
- (b) emit a red light directed to the rear of the vehicle; and
- (c) a luminosity of not less than that of a clear five or ten watt tungsten-filament lamp in respect of a light or heavy vehicle; and
- (d) in the case of a heavy vehicle have a lens with an area of not less than seven thousand eight hundred square millimetres.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1) and (2), every vehicle shall be equipped with an equal number of tail lamps on either side of the longitudinal axis of the vehicle which shall be equidistant from such axis and fitted in a similar manner.

Tail-lamps: motor cycles

22. (1) No person shall drive a motor cycle on any road unless the motor cycle is equipped with at least one tail lamp, which shall—

- (a) be attached to the rear of the motor cycle in such a manner that the centre of the lens of the tail lamp lies in the plane of the longitudinal axis of the motor cycle; and
- (b) emit a red light of at least three watts directed to the rear of the motor cycle; and
- (c) be kept undamaged, properly secured and in an efficient operating condition at all times.

(2) A side-car attached to a motor cycle shall be equipped with at least one tail lamp, so placed that no part of the side-car on the off or nearside, as the case may be, extends laterally more than four hundred millimetres beyond the outside edge of the lens of the lamp.

Provided that a motor cycle equipped with more than two wheels shall comply with the requirements of section 21(2)(a) and (b).

Tail-lamps: trailers and vehicles on tow

23. No person shall drive any vehicle drawing another vehicle unless the drawn vehicle is equipped with two tail lamps complying with the requirements of section 21.

Stop lights: motor vehicles and trailers

24. (1) No person shall drive on any road a motor vehicle, other than a motor cycle on a road unless the motor vehicle or trailer is equipped with at least two stop lights each of which shall—

- (a) consist of a lamp of not less than fifteen watts in power; and
- (b) subject to subsection (2), be fitted to the rear of the vehicle, not more than four hundred millimeters from the outer edges of the back of the vehicle and not less than three hundred millimetres and not more than one comma five metres above ground level measured to the outer edges of the lamp; and

- (c) emit a red light directly to and clearly visible from the rear of the vehicle; and
- (d) be kept clean, undamaged, properly secured and in an efficient operating condition at all times.

(2) The stop lights referred to in subsection (1) may be incorporated in the vehicle's tail lamps referred to section 21:

Provided that the stop lights shall have more light intensity than any tail lamps at all times when operated.

Stop lights: motor cycles

25. (1) No person shall drive a motor cycle on any road unless the motor cycle is equipped with at least one stop light which shall—

- (a) consist of a lamp of not less than ten watts in power; and
- (b) be attached to the rear of the motor cycle in such a manner that the centre of the lens of the stop light lies in the plan of the longitudinal axis of the motor cycle; and
- (c) emit a red light directly to and clearly visible from the rear of the vehicle; and
- (d) be kept clean, undamaged, properly secured and in an efficient operating condition at all times.

(2) A side-car attached to a motor cycle shall be equipped with at least one stop light, so placed that no part of the side-car on the off or nearside, as the case may be, extends laterally more than four hundred millimetres beyond the outside edge of the lens of the lamp:

Provided that a motor cycle equipped with more than two wheels shall comply with the requirements of section 25.

Light: rear registration plate

26. (1) No person shall drive a motor vehicle, motor cycle or a trailer on any road unless the motor vehicle, motor cycle or trailer is equipped with at least one lamp capable of illuminating the rear registration plate of the motor vehicle, motor cycle or trailer with a white light and complying with the requirements of this section.

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- (2) The lamp or lamps referred to in subsection (1) shall be—
- (a) so arranged that none of the rays from the lamp or lamps, except those reflected from the registration plate, are directed to the rear of the motor vehicle or trailer; and
 - (b) of at least five watts in power and capable of illuminating every figure and letter on the registration plate so that they are visible from a distance of at least twenty metres; and
 - (c) kept clean, undamaged and properly secured and in an efficient operating condition at all times.

Reversing-lamps

27. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3) a motor vehicle shall be equipped with not more than two reversing lamps illuminating the road to the rear of the vehicle.

- (2) The reversing lamp referred to in subsection (1) shall—
- (a) have power output of not less than 15 watts;
 - (b) no light shall be emitted except when the vehicle is engaged in reverse gear and shall be maintained so as to operate in this manner at all times;
 - (c) be kept clean, undamaged and properly secured and in an efficient operating condition at all times.

Spot lights

28. (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, a motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two spot lights.

- (2) A spot light fitted in terms of subsection (1) shall be—
- (a) fitted at the height lower than that of the lamps in section 18;
 - (b) fitted at the front of the vehicle and so focused as to avoid dazzling the vision of the driver of an oncoming vehicle on a level road.
- (3) No person shall—

- (a) drive a motor vehicle on any road if the vehicle is fitted with more than two spot lights; and
- (b) except in the case of an emergency, use any spot light on any road in substitution of any lamp mentioned in section 18; and
- (c) use any spot light fitted to a motor vehicle—
 - (i) in such a manner as to interfere with the vision of any person on a road; or
 - (ii) in such a manner as to cause annoyance to any person, whether on a road or not.

(4) For the purpose of this section a spot light fitted to a motor vehicle and used solely for the purposes of hunting, searching and night repair work may be fitted above the lamps referred to in section 18 and shall be mounted in such a manner that they are easily detachable when not in use.

Beacon lights

29. (1) Except as provided in this section, no person shall drive a motor vehicle on any road if the vehicle is equipped with a beacon light.

(2) An ambulance or ambulance backup vehicle, a fire-engine or a motor vehicle used solely for fire brigade or fire-fighting purposes may be equipped with a red beacon light.

(3) A motor vehicle—

- (a) used by or for the purposes of the Police Force or Military Police of the Zimbabwe National Army; or
- (b) used for escorting the vehicle in which the President or a person authorized by the President is travelling may be equipped with a blue beacon light.

(4) A motor vehicle used for the purpose of traffic law enforcement by a Government Vehicle Inspecting Officer/Driving Examiner may be equipped with an amber beacon light.

(5) The following motor vehicles shall be equipped with an amber beacon light—

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- (a) a motor vehicle incorporating a crane, winch or similar device for recovering or towing disabled vehicles;
 - (b) a motor vehicle escorting a vehicle carrying an abnormal load;
 - (c) a motor vehicle carrying an abnormal load;
 - (d) a motor vehicle other than that referred to in paragraph (a) while towing a disabled vehicle at night.
- (6) A person who uses a motor vehicle referred to in—
- (a) paragraph (a) of subsection 5 to tow another vehicle on a road; or
 - (b) paragraph (b) and (c) of subsection 5;

shall ensure that the motor vehicle is equipped with an amber beacon light and that the beacon light is in operation while the motor vehicle is towing or, as the case may be, escorting a vehicle carrying an abnormal load.

(7) A person who drives a motor vehicle referred to subsection (5) shall bring the beacon light on his motor vehicle into operation immediately—

- (a) he arrives at the place where the disabled vehicle is located; or
- (b) he begins escorting a vehicle carrying an abnormal load; or
- (c) embarks on a journey carrying an abnormal load;

shall ensure that it remains in operation during the recovery of the disabled vehicle or escorting of the vehicle carrying an abnormal load or delivery of the abnormal load:

(8) except in the circumstances prescribed in subsection (6) and (7), no person shall drive a motor vehicle referred to in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subsection (5) on any roads while the vehicle's beacon light is in operation:

(9) no person shall drive on any road a motor vehicle permitted to be equipped with a beacon light in terms of this section unless

the beacon light has a flashing speed of not less than sixty or more than one hundred and fifty flashes per minute.

(10) No person shall drive on any road a motor vehicle equipped with a lamp capable of being confused with a beacon light, whatever is colour and whether or not it emits a flashing light.

Height and side marker lamps

30. (1) No person shall drive a heavy vehicle on any road unless the vehicle is fitted with height lamps complying with the requirements of subsection (2).

(2) Height lamps referred to in subsection (1) shall—

- (a) be fitted to the highest point of the vehicle at the front and rear; and
- (b) be fitted so as to be clearly visible from the front or rear of the vehicle as the case may be not be less than 2 in front and rear; and
- (c) be not more than seven watts in power; and
- (d) be kept undamaged properly secured and in efficient working condition at all times; and
- (e) emit light of any colour other than red if visible from the front and at the rear other than white if visible from the rear.

(3) A heavy vehicle may be fitted with side marker lamps complying with the requirements of subsection (4).

(4) Side marker lamps referred to in subsection (3) shall—

- (a) emit light of any colour other than red in front and other than white at the rear; and
- (b) be so placed that—
 - (i) there is a light at each end of the body of the vehicle or combination of vehicles; and
 - (ii) the distance between successive lamps is not more than four metres; and

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- (iii) they are not less than three hundred millimetres from the ground level; and
- (iv) they face directly outwards from the side to which they are fitted at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and show amber light:

Lamps to emit diffused light

31. Any person who drives a vehicle on any road shall ensure that every lamp fitted onto the vehicle, other than—

- (a) the headlamps, in the case of a motor vehicle; or
- (b) the front lamp, in the case of a pedal cycle; or
- (c) any spotlight, pass-lamp, reversing lamp or fog lamp emits diffused light when in operation on a road.

Retro reflector: general requirements

32. (1) Except as otherwise provided in these regulations, every retro reflector required to be fitted to a vehicle and pedal cycle in terms of these regulations shall—

- (a) be of the honeycomb grade (high intensity grade) or diamond grade and perform so as to meet the specifications listed in the chromaticity chart in the Third Schedule; and
- (b) be circular, rectangular or triangular in shape; and
- (c) if circular, have a diameter of at least sixty millimetres or, if not circular, have an area of not less than three thousand square millimeters and a height of at least fifty millimetres; and
- (d) have a mark or marks certifying that such reflective material meets the specifications of the Third Schedule, or any other standard equivalent to or better than that specified in the Third Schedule and acceptable to the Standards Association of Zimbabwe.

(2) No retro reflector or reflective material required to be fixed in accordance with these regulations shall incorporate any word,

figure or symbol provided that a retro reflector may incorporate the manufacturer's symbols, figures and standard markings.

(3) Every retro reflector required to be fitted to a vehicle or load in terms of these regulations shall—

- (a) be not lower than 300 millimetres and not higher than 1.2 metres from the ground level measured to the centre of the retro reflector:

Provided that if, owing to the structure of the vehicle, it is impossible to fit the retro reflectors on the sides, front or rear thereof of such vehicle at the prescribed height the retro reflector shall be fitted as near as possible to such height;

- (b) be in a vertical position and face squarely to the front, rear or sides in respect of white, red and amber retro reflectors respectively.

(4) No person shall drive on a road any vehicle while displaying to the—

- (a) front thereof a retro reflector which is not a white reflector;
- (b) back thereof a retro reflector which is not a red reflector;
- (c) side thereof a retro reflector which is not an amber reflector:

Provided that the provisions of these regulations shall not apply in respect of—

- (i) a registration plate, pedals or pedal arms of a pedal cycle which may be equipped with amber retro reflectors;
- (ii) a warning sign fitted in terms of section 34 subsection (2) and (3) and section 37.

(5) Where an advert is fixed onto a vehicle and is partially or wholly comprised of reflective material such reflective material shall have less reflectivity than that of the honeycomb grade of retro reflectors.

Retro reflectors: pedal cycles

33. (1) No person shall ride a pedal cycle on any road unless—

- (a) subject to subsection (3), in the case of a pedal cycle with one rear wheel, the cycle is equipped with a rear mudguard, the rear end of which is visible from the rear, and to which there is fixed a red retro reflector complying with the requirements of section 32 and so positioned that the lower edge of the reflector and the lower edge of the mudguard correspond;
- (b) in the case of a pedal cycle with more than two wheels, it is equipped with—
 - (i) two white retro reflectors fixed to the front of the cycle; and
 - (ii) two red retro reflectors fixed to the rear of any goods container forming part of or attached to, the cycle; and
 - (iii) each such retro reflector referred to in subparagraph (i) and (ii) is so placed that no part of the goods container extends laterally more than two hundred and twenty millimetres beyond the retro reflector, measured from the outer edge of the retro reflector.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of subsection (1), a pedal cycle without a rear mudguard may be ridden on a road if a red retro reflector complying with the requirements of section 32 is fitted to left and right of the rear fork, midway between the wheel hub and the highest point of the fork or centrally on the frame below the saddle.

(3) Additional amber retro reflectors may be fitted on the pedals or to the spokes of the wheels of any pedal cycle.

(4) No person shall ride a pedal cycle on any road at night without retro reflective material on his clothing visible from a distance of at least fifty metres when illuminated by two headlamps complying with the requirements of subsection (3) of section 18 when not deflected downwards.