

Alterations and Modifications to Vehicles

DO's and DON'Ts

Below is a list of Do's & Don'ts intended as a guide to keep your vehicle in a safe and reliable condition.

If you decide to alter or modify your vehicle, please keep in mind the following points:-

- a) Always consult the vehicle manufacturer or agent for their advice/ endorsement, before carrying out any alterations, failure to do so may nullify any warranty.
- b) Be fully aware of any adverse safety factors that may arise through modifications.
- c) Consult your Insurance Company before making any alterations to your vehicle, failure to do so may void your insurance cover and leave you liable for expensive litigation
- d) Any alteration or modification that breaches regulations may render you liable to prosecution as a result of Police enforcement action.

Do's & Don'ts

Tyres

DO: Check tyre pressures regularly
Check for cuts & damage
Ensure tread depth is sufficient (1mm minimum)

DO NOT: Mix cross-ply & radial tyres
Fit low profile tyres / wide wheels without taking advice from the vehicle agent
Allow tyres to protrude beyond the body-work
Use unevenly or excessively worn tyres

Window Glass

DO: Keep glass clean & free from stickers or any article which obstructs vision
Replace the windscreen if cracked, damaged or scratched to a level that would impair the driver's field of view

DO NOT: Add reflective material or film to the glass which affects the light transmission, otherwise r28 (2) of Road Traffic (Construction and Maintenance of Vehicles) Regulation is violated).¹

Exhaust

DO: Check the exhaust for leaks & security or excessive noise

DO NOT: Allow the exhaust to protrude excessively beyond the bodywork

DO NOT: Alter the exhaust to create more noise emission

Emissions

DO: Keep your engine properly tuned & serviced at recommended intervals
Have the emission level checked before the annual inspections
Change the air filter regularly

DO NOT: Remove the catalytic convertor or replace with a Competition one. Disconnect the oxygen sensor
Change the engine control unit (Engine Management Chip)
Remove the fuel filler restrictor

Headlamps

- DO: Remember Headlamps must be white or yellow coloured and sidelamps should be white coloured.
- DO NOT: (1) Replace the original filament bulb with HID light tube, or
(2) Replace the original filament bulb with filament bulb of higher ratings.

Side Lamps, Stop Lamps & Indicators

- DO: If you wish to replace your filament lamps (side lamps, stop lamps and direction indicators) with lamps of LED light source, choose only those that have been approved by TD or have an ECE marking inscribed on them, **and** are constructed to fit your vehicle.
- DO NOT: Fit LED lamp not approved by TD **or**, has no ECE marking inscribed on the LED lamp, **or** not constructed to fit your vehicle.

Brakes

- DO: Contact your vehicle repairer if your footbrake or parking brake travel is more than usual, adjustment or brake pad/lining replacement may be required Follow manufacturers/agents advice concerning brake servicing.
- DO NOT: Drive your vehicle if you suspect the brakes are defective

Attachments & Protrusions

- DO NOT: Add any mascot or fitting (i.e. bull bar) to the vehicle which may cause injury to other road-users

Modifications

- DO: Seek advice from the vehicle agent and manufacturers before modifying any part of your vehicle
- DO NOT: Alter/modify your vehicle without following advice from the agent and manufacturers. It may affect vehicle safety and the manufacturers/agents warranty protection.

If you decide that you would like to carry out a notifiable alteration, please read the “Guide to Notifiable Alteration – Motor Vehicle”.

¹ For details, please refer to the TD guidelines “Latest Change in Vehicle Glass Requirements of Transport Department” at web address: http://www.td.gov.hk/FileManager/EN/Content_1178/glass.pdf