Requirements for Daytime Running Lamps

This notice is intended to provide guidance on the requirements for daytime running lamps (DRL).

Definition

A daytime running lamp means a lamp emitting white light for a vehicle facing in a forward direction used to make the vehicle more easily visible when it is driven during daytime. DRLs, if installed improperly, may dazzle other road users and the vehicle will be considered as not roadworthy.

Requirements

Transport Department will accept DRLs fitted on private cars, taxis, buses, light buses, goods vehicles and special purpose vehicles, only if they

i. comply with requirements of UNECE Regulation 87 and appropriate mark can be located on the DRLs (eg. $E_4^{87R00}$ or $E_{11}^{RL}$)

ii. are installed according to manufacturer’s instructions and relevant requirements in UNECE Regulation 48 (for reference see Annex)

iii. do not dazzle other road users

Vehicles fitted with DRLs which do not meet the above requirements are treated as not roadworthy and may fail in the vehicle examination. For any enquiries, please contact our Senior Motor Vehicle Examiner at Telephone: 2753 9130.

Transport Department
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Annex

Installation requirements for Daytime Running Lamps

1. Number
   Two.

2. Position (Please refer to Figure 1)
   (1) In width—
       (a) Distance from vehicle side : not more than 400 mm
       (b) Separation distance between a pair of lamps : not less than 600 mm
       (c) If the overall width of the vehicle concerned does not exceed 1300 mm, the value in paragraph (b) may be reduced to 400 mm.
   (2) In height—
       (a) Highest height above the ground : not higher than the headlamp except originally fitted by the vehicle manufacturer
       (b) Lowest height above the ground : not less than 250 mm
   (3) In length—
       At the front of the vehicle.

3. Angles of geometric visibility (Please refer to Figure 2)
   (1) Horizontal angles : 20° inwards and 20° outwards
   (2) Vertical angles : 10° upwards and 10° downwards

4. Orientation
   (1) Towards the front.
   (2) The area of the apparent surface in the direction of the axis of reference of the lamp must be not less than 25 cm² and not more than 200 cm².

5. Other requirements
   (1) The daytime running lamp must provide sufficient light output to make the vehicle more easily seen during the daytime.
   (2) The daytime running lamp must be correctly aligned such that the light emitted does not cause discomfort to the driver either directly or indirectly through the rear-view mirrors and/or other reflecting surfaces of the vehicle.
   (3) The daytime running lamp must not operate when a front fog lamp or a headlamp is in use.
Figure 1
Dimensional Limits on DRLs

Figure 2
Angles of Geometric Visibility

Horizontal Angles:

Vertical Angles: