## 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(1), 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.
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(2), 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.
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.
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## 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 $145(3)$ 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.
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.
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[^0]:    (1) Published by the British Standards Institution, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL. The ISBN number is 058028985 0 . Copies may be obtained by post from BSI Customer Services, Sales Department, at the above address or from a BSI sales outlet.
    (2) 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.

[^1]:    (3) 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.

