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ROAD TRAFFIC

The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016

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THE TRAFFIC SIGNS REGULATIONS AND GENERAL DIRECTIONS 2016

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4. The central part of the road marking must not project...
5. (1) The overall shape and size of the road marking,...
6. The height of the marking above the surface of the...
7. (1) Subject to sub paragraph (2), where the sign is...
8. The sign need not not be illuminated.
9. The road marking must be reflectorised where indicating the boundary...
10. (1) When the road marking is used, studs must also...
11. (1) When the marking is used, studs must also be...
12. (1) When the marking is used, studs may also be...
13. The road marking must be reflectorised.
14. The road marking may, except at a roundabout, be varied...
15. The road marking may be varied as follows—
16. The road marking may be varied as follows—

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7. The sign must only be placed in conjunction with a...
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9. The road marking must not be placed on an area...
10. The sign must only be placed in combination with the...
11. The sign must only be placed in combination with the...
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4. The symbol, or all symbols together, may be reversed in...
5. (1) An arrow pointing horizontally to the left or to...
6. Symbols and arrows indicating the road layout may be varied....
7. The blue panel need not extend to the edge of...
8. The name of the tunnel and the indication of the...
9. The legend “Except buses” may be omitted or varied to...
10. The time period may be varied in accordance with Part...
11. The local bus symbol may be varied to the bus...
12. The permitted variants are— (a) the arrow and cycle symbol...
13. “Authorised vehicles” and symbols, other than the bus symbol, may...
14. The continuous line and the broken line may be varied...
15. The words “LANE” and “LANES” may be varied to “TRACK”....
16. The number of taxis may be varied as appropriate and...
17. The time period may be omitted or varied in accordance...
18. (1) The white area is to be filled with maps...
19. The logo of a local tourist organisation may be added...
20. The legend “No.1” may be varied to another number, a...
21. (1) The legend may be omitted or varied to “Speed...
22. “not 24 hrs” may be omitted.
23. The name or location of the crossing in the top...
24. Place names, street names or the name of a geographical...
25. (1) Identification numbers of routes— (a) may be varied and...
26. When placed on a primary route the sign must be...
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29. The reference or identification number and any route number may...
30. Letters, numerals and other characters incorporated into the sign need...
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36. (1) The place name may be varied.
37. (1) The place name may be varied.
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43. The notch may be omitted from the raised rib and...
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5. The sign need not be illuminated.
6. The parts of the sign coloured orange and white must...
7. The marking must be reflectorised.
8. Studs incorporating— (a) reflectors; (b) retroreflecting material;
9. Studs incorporating— (a) reflectors; (b) retroreflecting material;
10. The light reflected by the reflectors or retroreflecting material, or...
11. The light reflected by the reflectors or reflecting material, or...
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PART 2 — Sign background for directional signs for motorways, primary routes, non-primary routes, cyclists and pedestrians

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5. (1) An appropriate background for a symbol provided for in...
6. An appropriate background of the type provided for at item...
7. An appropriate background of the type provided for at item...
8. An appropriate background of the type provided for at item...
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5. The signs in Part 17 are to be used for...
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PART 15 — Symbols indicating types of tourist destinations and leisure facilities in England or Wales

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4. The prohibition specified in column 2 at item 33 of...
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5. The symbol or panel shown by the diagram in column...
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3. (1) This paragraph applies to a legend that is used...
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PART 28 — Other directional signs
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PART 6 — Additional Temporary Signs

PART 7 — Provisions applying to signs in Part 6
1. Section 36 of the 1988 Act applies to the sign....
2. The sign must be of the size, colour and type...
3. (1) The sign must be a flexible sheet on which...
4. (1) The pyramid must consist of three visible sides, each...
5. (1) The pyramid must consist of three visible sides, each...
6. (1) The triangle must be legibly and permanently marked with...
7. (1) The triangle must be legibly and permanently marked with...
8. The sign must have, on its reverse, a date by...
9. The yellow may be fluorescent.
10. The sign need not be illuminated.
11. A person who is in charge of, or accompanies, an...
12. A person that, but for this paragraph, is not authorised...

PART 8 — Requirements applying to cones, cylinders and delineators
1. A cone is to consist of a conically shaped device—...
2. A cylinder is to consist of a cylindrically shaped device...
3. A delineator is to consist of a flat device—
4. The part of a cone, cylinder or delineator coloured white...
5. Information about the ownership of a cone, cylinder or delineator...
6. Information about the manufacture of a cone, cylinder or delineator...
7. There may be mounted on top of a cone a...
8. In relation to each aspect of performance specified in column...

PART 9 — Other temporary signs
1. A sign that is not otherwise provided for by these...
2. A sign referred to in paragraph 1 must be of...
3. The sign must be— (a) rectangular but with the corners...
4. The sign must be of a size appropriate to the...
5. (1) The sign may incorporate— (a) letters;
6. Letters, numerals or other characters must not have an x-height...
7. (1) The background of the sign must be yellow, white...
8. (1) This paragraph applies if the sign—
9. (1) This paragraph applies if the sign conveys—
10. A variable message sign may have a black background and,...
11. A variable message sign may have a yellow background and...
12. If a route symbol provided for in the sign table...
13. (1) A sign provided for in this Part need not...
14. Schedule 13 General Direction 16 applies to a sign provided...

PART 10 — Amber and blue light beacons
1. An amber or blue light beacon conveys the warning that...
2. The beacon must comply with the requirements of paragraphs 3...
3. The peak intensity of light emitted by the lens or...
4. Each lens must be of such a shape and size...
5. The rate of flashing must not be less than 55...
6. General Directions 17 and 19 of the Schedule 13 General...
7. General Directions 18 and 19 of the Schedule 13 General...

PART 11 — Warning lights

1. A lamp for conveying to traffic the limits of a...
2. The height of the centre of each lens of the...
3. The warning light must— (a) be powered separately from any...
4. Subject to paragraphs 5 and 6, the whole of the...
5. In relation to each aspect of performance specified in column...
6. The external surface of the parts of the warning light...
7. A person that, but for this paragraph, is not authorised...
8. General Direction 15 of the Schedule 13 General Directions applies...

PART 12 — The Schedule 13 General Directions

1. The sign must not be placed unless in combination with...
2. The sign may only be retained in place for so...
3. The sign may remain in place after the completion of...
4. The sign may only be placed in connection with the...
5. (1) The sign may only be placed to indicate the...
6. (1) The sign may be attached to the front or...
7. The sign may be attached on the front or rear...
8. (1) The back of a sign must be coloured grey,..
9. (1) The sign may only be placed—
10. The sign may only be placed by a constable in...
11. The sign must not remain in place after the end...
12. The sign— (a) may only be placed in connection with...
13. The sign may only be placed— (a) to indicate the...
14. (1) The sign may only be placed in connection with...
15. (1) The sign may only be placed in connection with...
16. (1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) to (4), the sign may...
17. An amber light beacon may only be placed in combination...
18. A blue light beacon may only be placed—
19. Where an amber or blue light beacon or a warning...

SCHEDULE 14 — Signs for traffic control by light signals, signs for crossings, and
signs for lane control

PART 1 — Provisions applying to signs in Parts 2 and 3

1. General provision about signs provided for in this Schedule
2. Application of the Part 3 table to certain traffic light signs provided for in
the Part 2 table
3. Light signals to be ES compliant
4. Traffic light signals
5. (1) This paragraph applies to traffic light signals.
6. Tramcars
7. The significance of the light signal is that—
8. Light signals at level crossings, swing or lifting bridges, airfields and
premises used by emergency vehicles
9. Red and green pedestrian, equestrian and cyclist symbols
10. Illumination of “WAIT”
11. School crossing places
12. Cattle crossings
13. Pedestrians crossing at level crossings
14. Zig-zag lines in a signal-controlled crossing facility controlled area
15. (1) Without prejudice to paragraph 14, a zig-zag line in...
16. Light signals above the carriageway
17. Beacons displayed with upright signs relating to the operation of light signals
18. Stripes at Zebra and Parallel crossings
19. Significance of give-way markings at Zebra crossings
20. Significance of zig-zag lines at Zebra crossings
21. Significance of stripes and other road markings at Parallel crossings and in Parallel controlled areas
22. (1) The give-way line marking provided for at item 54...
23. (1) Without prejudice to paragraph 24, the zig-zag lines provided...
24. (1) A zig-zag line also conveys the requirement that whilst...
25. General provision about crossings placed across cycle tracks
26. School crossing patrol signs
27. Mirror at traffic signals warning of the presence of cyclists
28. Automatic bollards
29. Refuge indicator lamps
30. Meaning of “stop line”
31. Primary and secondary signals
   PART 2 — Light signals, signs and road markings for the control of traffic
   PART 3 — Green arrow, tram and cycle signals
   PART 4 — Requirements applying to signs in Parts 2 and 3
   1. Section 36 of the 1988 Act applies to the sign....
   2. The sign is specified for the purposes of column 5...
   3. The dimension of 200 mm referred to in the diagram...
   4. The stop line must be reflectorised unless paragraph 5 applies....
   5. If the stop line is placed with zig-zag lines the...
   6. The sign comprises the stop (item 64) and go (item...
   7. No retroreflecting material must be applied to that part of...
   8. Where the sign is erected on a road subject to...
   9. The sign must be illuminated throughout the hours of darkness...
   10. The sign must be illuminated by means of internal lighting...
   11. (1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3), the parts of...
   12. (1) The illumination of the roundel must be in accordance...
   13. (1) A globe must be internally illuminated by a flashing...
   14. The sign must only be illuminated when the warning conveyed...
   PART 5 — Movement at section 25 crossings
   1. The driver of a vehicle must not cause the vehicle...
   2. A pedestrian must not remain on the carriageway within the...
   3. Subject to paragraph 4, the driver of a vehicle must...
   4. (1) The prohibition in paragraph 3 does not apply to—...
   5. When vehicular light signals at a Puffin crossing are displaying...
   6. (1) Whilst any motor vehicle (“the approaching vehicle”) or any...
   7. (1) Every pedestrian who is on the carriageway within the...
   PART 6 — The Schedule 14 General Directions
   1. In these General Directions a reference to an item is...
   2. (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), the traffic light signals provided...
   3. (1) This paragraph applies where— (a) one or more of...
   4. The traffic light signals may be placed to face traffic...
   5. (1) The light signals may only be placed if they...
   6. (1) A traffic authority may, pursuant to section 65(1) of...
   7. The sign may only be placed in conjunction with a...
   8. The sign may only be placed in conjunction with the...
   9. The light signal may only be placed at or near...
   10. The light signals may only be placed in conjunction with...
11. The sign may only be placed in conjunction with the...
12. The sign may only be placed in conjunction with the...
13. The light signals may only be placed in conjunction with—...
14. The light signals may only be placed in conjunction with...
15. The light signals may only be placed in conjunction with...
16. The sign may only be placed in conjunction with the...
17. The light signals may only be placed in conjunction with—...
18. The light signals may only be placed in conjunction with...
19. The light signals may only be placed in conjunction with...
20. The sign may only be placed in conjunction with the...
21. The light signals may only be placed in conjunction with—...
22. The light signals may only be placed in conjunction with...
23. The light signals may only be placed in conjunction with...
24. The light signals may only be placed when the signs...
25. The light signals may only be placed in conjunction with...
26. The sign may only be placed in conjunction with the...
27. The sign may only be placed in conjunction with the...
28. The signs may only be placed to indicate the effect...
29. The sign may only be placed in conjunction with the...
30. The sign may only be placed in conjunction with the...
31. (1) The road marking may only be placed in conjunction...
32. The road marking may only be placed—
33. The road marking may only be placed—
34. (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the road marking may only...
35. The road marking may only be placed in conjunction with...
36. The signs may only be placed —
37. The sign may only be placed in connection with the...
38. The post provided for the mounting of the sign must...
39. The sign— (a) may only be placed in connection with...
40. The sign may only be placed in conjunction with—
41. (1) Zig-zag lines must be placed on the approaches to...
42. (1) A traffic authority may, pursuant to section 65(1) of...
43. (1) The placing of light signals and other signs at...
44. The indicator may only be placed in conjunction with the...
45. (1) This general direction applies where the lamp is specially...
46. (1) Equipment used in connection with the signals (including the...

SCHEDULE 15 — Matrix signs and light signals for the control of moving traffic on motorways and dual carriageway roads

PART 1 — Provisions applying to signs in Part 2

1. (1) Information or a warning, requirement, restriction or prohibition of...
2. The warning for the purposes of the description in column...
3. (1) The significance of a light signal provided for at...
4. Subject to paragraph 5, the significance of a light signal...
5. The prohibitions in paragraphs 3 and 4 do not apply...
6. For the purposes of this Schedule a matrix sign which...
7. The significance of a number in column 5 of an...
8. The significance of a number in column 6 of an...

PART 2 — Matrix signs and light signals for motorways and all-purpose dual carriageway roads

PART 3 — Permitted variants in respect of the signs shown in Part 2

1. The numerals may be varied.
2. The arrow may point downwards to the left.
3. The symbol may be reversed where appropriate.
4. The number of arrows, or symbols indicating which lanes are...
5. “50” may be varied to any of the legends or...
6. “50” may be varied to any of the legends or...
7. An identification number may be added to the backing board...
8. The number of red crosses may be varied.
9. Arrow may point upwards to the left.
10. The colour of the lamps referred to in paragraph 4...
11. (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where the sign provided for at...

PART 4 — Provisions applying to signs in Part 2

1. The legend or symbol shown on the matrix sign must...
2. The flashing amber lamps provided for at item 11 for...
3. The flashing amber lamps provided for at item 12 of...
4. The sign may display four lamps of the size, colour...
5. In operation each lamp must show an intermittent amber light...
6. The sign must— (a) be accompanied by four red lamps...
7. (1) Section 36 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 applies...

PART 5 — The Schedule 15 General Directions

1. (1) The sign may only be placed—
2. The sign must only be displayed over an actively managed...

SCHEDULE 16 — Variable message signs

PART 1 — Preliminary

1. (1) A variable message sign must be of a size...
2. (1) In a legend provided for in this Schedule the...

PART 2 — Signs automatically activated by vehicular traffic

3. One of the following legends may be displayed on a...

PART 3 — Legends giving warnings of adverse weather or other temporary hazards or incidents

4. (1) A legend provided for in sub-paragraph (2) may be...

PART 4 — Legends indicating location of temporary hazard or incident

5. One of the following legends may be used on a...

PART 5 — Additional information

6. (1) A legend provided for in sub-paragraph (2) may be...

PART 6 — Other legends

7. (1) The following legends may be displayed on a variable...

PART 7 — Performance classes

SCHEDULE 17 — Letters, numeral and other characters

PART 1 — Letters, numerals and other characters for use with a black, blue, brown, dark green, green or red background

PART 2 — Letters, numerals and other characters for use with an orange, white or yellow background

PART 3 — Letters, numerals and other characters for motorway route numbers on blue backgrounds

PART 4 — Letters, numerals and other characters for route numbers on temporary motorway signs with yellow backgrounds)

PART 5 — Letters, numerals and other characters for use on variable message signs where the characters shown in parts 1, 2, 3 and 4 cannot be used because of the method of construction or operation of the sign

PART 6 — Proportions and forms of letters, numerals and other characters for use in road markings where the character height is between 280 mm and 700 mm (inclusive)
PART 7 — Letters, numerals and other characters for use in road markings
where the character height is 1600 mm (or 705 mm or 1035 mm in accordance with regulation 5(15))

PART 8 — Letters, numerals and other characters for use in road markings
where the character height is 2800 mm

PART 9 — Scottish Gaelic letters, numerals and other characters for use on a
brown or dark green background

PART 10 — Scottish Gaelic letters, numerals and other characters for use on a
white background

SCHEDULE 18 — Permitted Expressions Of Time, Distance and Parking Restrictions

PART 1 — Permitted expressions of time periods, days and dates
1. (1) A reference to a time, or to times, of...
2. A reference to a day, or to days, may be...
3. A reference to a month, or to months, may be...
4. A reference to a year, or to years, may be...
“Day”, “day”...
6. The expressions permitted by paragraph 1, 2, 3 or 4...
7. The expressions permitted by paragraph 1, 2, 3 or 4...

PART 2 — Permitted expressions for parking restriction signs
1. A restriction in relation to parking may be shown as,...

PART 3 — Permitted expressions of distance
1. Paragraphs 2 to 6 are subject to paragraph 7.
2. Where “10” is used as an example numeral, a distance...
3. Yards must be expressed as the numeral followed by “yards”...
4. A distance of 3 miles or more must be expressed...
5. A distance of ½ mile or more but less than...
6. A distance of less than ½ mile must be expressed—...
7. Where— (a) a sign provided for in Schedule 12 includes...

SCHEDULE 19 — Revocations

PART 1 — Regulations Revoked
PART 2 — General Directions Revoked

Explanatory Note