



WINDOW TINTING ON VEHICLES

The window tinting standards for vehicles registered in South Australia will be amended providing motorists and industry with a uniform approach to window tinting across Australia.

The requirements effective from 1 January 2010 are:

Front windscreen

The front windscreen of a vehicle must have a luminous transmittance (or visible light transmission) of at least:

75% for a motor vehicle built after 1971;

70% for any other vehicle.

The windscreen must not be coated in a way that reduces its luminous transmittance in any part of the top of the windscreen wipers' sweep or the upper 10% of the windscreen; whichever is the lesser.

Driver and front passenger windows

The driver and front passenger windows must have a luminous transmittance of at least 35% (reduced from 70%).

Windows behind the driver's seat

The windows behind the driver's seat must have a luminous transmittance of at least 35% unless they are interior windows.

Interior windows

Windows in interior partitions must have a luminous transmittance of at least 70%.

Windows tinted after manufacture

Windows tinted after manufacture must not have a reflectance value of more than 10%. To check the reflectance value of your windows after tinting, consult the installer.

It is recommended that the installer undertakes a test to ensure that the luminous transmittance and reflectance value are above acceptable limits.

About the standards

Motor vehicles that do not comply with the standards place the driver, owner and operator at risk of committing an offence.

The luminous transmittance means the amount of light that can pass through a window as a percentage of the amount that would pass if there was no window in place.

The reflectance value means the amount of light that is reflected by the window.

The standards are specified in the Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Rules 1999 and apply to vehicles registered in South Australia.

How to tell if a window has been body tinted

You can tell if windows have been manufactured with a tint in the material (known as 'body tinted') by placing a white card behind the window. If the card shows a colouring in the window, it has been body tinted.

Words such as "Antisun" on the Standards marking in the glass also show it to be body tinted and some manufacturers state the luminous transmittance of the windows.

Further information

Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure

Vehicle Services
Kateena Street, Regency Park
PO Box 1 Walkerville SA 5081

Telephone: 1300 882 248
Facsimile: (08) 8348 9533
Internet: www.dtei.sa.gov.au

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