

Rear windows get darker

Tasmanian auto tinters can now legally apply film to achieve a 20% VLT to the rear windows in light motor vehicles subject to two external rear vision mirrors fitted. This is in line with national model law. WFAANZ was alerted to the regulation amendment by the Road User Services Division, Department of State Growth, in November 2018.

This document is a summary only. For the full regulations please refer to the Tasmanian Government's *Vehicle and Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Regulations 2014*, Version current from 14 November 2018 to date, Part 5 General Safety Requirements, section 47 Window Tinting. A link to this document can be found on the WFAANZ website. WFAANZ advises all tinters review this information to fully understand the new requirements.

Getting it clear

Windscreen: must not be darker than 70% VLT, and it cannot be coated/tinted in a way that 'reduces its luminous transmittance'. This means that window film cannot be used on the greater part of the windscreen, even if it's clear. Film can be applied to the area above the highest point of the windscreen wiper arc; or the upper 10% of the windscreen.

Windows in front of the B pillar: may have aftermarket window film installed to achieve 35% VLT.

Windows behind the B pillar: may have aftermarket window film installed to achieve 20% VLT if the vehicle has at least one compliant rear vision mirror on each side.

Goods vehicle: rear glazing of a goods vehicle may be coated to achieve a luminous transmittance of up to 0% subject to two external rear vision mirrors fitted.

Reflectance: glazing with applied window film must not have a reflectance of more than 10%.

Tolerance: a +/- 5% tolerance is acceptable when a light meter is used to read the VLT, to account for potential light meter measuring inaccuracy.

KEEP IN MIND

- The new 20% VLT allowance applies to the windows **behind** the driver only, and is only applicable if the vehicle has rear vision mirrors on each side
- Windows next to or in front of the driver must still adhere to a 35% VLT limit
- The 20% and 35% VLT allowances cover the combination of glass **and** film. So if window film is applied to privacy glass behind the driver, for example, the combination of glass and film cannot be any darker than 20% VLT. Installers must be aware of the VLT of the privacy glass **before** they apply film, to ensure the combination will not exceed the limit
- The regulation prohibiting the use of window film (even clear window film) on the greater part of the windscreen remains unchanged
- Film with a reflectance of more than 10% must not be used on any windscreen or window



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