Texas Department of Public Safety

VEHICLE INSPECTIONS

Produced by Texas Department of Public Safety Regulatory Services Division

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GOAL

Students will identify the key elements and pass/fail criteria of Vehicle Safety Inspections in order to become Licensed Vehicle Inspectors in the state of Texas.
OBJECTIVES

- Identify the five-step Vehicle Safety Inspection sequence
- Identify the required components for Safety Inspections
- Demonstrate mastery of content by scoring 80% or better on written examination in order to become a Licensed Vehicle Inspector
INSPECTOR INFORMATION

▪ The following training information can be found on the web at
  https://www.dps.texas.gov

▪ Or Air Check Texas
  https://airchecktexas.org/
https://www.dps.texas.gov

Inspections must be 90 days or less from registration expiration. Click for update...

Vehicle Inspection

Station Qualifications
Inspector Qualifications
Vehicle Inspection Certification

Operations & Training Manual for Official VI Stations
Operations & Training Manual for Official VI Emissions Stations

Motorists

Inspections

- Two Steps, One Sticker
- Cost of Inspection
- Find an Inspection Station
- Download your Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR)
- Inspection Criteria
- Emission Inspection
- Drive a Clean Machine
- Waivers and Time Extensions

Aftermarket Modifications
Motorcycles/Moped/ATV
Unique Vehicles
Window Tint
TxRP and Token Trailer VIR Update
http://airchecktexas.com/
VEHICLE INSPECTION TRAINING PROGRAM

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Overview

• Importance of Vehicle Inspection
• Customer Relations
• Department Representative
• Inspector’s Responsibilities
• Enforcement Actions
CERTIFIED INSPECTOR TRAINING

INTRODUCTION
Importance of Vehicle Inspection

As an authorized owner, operator, or inspector of an Official Vehicle Inspection Station, you are responsible to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) for the proper operation of the Official Vehicle Inspection Station.
Customer Relations

After greeting the motorist, discuss the following:

- Cost of the inspection
- Rejections / Re-inspection
- Motorist’s Questions
Roles of the DPS Representative

- Represents the Department of Public Safety

- Ensures the station and inspectors operate within the DPS rules and regulations

- Provides necessary training, information, manual revisions, or other changes to the program

- Audits inspection records and other required items to perform state inspections

- May take enforcement action when a violation of state law or DPS rules and regulations occur
Duties & Responsibilities of Inspectors

- Complete control of the vehicle to be tested during the entire test/inspection procedure

- Will conduct an honest, thorough, and efficient inspection of any vehicle for which the station holds a certification to inspect, in accordance with the rules and regulations contained in the DPS Vehicle Inspection Operations and Training Manual.

- Issue a signed Vehicle Inspection Report to any inspected vehicle
Duties & Responsibilities of Inspectors

- Perform duties to the very best of their ability, place safety first which is the primary intent of the law.

- Upon inspection completion, inform the owner or operator of any equipment that marginally meets inspection requirements.

- Always obtain authorization from the vehicle owner or operator prior to making any repairs or adjustments.

- See that required equipment on the vehicle is an approved type, is properly adjusted, and meets Department standards.
Duties & Responsibilities of Inspectors

- Properly discharge their duties at an Official Vehicle Inspection Station, have a DPS Vehicle Inspection Operations and Training Manual (online or printed) immediately available for reference.

- Accepts full responsibility for the quality of the inspection when signing the Vehicle Inspection Report.

- Understands any deviation from the established rules, regulations, and/or procedures is a violation of the law or regulation.
Duties & Responsibilities of Inspectors

- Perform inspections within a reasonable length of time and not cause undue delay to the vehicle operator.

- Will conduct all inspections in the approved inspection area, with the exception of the road test.

- Will conduct an actual physical check of the vehicle identification number (VIN) from the vehicle, ensuring the number is accurate, on vehicle inspection reports.
Duties & Responsibilities of Inspectors

- Immediately notify the Department representative if your driver's license has been suspended or revoked.

- Refrain from the use of alcohol.

- Refrain from use of drugs except when prescribed by a licensed physician, providing that normal faculties shall not be impaired.

- Maintain a clean, orderly appearance and be courteous and patient with the public.
Enforcement Actions

The following violations will result in enforcement action:

- Prohibiting the vehicle owner to have required corrections or adjustments made by any qualified person of their choice
- Issuing an inspection report without conducting an actual inspection of the vehicle
- Issuing a passing inspection report for a vehicle without the required items of inspection

Appropriate action will be taken when it appears from any investigation that the Transportation Code, or any regulation referenced to, has been violated by an inspection station, its agents or employees.
Enforcement Actions

The following violations will result in enforcement action:

- Charging more than the required inspection fee
- Issuing a vehicle inspection report without required or repairs completed, when an inspection disclosed the necessity for those adjustments, corrections, or repairs
- Issuing an inspection report without proper DPS certification

APPROPRIATE ACTION WILL BE TAKEN WHEN IT APPEARS FROM ANY INVESTIGATION THAT THE TRANSPORTATION CODE, OR ANY REGULATION REFERENCED TO, HAS BEEN VIOLATED BY AN INSPECTION STATION, ITS AGENTS OR EMPLOYEES.
Enforcement Actions

The following violations will result in enforcement action:

- Material misrepresentation

- Fraudulently represent to a motorist that an item of inspection must be repaired, adjusted, or replaced before the vehicle will pass inspection when that is not true
Remember, you have a responsibility to the motorists and citizens of Texas to ensure vehicles are SAFE!
VEHICLE INSPECTION CRITERIA

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VEHICLE INSPECTION
Procedures & Criteria

Passenger Cars, Light Duty Trucks & Trucks Under 80” Wide

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Verify financial responsibility before proceeding with any inspection.

Check for the following:

- Insured’s name
- Policy Number
- Make of vehicle
- Model of vehicle
- Effective date
- Expiration date

The policy must **meet minimum liability** requirements
After verifying vehicle insurance, CNG tank should be inspected (customer only need be present if tank is located in the trunk).

A CNG equipped vehicle:
- Must Comply with the requirements of 49 CFR 571.304
- The fuel container tank has not exceeded the expiration date

The inspector can complete this inspection requirement through observation and/or documentation.
CNG (Compressed Natural Gas)

Observation – Check the label on the CNG fuel container.

The CNG fuel container is normally located in the trunk.
Label may also be found at the following locations:

1. Under the hood
2. Driver or passenger side door frame
3. Glove box
4. Mounted on cylinder
5. Fuel receptacle lid
CNG (Compressed Natural Gas)

Cylinder must be removed from service after the expiration date printed on the standard label.

Label may be marked 49 CFR 571.304
Failing Expiration Date/Markings:

- If the CNG Fuel System does not pass the inspection, the inspection process should stop.
- Advise the owner or operator why the CNG Fuel System is failing the inspection and abort the inspection.
- A failing Vehicle Inspection Report is not required to be completed for a vehicle equipped with a CNG Fuel System that fails the CNG inspection criteria.
Documentation

The vehicle owner or operator may provide documentation that the expiration date of the CNG fuel tank container is not expired and the fuel tank container was manufactured in accordance with 49 CFR 571.304

• Original equipment manufacturer of the CNG fuel tank

• CNG installer or inspector, certified by the Texas Railroad Commission

• FLEET VEHICLES: Review documentation that the fleet operator employs a Texas Railroad Commission certified installer/inspector for CNG Fuel Systems.
Inspection Procedure:

Visually Observe or Review Documentation:

1. CNG Fuel Tank Container expiration date and ensure date is within compliance.

2. Ensure the CNG Fuel Tank Container was manufactured in accordance with 49 CFR 571.304

3. Review documentation from vehicle owner/operator, original equipment manufacturer, or a Texas Railroad Commission certified CNG installer or inspector, verifying tank was manufactured in accordance with 49 CFR 571.304
Reject if:

1. The CNG Fuel Tank Container has exceeded its expiration date.

2. The CNG Fuel Tank Container was not manufactured in accordance with 49 CFR 571.304.

3. Compliance with 49 CFR 571.304 cannot be determined through observation or documentation.

4. The expiration date of the CNG Fuel Tank Container cannot be determined through observation or documentation.

5. A fleet operator fails to provide documentation that the fleet operator employs a certified installer/inspector for CNG Fuel Systems.
To ensure an inspection is performed properly and promptly, the inspection should be performed in the following order:

- Road Test
- Inside the Vehicle
- Outside the Vehicle
- Underneath the Vehicle
- Under the Hood
ROAD TEST
An Inspector should inspect the following items

- Steering
- Service Brakes
- Parking Brake
The steering system of the vehicle must be inspected to determine if excessive wear and/or maladjustment of the steering linkage and/or steering gear exists.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Measure Lash or Free Play
- With road wheels in straight ahead position, turn steering wheel until the turning motion can be observed at the road wheels.
## MAXIMUM STEERING LASH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steering Wheel Diameter</th>
<th>Manual Steering System</th>
<th>Power Steering System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14” or less</td>
<td>2”</td>
<td>3”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16”</td>
<td>2”</td>
<td>4”</td>
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<tr>
<td>18”</td>
<td>2”</td>
<td>4 ¾”</td>
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<tr>
<td>20”</td>
<td>2”</td>
<td>5”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22”</td>
<td>2 ¾”</td>
<td>5 ¾”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STEERING LASH

REJECT IF:

● Impossible to turn the steering wheel from right to left without binding or jamming.

● Steering mechanism is not firmly attached and free of frame cracks or missing bolts.

● Modification of the steering system which affects the proper steering of the vehicle, or the steering wheel has been modified or replaced with one that is noticeably smaller than original manufacturer’s equipment.
STEERING LASH

REJECT IF:

Vehicles equipped with flexible couplings, or energy-absorbing steering columns

- Column has been damaged and is in an unsafe condition.
- Tilt steering wheel does not lock into position.
- Steering wheel is not securely mounted to the steering shaft.
SERVICE BRAKES

A brake system used for retarding, stopping, and controlling the vehicle under normal operating conditions. This brake is sometimes referred to as “foot brake.”

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Road Test
- At a speed of 20 mph, apply service brakes firmly.
- Observe whether a vehicle comes to a smooth stop within the distance prescribed by the "Required Brake Performance."
- Road test must be performed in designated brake testing area.
SERVICE BRAKES

REJECT IF:

● Vehicle is not equipped with required service brakes.

● Conventional Brakes - less than 2 inches of pedal reserve.

● Power Brakes - less than 1 inch of pedal reserve.

● There is less than a reserve of 1/3 of the total travel distance of the brake actuator.

● Brake pedal height cannot be maintained for a period of 1 minute.

● There is metal to metal contact sound and drum or disk is being scored.
Service Brakes

Reject If:

- The service brakes do not develop the required total braking force as determined by machine tests.
- Brakes do not meet requirements for stopping distances.
- The brakes are not equalized as determined from road testing or by machine tests of the vehicle.
- Brake warning lamp or signal is on or comes on during test.

Remember: Anti-lock (ABS) lamp or signal which is on or comes on during test will not be cause for rejection.
SERVICE BRAKES

At a speed of 20 mph, apply service brakes firmly to determine if the vehicle comes to a smooth stop within the distance prescribed by the "Required Brake Performance."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Vehicle Brake Performance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 Ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 Ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 Ft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The parking brake should be so designed that when once applied, it shall remain applied - despite exhaustion of any source of energy or leakage of any kind.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Inspect all 1960 and newer vehicles.
- Place the transmission in gear; the parking brake should be engaged, and the engine accelerated enough to determine if it holds the vehicle in place.
REJECT IF:

- Motor vehicle is not equipped with a parking brake.
- Operating mechanism, when fully applied, does not hold the vehicle.
- Actuating mechanism is not fully released when the release control is operated.
- Any mechanical parts are missing, broken, badly worn or not operating properly.
- Pull cables are badly worn, stretched, frayed or not operating freely.
- Parking brake will not hold.
Review

- STEERING LASH
- SERVICE BRAKES
- PARKING BRAKE
INSIDE THE VEHICLE
An Inspector should inspect the following items

- Horn
- Turn Signals
- Mirror
- Wiper Controls
- Seat Belts
- Beam Indicator
Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a horn in good working order and capable of emitting a sound audible for a distance of 200 feet or more.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Sound horn
- Check actuating device
- Examine wiring/mounting
REJECT IF:

- Vehicle is not equipped with a horn.
- Horn or horn switch is not securely fastened.
- Wiring insulation is worn, rubbed bare or shows any evidence of burning, short circuiting, or poor connections.
- Horn switch not readily accessible to vehicle operator.
HORN

REJECT IF:

- Horn is actuated by grounding two naked wires or similar method.
- Sound is not audible under normal conditions for 200 feet.
- Horn emits an unusually loud, harsh or whistle sound.
- Operation of the horn interferes with the operation of any other circuit.
- Horn switch missing or inoperative.
Every motor vehicle with a windshield must be equipped with a windshield wiper or wipers in good working order and constructed so as to permit operation and control by the driver of the vehicle.

**Inspection Procedure:**
- Inspect for proper operation of wiper controls.

**REJECT IF:**
- Wiper controls are not operating properly or are located beyond the driver’s reach.
Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a mirror so located as to reflect to the driver a view of the highway for a distance of at least 200 feet to the rear of such motor vehicle.

**Inspection Procedure:**

Only ONE mirror is required

- Exterior Mirror
- Interior Mirror
MIRROR

REJECT IF:

- Mirror does not provide the driver with a clear view to the rear of 200 feet.
- Vehicle is not equipped with at least one mirror.
- Mirror offers unsafe interference with driver's forward vision.
- Reflective surface of mirror is cracked, broken, peeled, tarnished, or has sharp edges.
- Mirror is not mounted securely to prevent swing or excessive vibration unless the vehicle is equipped with another mirror which meets requirements.
Front seat belts are required on every motor vehicle in which front seat belt anchorages were a part of the manufacturer’s original equipment on the vehicle.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check for proper operation and condition of seat belts.
REJECT IF:

● Front lap seat belts are required and not present.
● Seat belt webbing is frayed, split, or torn.
● Belt anchorage or attachment fittings are loose, badly corroded, missing, or not fastened to belt.
● Belt buckles loose or inoperative.
● All seat belt anchor bolts are not securely fastened to floor or are missing.
● Pelvic restraint is not present.
● Seat belt will not adjust to allow proper fit.
Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with electrical turn signal lamps, except that passenger cars and trucks less than 80 inches in width and manufactured or assembled prior to the model year 1960 need not be equipped with electrical turn signal lamps.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Inspect for proper operation of turn signal switch
- Visual check of indicator light
REJECT IF:

- Wiring insulation is worn, rubbed bare or shows any evidence of burning, short circuiting, or poor electrical connections.
- Switch is not convenient to driver.
- Indicator light does not operate.

*Remember:* Selector switch must lock in proper turn position when applied but need not cancel automatically.
HIGH BEAM INDICATOR

Shall be equipped with a beam indicator which shall be lighted whenever the uppermost distribution of light from the head lamp is in use, and shall not be otherwise lighted.

Inspection Procedure:

- Check operation and condition visually.
- Required on 1948 and newer
- Any color
HIGH BEAM INDICATOR

REJECT IF:

- Vehicle not equipped with a beam indicator
- Improper switching indication
- Produces glaring light
- Inoperative for any reason
Review

- Horn
- Seat belts
- Mirror

- Turn Signals
- Wiper Controls
- High Beam Indicator
OUTSIDE THE VEHICLE
An Inspector should inspect the following items

- Window Tint
- Stop Lamps
- Rear Reflectors
- Windshield Wipers
- Wheels
- Windshield Tint
- Head Lights
- License Plate Lamp
- Tires
- Tail Lamps
- Turn Lamps
- Gas Cap
- Mud Flaps
Inspect all vehicles that have window coating, tinting, or sun screening applied to the windows.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Inspect windows to the left and right of the driver.
- Test with approved tint meter.
- Check calibration before rejecting vehicle.
Tinting Restrictions

Front Windshield
Inspect that glass coating or sun screening does not exceed the AS1 Line or 5 inches from top of windshield

Right & Left of Driver
Inspect for no less than 25% transmission.

Rear Window
NOT INSPECTED

Right & Left Rear
NOT INSPECTED
WINDOW TINT

REJECT IF:

- Windows immediately to the right and left of the driver have less than 25% light transmittance.
This inspection procedure does not apply to

- A vehicle that is used to transport passengers for a fee, i.e., Taxi, Limousine, etc.
- A vehicle that is maintained by a law enforcement agency and used for law enforcement purposes.
- Those individual drivers or passengers that present a certificate or a letter of medical exemption from the Department of Public Safety are exempt from the inspection requirements of sun screening devices.
WINDSHIELD TINT

Inspect all vehicles that have window coating, tinting, or sun screening applied to the windshield.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Visually inspect windshield.
WINDSHIELD TINT

REJECT IF:

Glass coating or sun screening devices on windshields:

1) Extends downward beyond the AS-1 line or more than 5 inches from the top of windshield.

2) Is RED, AMBER, or BLUE in color or reflective.
Every motor vehicle with a windshield must be equipped with a windshield wiper or wipers adequate for cleaning rain, snow or moisture from the windshield, in good working order, and constructed so as to permit operation and control by the driver of the vehicle.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Inspect for proper contact of blades with windshield.
- Raise arm away from windshield and release.
- Arm should return to original position and wiper blade should contact the windshield firmly.
WIPERS

REJECT IF:

● Any part of the rubber element is torn loose from the metal backing or blade base.

● Metal parts come in contact with the windshield.

● Wiper is incapable of adequately cleaning the windshield.

● Wiper blades are not making proper contact with windshield.
WIPERS

REJECT IF:

● Vehicle is not equipped with the proper number of wipers.

● Wiper is inoperative, does not operate freely, or is improperly adjusted.

● Wiper blades have damaged, hardened, or badly worn rubber elements.

● The rubber that contacts the windshield is torn more than 1 inch on one end or is torn a total of 1 inch on both ends.
HEAD LAMPS

Sealed Beam

Composite

High Intensity Discharge (HID)

Projection
HEAD LAMPS

Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with at least two head lamps, at least one on each side of the front of the motor vehicle.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check for burned out head lamp and proper beam switching.
- Check operation and condition.
REJECT IF:

- Lamp/assembly is not securely fastened.
- Lamp is improperly connected and does not light the proper filament for different switch positions.
- Lamp lens is cracked, broken, discolored or missing.

**Exception:** Composite headlamps will not be rejected for cracks unless the reflective material inside the lamp assembly is discolored or deteriorated. However, if the lamp lens is cracked or broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack/break, the vehicle will be rejected.
HEAD LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● Wiring insulation is worn, rubbed bare, or shows any evidence of burning, short circuiting, or poor electrical connections.

● Lamp lens is rotated, upside down, canted, or is marked "Right," "Left," #1 or #2 and not appropriately installed.

● Lamp fails to function properly in any manner.

● Lamp has dirt or any contamination or discoloration inside or moisture. 
  
  Exception: Composite head lamps will not be rejected for condensation inside the lamp assembly.

● Lamp switch or dimmer switch does not operate properly and is not convenient to the driver.
HEAD LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Foreign material placed on head lamp lens, such as shields, half of lens, paint, tape, etc., that interferes with the light beam of the lamp.

- Vehicle is not equipped with head lamps as required (appropriate # and type).

- Lamp can be moved easily by hand due to a broken fender or loose support.

- Lamp is missing.

- Lens is other than clear (white).
HEAD LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● Any filament in head lamps fails to burn.
● Wiring is dangling or connections are loose.
● Lamp is mounted on vehicle more than or less than prescribed mounting heights. (24” to 54”)
● Head lamp is covered by any lens or cover located in front of the head lamp which is any shade or color other than clear.
● There is physical damage that would obviously cause a headlight beam to fail to illuminate the roadway ahead of the vehicle sufficiently.
HEAD LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Lamp lenses repaired with repair tape or repair kit
- Aftermarket lighting is not DOT approved
- Lamp does not meet Department standards
TURN SIGNAL LAMPS

Turn signal lamps shall indicate an intention to turn by flashing lamps showing to the front and rear of a vehicle.

**Inspection Procedure:**

On 1960 and newer, check for both:
- Turn signal lamps
- Switch

Check operation and condition visually
TURN SIGNAL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

Signal shows any color other than

- **White** or **AMBER** to the Front
- **Red** or **AMBER** to the Rear
TURN SIGNAL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Lamps are required and not present.
- Device is not securely mounted or properly located on the vehicle.
- Device is not of a type meeting Department standards.
- Lamp lens is discolored or missing.
- Wiring insulation is worn, rubbed bare, shows any evidence of burning, short circuiting or poor electrical connections.
TURN SIGNAL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Signal does not flash or is not operating properly.
- Signal is not clearly visible to the front and to the rear of the vehicle.
- Lens is cracked or broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack/break.
- Lamps lighted by red bulbs
TURN SIGNAL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● LED lights with less than 50% of the diodes illuminated.

● Lamp is cracked allowing water to enter the lamp or lamp assembly contains standing water.

● Lamp lenses repaired with repair tape or repair kit.

● Lamps which are not of equal intensity.
Every tail lamp upon every vehicle shall be **RED** in color and located at a height of not more than 72 inches or less than 15 inches. Tail lamps are used ONLY to designate the rear of a vehicle.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check operation and condition visually
- 1959/older - 1 Required
- 1960/newer - 2 Required
- No “Blue Dots”
TAIL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● Required lamp or lamps are not present.
● Lamp is not securely mounted to vehicle.
● Lamp does not completely emit a **RED** light plainly visible 1,000 feet to the rear.
● Lamp lens is painted, missing, discolored, or does not fit properly.
● Wiring or electrical connections are poor.
● Lamp is not wired so as to be lighted when head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted.
TAIL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● Lamp is obstructed by any part of the body.

● Lamp lens is not RED color.

● Lamps are not mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable.

● Lamps are not mounted on rear of vehicle.

● Lens is cracked/broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated, permitting light from the bulb to emit light through the crack/break.
TAIL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Lamp lighted by **RED** bulb.
- LED lights with less than 50% of the diodes illuminated.
- Lamps are not of equal intensity.
- Lamp assembly is cracked allowing water to enter or lamp assembly contains standing water.
- Lamp lenses repaired with repair tape or repair kit.
A stop lamp must emit a **RED** or **AMBER** light, or any shade of color between **RED** and **AMBER**, and be visible from a distance of not less than 300 feet to the rear in normal sunlight.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check operation and condition visually
- 1959/older - 1 Required
- 1960/newer - 2 Required
- Height Requirement: Not more than 72” nor less than 15”
STOP LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Required lamp or lamps are not present.
- Lamp is not securely mounted to the vehicle.
- Lamp does not emit a **RED** or **AMBER** light which is actuated on application of the service (foot) brake.
- Lamp is not visible from a minimum distance of 300 feet to the rear of the vehicle.
- Lamp lens is painted, missing, discolored, or does not fit properly.
- Lamp lighted by red bulb.
STOP LAMPS

REJECT IF:

• LED lights have less than 50% of the diodes illuminated.

• Wiring or electrical connections are poor.

• Lamp projects a glaring or a dazzling light.

• Lamp is not mounted on rear of vehicle.

• Lens is cracked/broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated, permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack/break.
REJECT IF:

- Lamp lenses repaired with repair tape or repair kit.
- Lamp assembly is cracked allowing water to enter or lamp assembly contains standing water.
- Lamps are not of equal intensity.
CENTER HIGH-MOUNTED
STOP LAMPS

A lamp mounted high and possibly forward of the tail, stop, and rear turn signal lamps intended to give a steady red stop warning.


Multipurpose passenger vehicles, trucks, buses less than 80 inches in width and gross weight of 10,000 lbs. or less on or after September 1, 1993 (1994 Model vehicles).
CENTER HIGH-MOUNTED STOP LAMPS

Camper shells manufactured with a **RED** center high mounted stop lamp must be operable at time of inspection.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check operation and condition visually
CENTER HIGH-MOUNTED STOP LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● Required lamp is not present.

● Lamp is not securely mounted to the vehicle.

● Lamp does not emit a **RED** light which is actuated on application of the service (foot) brake.

● Lamp is not visible from a minimum distance of 300 feet to the rear of the vehicle.

● Lamp lens is painted, missing, discolored, or does not fit properly.
CENTER HIGH-MOUNTED STOP LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● Wiring or electrical connections are poor.

● Lamp projects a glaring or a dazzling light.

● Lamp is not mounted on rear of vehicle.

● Lens is cracked/broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated, permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack/break.

● LED light has less than 50% of the diodes illuminated.
CENTER HIGH-MOUNTED STOP LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Lamp assembly crack allowing water to enter or lamp assembly contains standing water.
- Lamp is lighted by a red bulb.
Reflectors on a vehicle shall reflect a **RED** color.

2 reflectors are required on all vehicles.

Mounted at a height of not less than 15 inches nor more than 60 inches from the center of reflector to the level ground.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check condition and mounting.
REAR REFLECTORS

REJECT IF:

- Reflector is not present.
- Reflector is not **RED** in color.
- Reflector is not properly and/or securely mounted to the vehicle.
- Reflector is cracked to the extent that the reflecting ability is impaired.
- Reflector is discolored, deteriorated, or painted.
- Visibility distance is not as required.
- Requirements shown on lighting diagram are not met.
Either a tail lamp or a separate lamp shall be so constructed and placed as to illuminate with a **white** light the rear registration plate and render it clearly legible for a distance of 50 feet to the rear.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check operation and condition visually.
- Only one lamp is required.
LICENSE PLATE LAMP

REJECT IF:

- Lamp is not present.
- Lamp is not securely mounted to the vehicle.
- Lamp is not placed to illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate.
- Lamp emits a glaring light to the rear.
REJECT IF:

- Wiring insulation is worn, rubbed bare, shows any evidence of burning, short circuiting or poor electrical connections.
- Lamp is not wired so as to be lighted when head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted.
- Lens is cracked/broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated, permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack/break.
All tires on a vehicle will have proper tread depth of at least 2/32 of an inch and be in safe operating condition.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Tires should be inspected visually and the tread should be measured with a tread depth gauge calibrated in 32nds of an inch if it does not have tread wear indicators.
- Inspection of the spare tire is not required.
- All tires must appear to be properly inflated - even though a gauge check is not required.
REJECT IF:

- Tire with a localized worn spot that exposes the ply or cord through the tread.
- Any tire with tread or sidewall cracks, sidewall separation, cuts, or snags in excess of 1 inch.
- Any tire which has any visible bumps, bulges, or knots.
- Any tire which has been regrooved or recut below the original groove depth.
- Any dual wheel assembly where the side of one tire is in contact with the other.
TIRES

REJECT IF:

● Tire that is marked "Not for Highway Use," "Farm Use Only," "For Racing Purposes Only," or other use restrictions.

● Tire which has been improperly repaired. (blowout patches and boots etc.)

● Any tire without tread wear indicators worn so that less than 2/32 of an inch of tread design depth remains.

● The tread wear indicators contact the road in any two adjacent major grooves in the center or middle of the tire.
**MUD FLAPS**

Required on Trucks/Light Trucks behind the rearmost axle or (combination) if it has 4 or more tires.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check for presence and condition.
MUD FLAPS

REJECT IF:

● Safety guard or flap is not present.
● Safety guard or flap is not securely mounted.
● Safety guard or flap is not as wide as the tire that it is protecting.
● Safety guard or flap is split or torn to the extent that it is ineffective.
● The bottom edge of safety guard or flap is more than 12 inches from the roadway.
● Mud flap is not made of substantial material

Exceptions: Truck tractors, motor homes, buses, pole trailers.
The inspection of all wheels and rims will be visual. Spare wheels and rims will not be inspected.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Examine visually
- Wheel covers or hubcaps may be removed from the vehicle if the certified inspector has probable cause or reason to believe that wheel or rim defects exist.
WHEELS

REJECT IF:

● Loose, missing, or damaged wheel studs, bolts, nuts, or lugs.

● Any part of the wheel is bent, cracked, rewelded, or damaged.

● Wheel nuts, studs, and clamps are loose, broken, missing, or mismatched.

● Rims and rings which are mismatched, bent, sprung, or otherwise damaged.
WHEELS

REJECT IF:

- Disc wheels with elongated bolt holes, or cracks between hand holes or stud holes, or both.
- Cast wheels with cracks, evidence of wear in the clamp area, or both.
- Rims have defects or cracks.
- Any wheel cannot be securely fastened to the hub of the vehicle.
GAS CAP TEST

Every gasoline-powered vehicle from 2-24 model years old will be checked to determine if the gas cap is missing or defective.

Inspection Procedure:

- Conduct daily calibration check of gas cap testing device.
- Check for presence.
- Check for correct type of gas cap(s).
- Remove gas cap(s) and test using an approved testing device.
- Any gas cap(s) failing the initial test will be tested a second time to verify failure.
GAS CAP TEST

EXEMPTIONS

● Antique vehicles
● Slow-moving vehicles
● Motorcycles
● Vehicles operated exclusively by a fuel other than gasoline
● Vehicles newer than 2 years old and older than 24 years old
GAS CAP TEST

REJECT IF:

● Vehicle not equipped with required gas cap(s).

● Vehicle not equipped with proper type gas cap(s).

● Gas cap(s) fails both tests.
Review

- Window Tint
- Brake Lamps
- Rear Reflectors
- Windshield Wipers
- Mud Flaps
- Wheels
- Windshield Tint
- Head Lamps
- License Plate Lamp
- Tires
- Tail Lamps
- Turn Signals
- Gas Cap
These additional lamps and reflectors will be inspected if the vehicle is 80” or more in overall width.
CLEARANCE LAMPS

Clearance lamps shall be mounted on the vehicle as to indicate the extreme height and width of the vehicle.

Front clearance lamps (2) - **AMBER** color.

Rear clearance lamps (2) - **RED** color.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check operation and condition visually.
- These may be in combination with Side Marker Lamps.
CLEARANCE LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Lamps are not present.
- Lamps are not securely mounted or properly located.
- Lamps do not emit required color; lens or bulb painted.
- Visibility requirements are not met.
- Lenses are discolored, or missing.
CLEARANCE LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Wiring insulation is worn, rubbed bare, or shows any evidence of burning, short circuiting or poor electrical connections.
- Lens is cracked or broken.
- Lamps are lighted by red bulb.
- LED lights have less than 50% of the diodes illuminated.
Side marker lamps shall be mounted on the vehicle as to indicate the length of the vehicle.

Front side marker lamps (2) - **AMBER** color.
Rear side marker lamps (2) - **RED** color.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check operation and condition visually
- These may be in combination with Clearance Lamps.
SIDE MARKER LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Lamps are not present.
- Lamps are not securely mounted and properly located.
- Lamps do not emit required color; lens or bulb painted.
- Visibility requirements are not met.
- Lenses are discolored, or missing.
SIDEMARKER LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Wiring insulation is worn, rubbed bare, or shows any evidence of burning, short circuiting, or poor electrical connections.
- Lens is cracked or broken.
- Lamps are lighted by red bulb.
- LED lights have less than 50% of the diodes illuminated.
**SIDE REFLECTORS**

Front side reflectors (2) - **AMBER** color.
Rear side reflectors (2) - **RED** color.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check operation and condition visually.
- These may be in combination with other lamps.
SIDE REFLECTORS

REJECT IF:

- Reflectors are not present.
- Reflectors are not of the required color for the location on the vehicle.
- Reflectors are not properly and/or securely mounted to the vehicle.
- Reflector is cracked to the extent that the reflecting ability is impaired.
- Reflectors are discolored, deteriorated, or painted.
- Requirements shown on lighting diagram are not met.
- Visibility distance is not as required.
Review

- Clearance Lamps
- Side Marker Lamps
- Side Reflectors
UNDER THE VEHICLE
An Inspector should inspect the following items

- Parking Brakes
- Service Brakes
- Exhaust System
SERVICE BRAKES

Inspection Procedure:

- Examine Visually.
SERVICE BRAKES

REJECT IF:

- There is visible leakage or audible seepage in the service brake system.
- Brake operating levers or control cables do not operate freely, improperly positioned or misaligned.
- Any part of the brake system has been removed, disconnected, rendered inoperative.
- Hoses or cables are restricted, abraded, cramped, cracked, leaking, frayed or broken.
- Brake rods or mechanical parts are missing, broken, badly worn or misaligned.
PARKING BRAKES

Inspection Procedure:

- Examine Visually.
PARKING BRAKES

REJECT IF:

- Brake operating levers or control cables do not operate freely, improperly positioned or misaligned.
- Any part of the brake system has been removed, disconnected, rendered inoperative.
- Hoses or cables are restricted, abraded, crimped, cracked, leaking, frayed or broken.
- Brake rods or mechanical parts are missing, broken, badly worn or misaligned.
The Exhaust System includes: manifolds, gaskets, exhaust lines, mufflers, resonators, tail piping, and supporting hardware.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- The exhaust system shall be examined visually while the engine is running.

- The catalytic converter will be considered as a part of the exhaust system on all vehicles prior to 1984 year model and will be inspected only visually (if present) for leakage.

- On 1984 and later model light truck and passenger vehicles, the catalytic converter will be checked for presence and leakage.
EXHAUST SYSTEM

REJECT IF:

● Vehicle is not equipped with a muffler.
● Any joint is loose or leaking, including manifolds.
● Manifold is cracked or broken causing leakage.
● Holes, leaking seams, or patches on the muffler, resonators, exhaust pipe, tailpipe, or catalytic converter.
● Exhaust system is not secured to the vehicle by mounting brackets designed for exhaust systems.
● Any brackets are loose, broken or missing.
● There is excessive vibration of exhaust line.
EXHAUST SYSTEM

REJECT IF:

● Any part of the exhaust system passes through the passenger compartment.

● The tailpipe is broken, pinched, or eroded off to the extent to allow exhaust fumes to penetrate into the interior of the passenger compartment.

● The tailpipe fails to discharge exhaust from the rear or sides or top of the passenger compartment of the vehicle.
REJECT IF:

- Pickups equipped with a camper or hard shell cover that does not discharge the exhaust at the rear or sides.

Exceptions: Holes in the exhaust system made by the manufacturer for drainage are not cause for rejection.
Review

- Service Brakes
- Parking Brake
- Exhaust System
UNDER THE HOOD

An Inspector should inspect the following items

- Exhaust Manifolds
- Emissions System
- Power Steering
- Horn
- Master Cylinder
The exhaust emission system was installed by manufacturers beginning with model year 1968.

EMISSIONS SYSTEM COMPONENTS

- Air Injection System
- Thermostatic Air Cleaner
- Evaporative Emission System
- Exhaust Gas Recirculation System
- Positive Crankcase Ventilation System
- Catalytic Converter (1984 AND NEW MODELS)
EMISSIONS SYSTEM

REJECT IF:

● The exhaust emission system has been removed.

● The exhaust emission system has been disconnected.

● The plumbing or hoses are loose, broken, leaking or improperly routed.

● Air pump belt is loose, removed, excessively cracked, frayed or has pieces missing.

● The exhaust emission system has been altered in any manner to make it ineffective.

● The catalytic converter has been removed, leaking, or disconnected on a 1984 or later model vehicle.
**POWER STEERING**

**Inspection Procedure:**
- Examine Visually.

**REJECT IF:**
- Excessively worn/broken parts in the steering system.
- Visible leaks in power steering unit or hoses.
- Power steering belt is excessively cracked, frayed, or has pieces missing or tension is not adequate.
- Serpentine belts are not to be rejected merely for cracks in the ribs.
- Fluid in power steering unit is below recommended level.
MASTER CYLINDER

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Examine Visually.

**REJECT IF:**

Fluid level in the master cylinder is more than 1 inch below the top of reservoir or below manufacturer's suggested level.

**Remember:** It is imperative that brake system reservoir cover and the surrounding area be thoroughly cleaned before cover is removed for inspection to assure that NO DIRT OR WATER is mixed with the brake fluid.
EXHAUST MANIFOLDS

Inspection Procedure:
- Examine Visually.

REJECT IF:
- Any joint is loose or leaking.
- Manifold is cracked or broken causing leakage.
**HORN**

**Inspection Procedure:**
- Examine Visually.

**REJECT IF:**
- Horn is not securely mounted.
- Wiring is worn, rubbed bare, or shows any evidence of burning, short circuiting or poor electrical connections.
Review

- Emissions System
- Power Steering
- Horn
- Master Cylinder
- Exhaust Manifolds
Vehicle Inspection Criteria

Buses & School Buses

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BUSES

An Inspector should inspect the following items:

- Horn
- Windshield Wipers
- Mirror
- Steering
- Seat Belts (driver only)
- Parking Brakes
- Tires
- Wheel Assembly

- Exhaust System
- Exhaust Emission System
- Beam Indicator
- Tail Lamps (2)
- Stop Lamps (2)
- License Plate Lamp (1)
- Rear Red Reflectors (2)
- Turn Signal Lamps

- Clearance Lamps
- Side Marker Lamps
- Side Reflectors
- Head Lamps (2)
- VIN
- Check Financial Responsibility
SCHOOL BUSES

Inspect these additional items

- Red Warning Lamps
- Signs
- Fire Extinguisher
- Exterior Crossover (Convex) Mirror
- Gas caps on vehicles 2-24 model years old
RED WARNING LAMPS

These lamps are intended to identify a vehicle as a school bus and to inform other users of the highway that such vehicle is stopped on the highway to take on or discharge schoolchildren.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- **RED** warning lamps mounted as high and as widely spaced laterally as practicable.
- Two (2) alternately flashing **RED** lights located at the same level to the FRONT and to the REAR.
RED WARNING LAMPS

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Lights should have sufficient intensity to be visible at 500 ft. in normal sunlight.

- Some school buses may be equipped with 8 warning lamps, 4 red and 4 amber, working in an automatic integrated system. This system of alternately flashing warning lamps will be accepted provided it has 2 RED lamps on the front and 2 RED lamps on the rear.
REJECT IF:

- School bus **RED** warning lamps are not present, properly working, and in good condition.
SIGNS

Signs on the front and on the rear of the vehicle showing the words “SCHOOL BUS” in plainly readable letters not less than 8 inches in height.

REJECT IF:

- Signs are not present, readable, and of proper height.
FIRE EXTINGUISHER

At least one quart of chemical-type fire extinguisher in good condition and conveniently located for immediate use.

REJECT IF:

- Fire extinguisher is not of required capacity, proper type, or in good condition and properly located.
EXTERIOR CROSSOVER MIRROR

Inspection Procedure:

One or more exterior (crossover) mirror of convex design mounted at or near the front of the school bus and adjustable to give the driver, at all times when seated in the driver’s seat, a clear view of the ground or roadway immediately ahead of the front bumper and beside the front wheels of the school bus.

Crossover mirror(s) is required on all school buses, regardless of bus design.
EXTERIOR CROSSOVER MIRROR

REJECT IF:

- Crossover mirror mounting is loose or will not adjust to different positions or will not hold firm after adjustment.
- Crossover mirror offers unsafe interference with driver’s forward vision or hides either front turn signal from view of oncoming driver.
- Crossover mirror’s reflective surface is cracked, broken, peeled, or tarnished, or has sharp edges.
Review

- Red Warning Lamps
- Signs
- Fire Extinguisher
- Exterior Crossover (Convex) Mirror
AUTOCYCLES, MOTORCYCLES & MOTOR DRIVEN CYCLES

An Inspector should inspect the following items

- Check Financial Responsibility
- Steering
- Wheel Assembly
- Stop Lamp (1)
- Head Lamp (1)
- Horn
- Brakes System
- Exhaust System
- License Plate Lamp
- Motor, Serial, or VIN
- Mirror
- Tires
- Tail Lamp (1)
- Rear Reflector (1)
MOPEDS

An Inspector should inspect the following items

- Check Financial Responsibility
- Rear Reflector (1)
- Brake System
- Tail Lamp (1)
- Head Lamp (1)
Verify financial responsibility before proceeding with any inspection.

Check for the following:

- Insured’s name
- Policy Number
- Make of vehicle
- Model of vehicle
- Effective date
- Expiration date

The policy must meet minimum liability requirements.
Inspection Procedure:

- Make a physical check of the motor block, frame, or body part where VIN is located and enter VIN when requested.
HORN

Inspection Procedure:

- Sound horn
- Check actuating device
- Examine wiring/mounting
MIRROR

Shall be equipped with a mirror so located as to reflect to the driver a view of the highway for a distance of at least 200 feet to the rear.
**Inspection Procedure:**

Measure Lash or Free Play

- With road wheels in straight ahead position, turn steering until the turning motion can be observed at the road wheels.
BRAKE SYSTEM

- Motorcycles shall be equipped with brakes on all wheels.
- Sidecars are not required to have brakes.
- Motor-driven cycles and mopeds are required to have brakes on at least the rear wheel.
BRAKE SYSTEM

Inspection Procedure:

Upon application of the service brake pedal or control, brakes shall be capable of stopping from a speed of 20 miles per hour in not more than 30 feet.

A motorcycle/motor-driven cycle/moped may be driven by owner/operator with inspector observing the braking performance.
Inspection Procedure:

Tires should be inspected visually and the tread should be measured with a tread depth gauge calibrated in 32nds of an inch if it does not have tread wear indicators.
WHEEL ASSEMBLY

Inspection Procedure:

- Examine Visually.

REJECT IF:

- Any spokes are bent, loose, broken, or missing.
Inspection Procedure:

The exhaust system shall be examined visually while the engine is running to determine efficiency of the system.
At least one tail lamp is required.

Every tail lamp shall emit a RED color and be located at a height of not more than 72 inches nor less than 20 inches.

**Inspection Procedure:**

Check operation and condition visually.
At least one stop lamp is required.

Must emit a RED or AMBER light, or any shade of color between RED and AMBER, and be visible from not less than 300 feet to the rear in normal sunlight.

**Inspection Procedure:**

Check operation and condition visually.
Either a tail lamp or a separate lamp shall be so constructed and placed as to illuminate, with a white light, the rear registration plate and render it clearly legible for a distance of 50 feet to the rear.

**Inspection Procedure:**
Check operation and condition visually.
At least one red reflector mounted at the rear.

Mounted at a height of not less than 15 inches nor more than 60 inches from the center of reflector to the level ground.

**Inspection Procedure:**

Check condition & mounting.
HEAD LAMPS

Inspection Procedure:

● Shall be equipped with at least one and not more than two head lamps.

● Shall be located at a height of not more than 54 inches nor less than 24 inches to be measured from the center of lamp to the level ground.

● Motorcycles sold after 01/01/1948 must be equipped with *multiple beam* head lamps.

● *Single beam* head lamps will be permitted on vehicles sold new prior to 01/01/1948 and on all motor-driven cycles and mopeds.
HEAD LAMPS

Inspection Procedure:

● Check for operation and condition.
Review

- Financial Responsibility
- Steering
- Wheel Assembly
- Stop Lamp (1)
- Head Lamp (1)
- Horn
- Brake System
- Exhaust System
- License Plate Lamp
- Mirror
- Tires
- Tail Lamp (1)
- Rear Reflector (1)
- Motor, Serial, or VIN
Vehicle Inspection Criteria
Trailers, Semitrailers, Pole Trailers or Mobile Homes
Exceeding 7,500 lbs.

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Verify financial responsibility before proceeding with any inspection.

Check for the following:

- Insured’s name
- Policy Number
- Make of vehicle
- Model of vehicle
- Effective date
- Expiration date

The policy must meet minimum liability requirements.
VIN

Inspection Procedure:

- Make a physical check of the frame or body part where VIN is located and enter VIN when requested.
TURN SIGNAL LAMPS

Turn signal lamps must emit a **RED** or **AMBER** light, or any shade of color between **RED** and **AMBER**, showing to the rear of the trailer.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check operation and condition visually.
TURN SIGNAL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Lamps are required and not present.
- Device is not securely mounted or properly located on the vehicle.
- Device is not of a type meeting Department standards.
- Lamp lens is discolored or missing.
- Wiring insulation is worn, rubbed bare, or shows any evidence of burning, short circuiting, or poor electrical connections.
TURN SIGNAL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Signal does not flash or is not operating properly.
- Signal is not clearly visible to the front and to the rear of the vehicle.
- Lens is cracked or broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack/break.
- Lamps lighted by red bulbs.
TURN SIGNAL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

• LED lights with less than 50% of the diodes illuminated.

• Lamp is cracked allowing water to enter the lamp or lamp assembly contains standing water.

• Lamp lenses repaired with repair tape or repair kit.

• Lamps which are not of equal intensity.
TAIL LAMPS

Every tail lamp upon every vehicle shall be **RED** in color and located at a height of not more than 72 inches or less than 15 inches. Tail lamps are used ONLY to designate the rear of a vehicle.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check operation and condition visually
- No Clear lenses or “Blue Dots”
- 2 Required
TAIL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● Required lamp or lamps are not present.
● Lamp is not securely mounted to vehicle.
● Lamp does not completely emit a **RED** light plainly visible 1,000 feet to the rear.
● Lamp lens is painted, missing, discolored, or does not fit properly.
● Wiring or electrical connections are poor.
● Lamp is not wired so as to be lighted when head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted.
TAIL LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● Lamp lighted by **RED** bulb.

● LED lights with less than 50% of the diodes illuminated.

● Lamps are not of equal intensity.

● Lamp assembly is cracked allowing water to enter or lamp assembly contains standing water.

● Lamp lenses repaired with repair tape or repair kit.
A stop lamp must emit a RED or AMBER light, or any shade of color between RED and AMBER, and be visible from a distance of not less than 300 feet to the rear in normal sunlight.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check operation and condition visually.
- 2 Required
- Height Requirement: Not more than 72” nor less than 15”
STOP LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● Required lamp or lamps are not present.

● Lamp is not securely mounted to the vehicle.

● Lamp does not emit a RED or AMBER light which is actuated on application of the service (foot) brake.

● Lamp is not visible from a minimum distance of 300 feet to the rear of the vehicle.

● Lamp lens is painted, missing, discolored, or does not fit properly.

● Lamp lighted by RED bulb.
STOP LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● LED lights have less than 50% of the diodes illuminated.
● Wiring or electrical connections are poor.
● Lamp projects a glaring or a dazzling light.
● Lamp is not mounted on rear of vehicle.
● Lens is cracked/broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated, permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack/break.
STOP LAMPS

REJECT IF:

● Lamp lenses repaired with repair tape or repair kit.
● Lamp assembly is cracked allowing water to enter or lamp assembly contains standing water.
● Lamps are not of equal intensity.
Reflectors on a vehicle shall reflect a RED color.
2 reflectors are required on all vehicles.
Mounted at a height of not less than 15 inches nor more than 60 inches from the center of reflector to the level ground.

**Inspection Procedure:**
- Check condition and mounting.
REAR REFLECTORS

REJECT IF:

● Reflector is not present.
● Reflector is not of RED color.
● Reflector is not properly and/or securely mounted to the vehicle.
● Reflector is cracked to the extent that the reflecting ability is impaired.
● Reflector is discolored, deteriorated, or painted.
● Visibility distance is not as required.
● Requirements shown on lighting diagram are not met.
LICENSE PLATE LAMP

Either a tail lamp or a separate lamp shall be so constructed and placed as to illuminate with a WHITE light the rear registration plate and render it clearly legible for a distance of 50 feet to the rear.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check operation and condition visually.
- Only one lamp is required.
REJECT IF:

- Lamp is not present.
- Lamp is not securely mounted to the vehicle.
- Lamp is not placed to illuminate with a **WHITE** light the rear registration plate.
- Lamp emits a glaring light to the rear.
- Wiring insulation is worn, rubbed bare, or shows any evidence of burning, short circuiting, or poor electrical connections.
LICENSE PLATE LAMP

REJECT IF:

● Lamp is not wired so as to be lighted when head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted.

● Lens is cracked/broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated, permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack/break.
No tire shall be passed unless it meets the visual and tread depth requirements.

**Inspection Procedure**

- Tires should be inspected visually and the tread should be measured with a tread depth gauge calibrated in 32nds of an inch if it does not have tread wear indicators.

- Inspection of the spare tire is not required. All tires must appear to be properly inflated - even though a gauge check is not required.

- Dragster tires or racing slicks without sufficient tread or which have had all tread removed are not acceptable.
TIRES

REJECT IF:

● Tire with a localized worn spot that exposes the ply or cord through the tread.

● Any tire with tread or sidewall cracks, cuts, or snags in excess of 1 inch

● Any tire which has any visible bumps, bulges, or knots.

● Any tire which has been regrooved or recut below the original groove depth.

● Any dual wheel assembly where the side of one tire is in contact with the other.
REJECT IF:

- Tire that is marked "Not for Highway Use," "Farm Use Only," "For Racing Purposes Only," or other use restrictions.
- Tire which has been repaired by the use of blowout patches and boots.
- Any tire without tread wear indicators worn so that less than 2/32 of an inch of tread design depth remains.
- The tread wear indicators contact the road in any two adjacent major grooves in the center or middle of the tire.
MUD FLAPS

Required on vehicles (Trucks/Light Trucks/Trailers) if the rearmost axle (or combination) has 4 tires or more.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Safety guards or flaps shall be located and suspended behind the rearmost wheels.
- Safety guards or flaps shall be at least as wide as the tires they are protecting.
- Check for presence and condition.
MUD FLAPS

REJECT IF:

- Safety guard or flap is not present.
- Safety guard or flap is not securely mounted.
- Safety guard or flap is not as wide as the tires that it is protecting.
- Safety guard or flap is split or torn to the extent that it is ineffective.
- The bottom edge of safety guard or flap is more than (12) inches from the roadway.
- Safety guard or flap is not made of a substantial material

Exceptions: Truck tractors, motor homes, buses, pole trailers.
The inspection of all wheels and rims will be visual. Spare wheels and rims will not be inspected.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Examine visually.
- Wheel covers or hubcaps may be removed from the vehicle if the certified inspector has probable cause or reason to believe that wheel or rim defects exist.
WHEELS

REJECT IF:

- Loose, missing, or damaged wheel studs, bolts, nuts, or lugs.
- Any part of the wheel is bent, cracked, rewelded, or damaged.
- Wheel nuts, studs, and clamps are loose, broken, missing, or mismatched.
- Rims and rings which are mismatched, bent, sprung, or otherwise damaged.
WHEELS

REJECT IF:

- Disc wheels with elongated bolt holes, or cracks between hand holes or stud holes, or both.
- Cast wheels with cracks, evidence of wear in the clamp area, or both.
- Rims have defects or cracks.
- Any wheel cannot be securely fastened to the hub of the vehicle.
If gross weight is greater than 7,500 pounds you must check the brake system.

**Inspection Procedure:**

- Check to ensure that the combination vehicle stops within the required stopping distance.
Review

- Financial Responsibility on towing vehicle
- Brakes System
- Tires
- Wheel Assembly
- Safety Guards or Flaps
- Tail Lamps
- Stop Lamps
- License Plate Lamp
- Rear Red Reflectors
- Turn Signal Lamps
- Clearance Lamps
- Side Marker Lamps
- Side Reflectors
- Serial or VIN
Lamp & Reflector Requirements for Vehicles 80” or More in Width

Produced by Texas Department of Public Safety Regulatory Services Division
CLEARANCE LAMPS

Clearance lamps and side marker lamps may be mounted in combinations, provided illumination is given as required by law.

**Inspection Procedure:**
Check operation and condition.
CLEARANCE LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Lamps are not present.
- Lamps are not securely mounted and properly located.
- Lamps do not emit required color; lens or bulb painted.
- Visibility requirements are not met.
- Lenses are discolored, or missing.
- Wiring insulation that is damaged, lead to short circuiting, or poor electrical connections.
- Lens is cracked or broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated, permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack or break.
SIDE MARKER LAMPS

Shall be mounted on the permanent structure of the vehicle in such a manner as to indicate the length of the vehicle. Side marker lamps and clearance lamps may be mounted in combination, provided illumination is given as required by law.

**Inspection Procedure:**
Check operation and condition visually.
SIDE MARKER LAMPS

REJECT IF:

- Lamps are not present.
- Lamps are not securely mounted and properly located.
- Lamps do not emit required color; lens or bulb painted.
- Visibility requirements are not met.
- Lenses are discolored or missing.
- Wiring insulation is worn, rubbed bare, or shows any evidence of burning, short circuiting, or poor electrical connections.
- Lens is cracked or broken to the extent that a portion of the lens is missing and/or separated, permitting light from the bulb to emit through the crack or break.
**SIDE REFLECTORS**

**Inspection Procedure:**
Check condition & mounting.

**REJECT IF:**
- Reflectors are not present.
- Reflectors are not of the required color for the location on the vehicle.
- Reflectors are not properly and/or securely mounted to the vehicle.
- Reflector is cracked to the extent that the reflecting ability is impaired.
- Reflectors are discolored, deteriorated, or painted.
- Requirements shown on lighting diagram are not met.
- Visibility distance is not as required.
80 Inches or More in Overall Width

On Each Side of the Trailer
1. Clearance Lamps (2)
2. Side Marker Lamps (2)
3. Side Reflectors (2)

Amber to the front
Red to the rear
POLE TRAILERS

On Each Side of the Trailer

1. Clearance Lamps (2)
2. Side Marker Lamps (2)
3. Side Reflectors (3)

Amber to the front
Red to the rear
Review

- Tail Lamps
- Stop Lamps
- Rear Reflectors
- Turn Signals
- Clearance Lamps
- Side Marker Lamps
- Side Reflectors
Placement for Lamps & Reflectors
Trailers and Semitrailers
30 Feet or More in
Overall Length

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Regulatory Services Division

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Duplication of this material is prohibited.
30 Feet or More in Overall Length

On Each Side of the Trailer

1. Clearance Lamps (2)
2. Side Marker Lamps (3)
3. Side Reflectors (3)

Amber to the front
Red to the rear
Review

- Vehicles 80 inches or less in width
- Vehicles 80 inches or more in width
- Trailers/Semitrailers 30 feet or more in length
- Pole trailers
Remember, you have a responsibility to the motorist and to the citizens of Texas to ensure that their vehicles are SAFE!