



Australian Capital Territory

# Motor Traffic Regulations 1934

made under the

**Motor Traffic Act 1936**

**Republication No 0B (RI)**

**Effective: 22 February 1968 – 14 March 1974**

Republication date of printed version: 1 October 1971

Reissued electronically: 16 August 2011

Last amendment made by SL1968-2  
(republication for amendments by SL1953-14,  
SL1955-3, SL1956-1, SL1959-8, SL1960-2,  
SL1961-1, SL1963-8, SL1965-5 and SL1968-2)

Authorised by the ACT Parliamentary Counsel

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### **The republished law**

This is a republication of the *Motor Traffic Regulations* effective 22 February 1968 to 14 March 1974.

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# AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

## MOTOR TRAFFIC REGULATIONS\*

### PART I.—PRELIMINARY.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the *Motor Traffic Regulations*.\* Citation.
2. These Regulations shall come into operation on the third day of April, 1934. Commencement.
3. These Regulations shall apply in relation to all motor vehicles, Application of Regulations.
4. These Regulations are divided into Parts, as follows:— Parts.
  - Part I.—Preliminary. Amended by 1961, No. 1.
  - Part II.—Trailers.
  - Part IV.—Registration Labels.
  - Part V.—Miscellaneous.
5. In these Regulations— Definitions.
  - “the Ordinance” means the *Motor Traffic Ordinance 1936-1960*;  
Substituted by 1961, No. 1; amended by 1963, No. 8.
  - “wind-screen” means the main front wind-screen, but does not include a wind deflector or other subsidiary wind-screen.

### PART II.—TRAILERS.

\* \* \* \* \*

- 11.—(1.) Subject to this regulation, a trailer in respect of which a registration fee is prescribed by this regulation shall not be registered, and the registration of a trailer shall not be renewed, unless a registration fee determined in accordance with this regulation is paid. Registration fees for trailers.  
Sub-reg. (1.) substituted by 1953, No. 6.

\* By virtue of sub-section (4.) of section 2 of the *Motor Traffic Ordinance 1936-1938*, the *Motor Traffic Regulations* made under the *Motor Traffic Ordinance 1932-1933* on 19 March 1934 are, except so far as they are inconsistent with the *Motor Traffic Ordinance 1936-1938*, deemed to have been made under the *Motor Traffic Ordinance 1936-1938*. The *Motor Traffic Regulations*, in force under the *Motor Traffic Ordinance 1936-1971*, comprise the following Regulations:

Year and Number	Date on which made	Date of Notification in Commonwealth Gazette	Date of Commencement
	19 March 1934	22 March 1934	3 April 1934
1941, No. 9	24 November 1941	27 November 1941	27 November 1941
1942, No. 12	3 November 1942	5 November 1942	5 November 1942
1943, No. 8	23 November 1943	30 December 1943	30 December 1943
1947, No. 5	13 November 1947	27 November 1947	27 November 1947
1953, No. 6	12 May 1953	21 May 1953	21 May 1953
1953, No. 14	2 November 1953	12 November 1953	12 November 1953
1955, No. 3	24 March 1955	31 March 1955	31 March 1955
1956, No. 1	19 April 1956	3 May 1956	(See Note below)
1959, No. 8	3 July 1959	9 July 1959	9 July 1959
1960, No. 2	23 March 1960	31 March 1960	31 March 1960
1961, No. 1	19 December 1960	12 January 1961	12 January 1961
1963, No. 8	20 December 1963	24 December 1963	1 January 1964
1965, No. 5	25 August 1965	9 September 1965	9 September 1965
1968, No. 2	14 February 1968	22 February 1968	22 February 1968

The *Motor Traffic Regulations* were also amended by the *Seat of Government (Designation) Ordinance 1938* (No. 25 of 1938; published in the *Commonwealth Gazette* and commenced on 8 September 1938).

Note.—Sub-regulation (2.) of regulation 1 of Regulations 1956, No. 1 provides as follows:  
“(2.) Regulations 2 and 5 of these Regulations shall come into operation on the day fixed by the Minister for the purposes of sub-section (3.) of section 2 of the *Motor Traffic Ordinance 1956*.”  
The date fixed was 21 May 1956; see *Commonwealth Gazette 1956*, p. 1213.  
The other regulations of Regulations 1956, No. 1 came into operation on 3 May 1956.

Published 1 October 1971

17896/71.—PRICE 10c

*Motor Traffic Regulations*

Inserted by  
1953, No. 6.

(1A.) The registration fee for the registration, or the renewal of the registration, of a trailer for a period of twelve months is—

- (a) for a trailer which is not let out on hire and is used solely for social, domestic or pleasure purposes or by a farmer solely for those purposes and for the purpose of carting his own produce—
  - (i) if the weight of the trailer is not more than five hundredweights—Ten shillings; or
  - (ii) if the weight of the trailer is more than five hundredweights—One pound, together with One pound for each ten hundredweights, or part of ten hundredweights, by which the weight of the trailer exceeds ten hundredweights; and
- (b) for any other trailer—Two shillings and ninepence for each half-hundredweight of the weight of the trailer.

Inserted by  
1953, No. 6.

(1B.) The registration fee for the registration, or the renewal of the registration, of a trailer for a period of less than twelve months is an amount equal to the sum of—

- (a) Five shillings; and
- (b) an amount which bears to the registration fee payable under the last preceding sub-regulation for the registration of the trailer for a period of twelve months the same proportion as the period for which the trailer is to be registered, or the registration of the trailer is to be renewed, bears to twelve months.

(2.) For the purposes of this regulation—

- (a) the weight of a trailer shall be ascertained as the gross weight of the trailer unladen; and
- (b) the weight upon which the registration or renewal fee is payable shall be reckoned to the nearest half-hundredweight.

Sub-reg. (3.),  
(4.) and (5.)  
omitted by  
1961, No. 1.

\* \* \* \* \*

Private trailers  
not to be used  
for business  
purposes.  
Inserted by  
1953, No. 6.

11AA. Where the registration fee paid in respect of a period of registration of a trailer was determined in accordance with paragraph (a) of sub-regulation (1A.) of the last preceding regulation, or in accordance with sub-regulation (1B.) of that regulation by reference to that paragraph, a person shall not, during that period—

- (a) use that trailer, or cause, suffer or permit it to be used, for any purpose other than a purpose specified in that paragraph; or
- (b) let the trailer out on hire.

Reg. 11A  
repealed by  
1965, No. 5.

\* \* \* \* \*

Brakes on  
trailers.  
Inserted by  
1942, No. 12.

11B.—(1.) Every trailer whose weight (inclusive of the load it is carrying) exceeds two tons, shall be equipped with at least one brake or combination of brakes of reasonable efficiency, having regard to the size of the trailer and load carried, and capable of being readily applied and retained either by the driver of the towing vehicle or by some person who is carried on or walking alongside the trailer within reach of the brake lever.

(2.) Every trailer whose weight (inclusive of the load it is carrying) is less than two tons but exceeds five hundredweights shall be equipped with at least one brake capable of being readily applied either by the driver of the towing vehicle or automatically by the over-run of the trailer.

(3.) It shall not be necessary for a trailer whose weight (inclusive of the load it is carrying) is less than five hundredweights to be equipped with brakes when coupled to a motor vehicle which, if retarded by its foot-brake, can be brought to a rest from a speed of thirty miles per hour in less than fifty feet.

\* \* \* \* \*

Regs. 11C, 11D, 11E and 11F repealed by 1965, No. 5.

Part III. (regs. 12, 13, 13A, 14, 15 and 16) repealed by 1961, No. 1.

PART IV.—REGISTRATION LABELS.

17.—(1.) Upon the registration or renewal of registration of any motor vehicle or trailer, the Registrar shall issue to the person in whose name the vehicle is registered a registration label of a colour and design approved by the Registrar, having thereon the Canberra coat of arms, particulars of the vehicle, the period for which the vehicle is registered, the registration number of the vehicle and any other matters which the Registrar thinks proper to insert.

Issue and type of labels.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sub-reg. (2.) omitted by 1953, No. 6.

18.—(1.) A registration label shall, during the currency of the registration, be firmly affixed to or attached on the motor vehicle or trailer in respect of which the label is issued, in the position and in the manner hereinafter prescribed in respect of such vehicle (unless otherwise approved by the Registrar) and so as to be clearly visible to a person facing the label at a distance of twenty feet therefrom.

Affixing of registration labels.

(2.) The position of and manner in which registration labels are to be affixed or attached shall be as follows:—

Amended by 1968, No. 2.

(a) In the case of a motor vehicle (other than a motor cycle) having a windscreen—

(i) if the motor vehicle has a pivoted, hinged or horizontally sliding ventilation window on the front left-hand or near side of the motor vehicle—the label shall be affixed either on the inside of the windscreen at the bottom and as near as practicable to the left-hand side of the windscreen or on the inside and at the bottom of that ventilation window; or

(ii) in any other case—the label shall be affixed on the windscreen as provided by the last preceding sub-paragraph,

so that the front of the label faces outwards from the motor vehicle;

(b) In the case of a motor vehicle (other than a motor cycle) not having a windscreen—the label shall be displayed in a holder which shall be affixed to the left-hand or near-side of the motor vehicle, as nearly as practicable to the position in which the label would have been displayed in accordance with paragraph (a) of this sub-regulation if the vehicle had been fitted with a windscreen, and so that the front of the label faces towards the front of the motor vehicle;

(c) In the case of a motor cycle—the label shall be displayed in a holder affixed to the handle-bar or front fork in the centre or on the left-hand or near-side of the motor cycle and the front of the label shall face towards the front or the left-hand side of the motor cycle; and

- (d) In the case of a trailer—the label shall be displayed in a holder affixed to the left-hand or near-side of the trailer in such manner that the front of the label faces outwards from the trailer.

Reg. 19  
repealed by  
1963, No. 8.

\* \* \* \* \*

Provision and  
type of  
holder, &c.  
Sub-reg. (1.)  
amended by  
1963, No. 8.

20.—(1.) Any holder mentioned in these Regulations shall be provided by the owner of the vehicle and shall be of a type approved by the Registrar.

(2.) Every label which is required to be displayed in a holder shall be affixed to clear glass in the holder in such manner that all the particulars on the label are clearly visible through the glass.

Alterations  
affecting  
particulars  
on label.  
Sub-reg. (1.)  
amended by  
1963, No. 8.

21.—(1.) Where a new number-plate is issued by the Registrar to any person in lieu of a lost or damaged plate and the new plate bears a number different from that shown on the current registration label, the person in whose name the vehicle is registered shall produce the vehicle or the holder displaying the label and the Registrar shall, upon the destruction of the label, issue a new label to that person.

(2.) Where any alteration is made in the construction, equipment, use or ownership of a motor vehicle or trailer of such a nature as to affect the accuracy of any of the particulars appearing on the current registration label, the person in whose name the vehicle is registered shall forthwith notify the Registrar and shall, if so required by the Registrar, produce the vehicle for inspection.

(3.) The Registrar shall, upon being satisfied after such inspection that any of the particulars in the current registration label are incorrect, cause the label to be destroyed and, subject to compliance with any other requirement of the Ordinance or these Regulations, issue a new label in place of the label so destroyed.

Label  
destroyed,  
damaged, &c.  
Amended by  
1963, No. 8;  
and 1968, No. 2.

22. Where a registration label is lost, destroyed, damaged or in any way defaced before the expiry of the registration, the Registrar may, upon application and payment of a fee of Twenty-five cents, and upon being satisfied that the label has been lost or destroyed, issue a duplicate of the label, and the duplicate shall thereupon be deemed to be the registration label for the purposes of these Regulations.

Destruction of  
label on  
expiry of  
registration.  
Substituted by  
1963, No. 8.

23. Within three days after the date of expiry of the registration of a motor vehicle or trailer, the person in whose name the vehicle was registered shall cause the registration label to be destroyed.

Destruction of  
label when  
registration  
is cancelled,  
&c.

24.—(1.) Where the registration of a motor vehicle or trailer is cancelled during the currency of the certificate of registration, the person in whose name the vehicle was registered shall forthwith forward to the Registrar for destruction the registration label issued in respect of such vehicle or produce to the Registrar the vehicle or the holder displaying the label to enable the label to be destroyed.

Sub-reg. (2.)  
omitted by  
1963, No. 8.

\* \* \* \* \*

Offences in  
relation to  
registration  
labels.  
Sub-reg. (1.)  
amended by  
1963, No. 8.

25.—(1.) Any person who, upon any public street—

- (a) drives, or allows to be driven, or is in charge of, any motor vehicle or trailer which is required to be registered and which does not carry a registration label as required by these Regulations or which

carries such label otherwise than in conformity with the requirements of these Regulations;

- (b) without lawful authority or excuse, drives or allows to be driven, or is in charge of, any motor vehicle or trailer—
  - (i) upon which is displayed any registration label which (except as provided in these Regulations or as directed by the Registrar) has been altered, mutilated or defaced in any manner whatsoever or upon which any writing, mark or colour is not clearly legible or visible;
  - (ii) having affixed thereto or displayed thereon a registration label which was issued in respect of any other motor vehicle or trailer or in respect of a registration which has expired; or
  - (iii) to which is affixed or on which is displayed a registration label containing any incorrect particulars,

shall be guilty of an offence.

(2.) Any person who—

- (a) without lawful authority or excuse, prints or manufactures or has in his possession a label which resembles a registration label and which is calculated or likely to deceive;
- (b) except as provided in these Regulations or as directed by the Registrar, alters or defaces any registration label;
- (c) buys or sells any label which resembles a registration label and is calculated to deceive; or
- (d) contravenes any provision of this Part,

shall be guilty of an offence.

26. A notice by the Registrar to produce any vehicle shall be in writing and shall state the time within and the place at which the vehicle shall be produced.

Production of vehicles, Amended by 1963, No. 8.

PART V.—MISCELLANEOUS.

27. No person shall advertise or publish or cause to be advertised or published in any newspaper or otherwise cause to be exhibited or exhibit any advertisement or notice directly or indirectly—

Advertisements,

- (a) inviting persons to become passengers;
- (b) intimating that any persons will be carried;
- (c) soliciting the carriage of any goods; or
- (d) intimating that any goods will be carried,

unless the person requesting or requiring the advertisement or notice is the holder of a licence to ply for hire in respect of a public or other motor vehicle in which the passengers or goods are to be carried or is the holder of a private hire car licence and the advertisement or notice contains the name of such holder.

28. Any unlicensed person acting as the driver of a motor vehicle shall be subject to these Regulations and liable for any breach thereof in like manner as if he were a licensed driver.

Unlicensed person acting as driver to be subject to Regulations.

29. Where any person driving a motor vehicle is arrested, any member of the Police Force may take charge of the vehicle, and place it in a place of safety until claimed by the owner.

Taking charge of vehicle where driver arrested.

*Motor Traffic Regulations*

Offences.  
Amended by  
1960, No. 2;  
and 1968, No. 2.

30. Any person who commits, or knowingly aids, abets, counsels, procures or assists any person to commit, a breach of any of these Regulations for which no other penalty is expressly provided shall be guilty of an offence.

Penalty: Twenty dollars.

Offences  
resulting  
from accidents  
or other  
unavoidable  
causes.

31. No person shall be deemed to be guilty of a breach of any of these Regulations if he proves to the satisfaction of the Court hearing the case that the occurrence which is the subject of the case was the result of accident, or could not have been avoided by any reasonable efforts on his part.

Reg. 32  
repealed by  
1965, No. 5.

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Fees in  
respect of  
inspection  
of record  
of registrations  
and licences.  
Added by  
1942, No. 12;  
amended by  
1968, No. 2.

33. A person may, upon payment of the fee set out in the second column of the Table hereunder opposite an item in the first column of that Table, be furnished with the information or particulars specified in that item in relation to registrations and licences.

*Table*

Item	Fee
	\$
1. Typewritten sheet of 38 or less registrations .. .. .	0.20
2. Supplying information from any record, particulars of which are furnished by the inquirer .. .. .	0.10
3. Searching the records and supplying information from the records where particulars are not furnished by the inquirer .. .. .	0.25
4. Certified copy of a certificate or licence .. .. .	0.25

Reg. 34  
repealed by  
1959, No. 8;  
reg. 35 repealed  
by 1953, No. 6.

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First Schedule  
repealed by  
1956, No. 1;  
Second, Third,  
Fourth and  
Fifth Schedules  
repealed by  
1961, No. 1.

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