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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2001 No. 561**

**ROAD TRAFFIC**

**The Road Vehicles (Display of  
Registration Marks) Regulations 2001**

*Made - - - - 26th February 2001*

*Laid before Parliament 28th February 2001*

*Coming into force*

*for the purposes of  
regulations 1(1)(a) and  
17 21st March 2001*

*for all other purposes 1st September 2001*

**THE ROAD VEHICLES (DISPLAY OF  
REGISTRATION MARKS) REGULATIONS 2001**

PART I

PRELIMINARY

1. Citation, commencement and revocation
2. Interpretation: general
3. Exempt vehicles

PART II

REGISTRATION PLATES

4. Interpretation of Part II
5. Fixing of rear registration plates: vehicles registered on or after the relevant date
6. Fixing of front registration plates: vehicles registered on or after the relevant date
7. Fixing of registration plates: vehicles registered before the relevant date
8. Fixing of registration plates: works trucks, road rollers and agricultural machines
9. Lighting of rear registration plates
10. Specifications for registration plates

*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made).*

11. Further requirements for registration plates

PART III

REGISTRATION MARKS

12. Interpretation of Part III
13. Layout of marks
14. Size and spacing of characters
15. Style of characters

PART IV

MISCELLANEOUS

16. International distinguishing signs and other material
17. Optional early use of new-specification plates and prescribed font
18. Saving for vehicles constructed before 1st January 1973
19. Offences under section 59 of the Act  
Signature

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SCHEDULE 1 — REGULATIONS REVOKED

SCHEDULE 2 — REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION PLATES

PART 1 — VEHICLES REGISTERED AND NEW REGISTRATION PLATES  
FITTED ON OR AFTER 1ST SEPTEMBER 2001 (MANDATORY  
SPECIFICATION)

1. The plate must be made of retroreflecting material which, as...
2. Where the registration mark is displayed on the front of...
3. Where the registration mark is displayed on the back of...

PART 2 — VEHICLES REGISTERED ON OR AFTER 1ST JANUARY  
1973 AND BEFORE 1ST SEPTEMBER 2001 (OPTIONAL  
SPECIFICATION)

1. The plate must be made of reflex-reflecting material which, as...
2. Where the registration mark is displayed on the front of...
3. Where the registration mark is displayed on the back of...

PART 3 — VEHICLES REGISTERED BEFORE 1ST JANUARY 1973  
(OPTIONAL SPECIFICATIONS)

A

*Requirements where the vehicle carries a registration plate which is constructed so that the mark may be illuminated from behind by virtue of the translucency of its characters.*

1. The registration mark must be formed of white translucent characters...
2. When the registration mark is illuminated during the hours of...

B

*Requirements where the vehicle carries a registration plate which is not so constructed.*

SCHEDULE 3 — LAYOUT OF REGISTRATION MARKS

PART 1 — TABLE A PERMITTED LAYOUTS FOR REGISTRATION  
MARKS

PART 2 — DIAGRAMS SHOWING PERMITTED LAYOUTS

PART 3 — TABLE B STROKE AND CHARACTER WIDTH, SPACING AND  
MARGINS

SCHEDULE 4 — PRESCRIBED FONT

PART 1 — FONT DESCRIBED FOR CHARACTERS 79 MILLIMETRES IN  
HEIGHT

PART 2 — FONT PRESCRIBED FOR CHARACTERS 64 MILLIMETRES IN  
HEIGHT

Explanatory Note