

Appendix A – Vehicle Category Codes and ADR Applicability Tables

The Australian Design Rules (ADRs) set out the minimum safety and environmental standards that heavy vehicles operating on public roads are required to comply with at the date of manufacture and during on-road operation. The ADRs have been developed for the purpose of:

- reducing the possibility of accidents occurring through such measures as improving lights and signals, drivers visibility and braking standards etc.
- mitigating the effects of those accidents that do occur, through such measures as seatbelts, energy absorbing steering columns, head restraints and occupant protection measures
- reducing the effects of motor vehicles on the environment by limiting the noise and pollutants emitted.

Many of the features associated with the ADRs are not readily apparent by visual inspection and evidence of a vehicles compliance with these requirements is demonstrated by the fitment of an identification (compliance) plate to the vehicle.

The ADRs are set out in two editions, being the second and third editions. The second edition ADRs cover vehicles manufactured between 1 January 1969 and the 30 June 1988. The third edition ADRs cover vehicles manufactured on or after 1 July 1988.

For the purpose of the ADRs vehicles are classified into various categories dependent on the type of vehicle. Each category is identified by two letters (e.g. NB- medium goods vehicle) and in some cases each category is further broken down using a number system following the letters (e.g. NB2 – over 4.5 tonnes GVM and up to 12 tonnes GVM). The ADRs apply to vehicles in accordance with the applicability dates set out at the beginning (usually in an applicability table) of each standard. The vehicle category codes are as follows:

Vehicle category codes

Table A.1 Second edition ADR vehicle categories

| Vehicle code | Vehicle category |
|--------------|---|
| OM | Omnibus |
| OM4 | GVM over 4.5 tonnes |
| HG | Heavy Goods Vehicle, over 4.5 tonne GVM |

Table A.2 Third edition ADR vehicle categories

| Vehicle code | Vehicle category |
|--------------|---|
| MB | Forward Control Passenger Vehicle (up to 9 seats) |
| MC | Off-Road Passenger Vehicle (up to 9 seats with off road capabilities) |
| MD4 | Light Omnibus (more than 9 seats) exceeding 4.5 tonnes GVM and up to 5.0 tonnes GVM |
| ME | Heavy Omnibus (more than 9 seats) exceeding 5.0 tonnes GVM |
| NB2 | Medium Goods Vehicle exceeding 4.5 tonnes GVM and up to 12 tonnes GVM |
| NC | Heavy Goods Vehicle exceeding 12 tonnes GVM |
| TB | Light Trailer, GTM exceeding 0.75 tonne but not more than 3.5 tonnes |
| TC | Medium Trailer, GTM exceeding 3.5 tonnes up to 10 tonnes |
| TD | Heavy Trailer, GTM exceeding 10 tonnes |

Definitions

Aggregate trailer mass (ATM) – the total mass of the laden trailer when carrying the maximum load recommended by the ‘manufacturer’. This will include any mass imposed onto the drawing vehicle when the ‘combination vehicle’ is resting on a horizontal supporting plane.

Gross vehicle mass (GVM) – the maximum laden mass of a motor vehicle as specified by the manufacturer.

Gross trailer mass (GTM) – the mass transmitted to the ground by the ‘axle’ or ‘axles’ of the trailer when coupled to a drawing vehicle and carrying its maximum load approximately uniformly distributed over the load bearing area, and at which compliance with the appropriate ADRs has been or can be established.

The ADRs can be accessed online at:

www.infrastructure.gov.au/roads/motor/design

Table A.3 Second edition ADR applicability table

| ADR | PC | PD | FC1 | FC2 | PM | OM1 | OM2 | OM3 | OM4 | CY | MOPED | LG | HG |
|--|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1 Reversing signal lamps | 1/72 | 1/72 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/73 | 7/73 | 7/73 | 7/73 | 7/75 | - | - | 7/73 | 7/75 |
| 2 Door latched and hinges | 1/71 | 1/71 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/73 | 7/83 | 7/83 | - | - | - | - | 7/74 | 7/75 |
| 3 Seat anchorages | 1/71 | 1/72 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/73 | 7/83 | 7/83 | - | - | - | - | 7/74 | - |
| 3A Seat anchorages | 1/77 | - | 1/86 | 1/86 | - | 1/87 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 4 Seatbelts- front seats | 1/69 | 1/69 | - | - | 1/70 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1/70 | - |
| Seatbelts- front and rear seats | 1/71 | 1/71 | - | - | 1/71 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1/71 | - |
| 4A Seatbelts | 1/74 | 1/74 | - | - | 1/74 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7/74 | - |
| 4B Seatbelts | 1/75 | 1/75 | - | - | 1/75 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7/75 | - |
| 4C Seatbelts | 1/76 | 1/76 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/76 | 7/83 | 7/83 | - | - | - | - | 7/76 | - |
| 4D Seatbelts | 1/84 | - | 1/86 | 1/86 | - | 1/87 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5A Seatbelt anchorages- front | 1/69 | 1/69 | - | - | 1/69 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1/71 | - |
| Seatbelt anchorages - front and rear | 1/71 | 1/71 | - | - | 1/71 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1/71 | - |
| 5B Seatbelt anchorages | 1/75 | 1/75 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/75 | 7/83 | 7/83 | - | - | - | - | 7/75 | - |
| 6 Direction turn signal | 1/73 | 1/73 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/73 | 7/73 | 7/73 | 7/73 | 7/73 | - | - | 7/73 | 7/73 |
| 6A Direction turn signal | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7/81 | - | - | - | 7/81 |
| 7 Hydraulic brake hoses | 1/70 | 1/70 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/70 | 1/70 | 1/70 | 1/70 | 1/70 | 7/75 | 7/75 | 1/70 | 1/70 |
| 8 Safety glass | 7/71 | 7/71 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 7/71 | 7/71 | 7/71 | 7/71 | 7/71 | - | - | 7/71 | 7/71 |
| 9 Automatic transmissions | Applies between 1/72 and 1/76 for all vehicles except motorcycles, mopeds and forward control passenger vehicles. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10A Steering columns | 1/71 | 1/71 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10B Steering columns | 1/73 | 1/73 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 11 Internal sunvisors | 1/72 | 1/72 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/73 | 7/73 | 7/73 | 7/73 | - | - | - | 7/73 | - |
| ADR | PC | PD | FC1 | FC2 | PM | OM1 | OM2 | OM3 | OM4 | CY | MOPED | LG | HG |
| 12 Glare reduction | 1/73 | 1/73 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/73 | 7/73 | 7/73 | 7/73 | 7/73 | - | - | 7/73 | 7/73 |
| 14 Rear view mirrors | 1/72 | 1/72 | 1/85 | 1/86 | 1/73 | 1/87 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 Demisting of windscreens | 1/71 | 1/73 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/73 | 7/83 | 7/83 | - | - | - | - | 7/73 | 7/76 |
| 16 Windscreen wipers & washers | 1/73 | 1/73 | 1/85 | 1/86 | 1/74 | 1/87 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 17 Fuel systems- goods vehicles | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7/75 |
| 18 Location and visibility of instruments | 1/73 | 1/73 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 18A Location and visibility of instruments | 1/81 | 1/81 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20 Safety rims | 7/70 | 7/70 | 1/85 | 1/86 | 1/73 | 1/87 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 21 Instrument panel | 1/73 | 1/73 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 22 Head restraints | 1/72 | 1/72 | - | - | 1/74 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 22A Head restraints | 1/75 | 1/75 | 1/85 | 1/86 | 1/75 | 1/87 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 23 Pneumatic car tyres | 1/74 | 1/74 | - | - | 1/74 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 23A Pneumatic car tyres | 1/84 | 1/84 | 1/85 | - | 1/84 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 23B Pneumatic car tyres | 1/86 | 1/86 | 1/86 | 1/86 | 1/86 | 1/87 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 24 Tyre selection | 1/73 | 1/73 | 1/85 | - | 1/73 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Second edition ADR applicability table (cont.)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| 24A Tyre selection | 1/86 | 1/86 | 1/86 | 1/86 | 1/86 | 1/87 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25 Anti-theft locks | 1/72 | 1/72 | - | - | 1/73 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25A Anti-theft locks | 1/78 | 1/78 | 1/85 | 1/86 | 1/78 | 1/87 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 26 Engine emission control | 1/72 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 27 Engine emission control | 1/74 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 27A Engine emission control | 7/76 | 7/76 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 27B Engine emission control | 1/82 | 1/82 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 27C Engine emission control | 1/83 | 1/83 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 28 Motor vehicle noise- petrol | 1/74 | 1/74 | - | - | 1/74 | 7/74 | 7/74 | 7/74 | 7/74 | 7/75 | 7/75 | 7/74 | 7/74 |
| Motor vehicle noise- diesel | 1/74 | 1/74 | - | - | 1/74 | 7/75 | 7/75 | 7/75 | 7/75 | 7/75 | 7/75 | 7/75 | 7/75 |
| 28A Motor vehicle noise | 1/81 | 1/81 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/81 | 7/80 | 7/80 | 7/80 | 7/80 | - | - | 7/80 | 7/80 |
| 29 Side door strength | 1/77 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| ADR | PC | PD | FC1 | FC2 | PM | OM1 | OM2 | OM3 | OM4 | CY | MOPED | LG | HG |
| 30 Diesel engine smoke emissions | 7/76 | 7/76 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 7/76 | 7/76 | 7/76 | 7/76 | 7/76 | 7/76 | 7/76 | 7/76 | 7/76 |
| 31 Hydraulic braking system | 1/77 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 32 Seatbelts for heavy vehicles | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7/77 |
| 32A Seatbelts for heavy vehicles | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7/87 | 7/87 | - | - | - | 7/80 |
| 33 Motorcycle and moped braking systems | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3/76 | 3/76 | - | - |
| 34 Child restraints anchorages | 7/76 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 35 Braking systems- commercial vehicles | - | 1/79 | - | - | 7/79 | 7/79 | 7/79 | 7/79 | - | - | - | 7/79 | - |
| 35A Braking systems- commercial vehicles | - | 1/81 | 1/85 | 1/85 | 7/80 | 7/80 | 7/80 | 7/80 | 7/80 | - | - | 7/80 | 7/80 |
| 36 Exhaust emission control | - | - | 1/85 | 1/85 | 1/79 | 7/78 | 7/78 | 7/78 | 7/79 | - | - | 7/78 | 7/79 |
| 37 Vehicle emission control | 1/86 | 1/86 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 38 Heavy trailer braking systems | Applies to heavy trailers only. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 39 Motorcycle and moped noise | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3/85 | 3/85 | - | - |
| 39A Motorcycle noise | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3/88 | - | - | - |
| 40 Light duty vehicle emission control | - | - | 1/88 | - | 1/88 | 7/88 | - | - | - | - | - | 7/88 | - |
| 41 Mandatory operation on unleaded petrol | - | - | - | 1/88 | 1/88 | - | - | 7/88 | 7/88 | 3/88 | 3/88 | - | 7/88 |

Third edition ADR applicability table

The third edition ADR applicability summaries can be accessed online at:

https://infrastructure.gov.au/roads/motor/design/adr_online.aspx

Please note these summaries are a guide only. The ADRs apply to vehicles in accordance with the applicability dates set out at the beginning (usually in an applicability table) of each standard.

