

Appendix A - Vehicle Category Codes and ADR Applicability Tables

A1. Australian Design Rules

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:

A2. Vehicle category codes

Table A.1 Second edition ADR vehicle categories

Vehicle code	Vehicle category
PC	Passenger Car
FC	Forward Control Passenger Vehicle
PD	Passenger Car Derivative
CY	Motorcycle
MP	Moped
LG	Light Goods Vehicle, up to 4.5 tonne GVM

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

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

A3. 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:

<https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure-transport-vehicles/vehicles/vehicle-design-regulation/australian-design-rules/third-edition>

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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	-
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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
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://www.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure-transport-vehicles/vehicles/vehicle-design-regulation/australian-design-rules/third-edition>

Note: The summaries included are a guide only.

ADRs apply to vehicles in accordance with the applicability dates set out at the beginning (usually in an applicability table) of each standard.