

V51 Vehicle Window Tinting

Effective Date: 10 October 2005

Introduction

Low light levels reduce vision and are an impediment to safe driving. The national standard for vehicle window tinting was first adopted in the Northern Territory in June 1984 and provided for not less than 70% luminous transmittance (LT) on the driver and front passenger side windows with the rear windows required to have not less than 35% LT.

As part of the National Road Transport reform process, in the form of the Australian Vehicle (Standards) Rules, provision has been made to allow States and Territories to relax the window tinting requirement for in-service motor vehicles to the following:

Requirements/Standards for Window Tinting

A coating or tint applied to the side and rear windows of vehicles must have a resultant LT of **not less than 35%**.

Any coating or tint applied to vehicle windows and windscreens must be non reflective (ie. reflectance must not exceed 10%) and must be uniform (ie. no distortion or bubbling).

Glazing used in the front windscreen of a motor vehicle must have a luminous transmittance of at least:

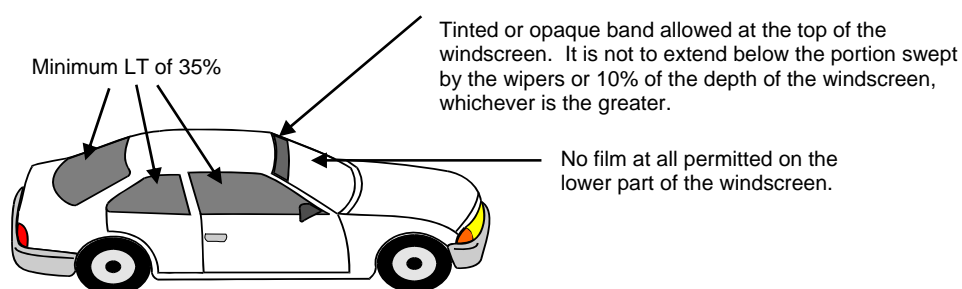
- (a) for a motor vehicle built after 1971 – 75%; or
- (b) for another motor vehicle – 70%.

A strip with any LT may be applied to the greater of the following areas of a windscreen:

- (a) the area above the highest point of the windscreen that is swept by a windscreen wiper;
- (b) the upper 10% of the windscreen.

No other coating or tinting is permitted on the windscreen that reduces its LT.

Glazing used in an interior partition of a motor vehicle must have a LT of at least 70%.



Any in-service goods carrying vehicle that has glass panels (glazing) fitted in lieu of solid panels, or a bus which has glazing fitted in positions that are not required for vision when controlling the vehicle, may tint these glass panels to any LT percentage to meet operational needs.

Any vehicle fitted with window tint with a LT of less than 70% must have external rear vision mirrors fitted to both sides of the vehicle.

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