

REAR VIEW MIRRORS

Method of Testing

1. Check the number and position of the mirrors which afford the driver a view to the rear.
2. Check the condition of each mirror to see that the reflecting surface is not deteriorated or broken so as to impair the driver's view.
3. Examine the security and condition of each mirror mounting bracket.

For N2 & N3 category vehicles registered after 1st Jan 2000 the following additional tests will apply.

- **Category N2** vehicles are goods vehicles having a DGWV exceeding 3.5 tonnes but not exceeding 12 tonnes.
- **Category N3** vehicles are goods vehicles having a DGWV exceeding 12 tonnes.

4. Check that wide angle (Class IV) and close proximity (Class V) mirrors are fitted to the passenger's side of goods vehicle of categories N2 and N3 per points 5 & 6 & 7 below.
5. Vehicles of Class N2 with a DGWV exceeding 3,500kg and not exceeding 7,500kg will not be tested for the presence of either a wide angle (Class IV) or a close proximity (Class V) mirror at this time.
6. For vehicles that must be tested for a close proximity (Class V) mirror (i.e. N2 vehicles exceeding 7,500kg DGWV and all N3 category vehicles), check the required field of view of this mirror is as shown in Figure 1 below by ensuring that the hatched area is visible from the driver's seat. The line A-B must be in line with the driver's "eye-line" to ensure a compliant field of view. The field of vision of the close proximity (Class V) mirror must be physically checked using the painted area on the test centre floor and **NOT** using the RSA approved mirror checking tool.
7. For vehicles that must be tested for a wide angle (Class IV) mirror (i.e. N2 vehicles exceeding 7,500kg DGWV and all N3 category vehicles), check that the radius of curvature of the wide angle (Class IV) mirror is not less than 300mm using the RSA approved mirror checking tool.

NOTE: If no Close Proximity mirror is fitted but the hatched area below can be seen through a combination of Mirrors and/or other devices for indirect vision, a Class V mirror is not required.

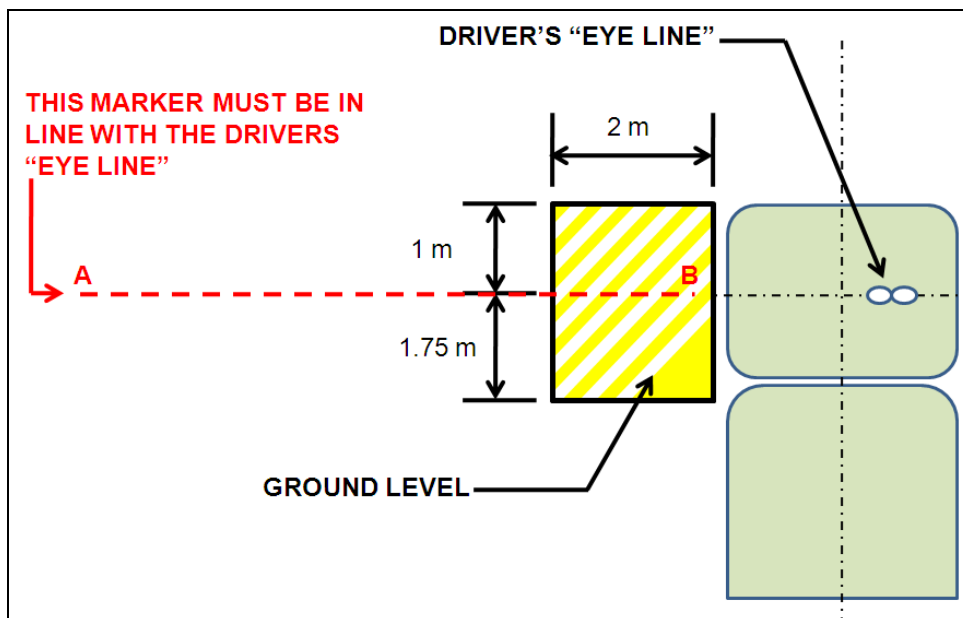


Figure 1: Field of vision of Class V close-proximity mirror. (All dimensions in millimeters).

TOOL FOR CHECKING RADIUS OF CURVATURE OF THE WIDE ANGLE (CLASS IV) MIRROR FOR VEHICLES REGISTERED AFTER 1ST JANUARY 2000

To ensure compliance for vehicles registered after 1st Jan 2000, these vehicles are required to be equipped with a wide angle mirror glass having a radius of curvature of approximately 300mm. Mirror glasses of 400mm and above will not be able to generate the required field of vision necessary to comply with the new requirements. The RSA approved mirror checking tool is shown in Figure 2 below and must be used to perform the check and ensure compliance with the regulations.



Figure 2: Tool for checking the radius of curvature of the wide angle (Class IV) mirror. (Dimensions shown are in millimetres.)

EXAMPLES OF WIDE ANGLE (CLASS IV) MIRRORS THAT ARE OUTSIDE SPEC

Figure 3 below shows an example of where the wide angle mirror **FAILS** to meet the specification as the radius of curvature is less than 300mm. For example, a mirror with a radius of curvature of 250mm would **NOT** meet the new requirements as indicated by the presence of gaps either side of the measuring tool.

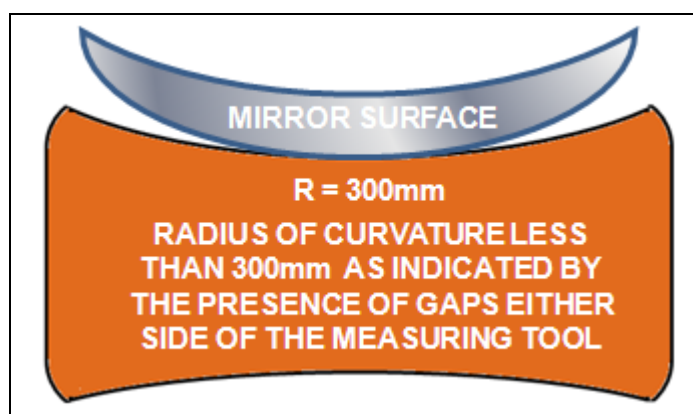


Figure 3: Image showing incorrect radius of curvature i.e. less than 300mm.

Figure 4 below shows another example of where the wide angle mirror **FAILS** to meet the specification as the radius of curvature is greater than 400mm. For example, a mirror with a radius of curvature of 450mm would **NOT** meet the new requirements as indicated by the presence a gap in the middle of the measuring tool.

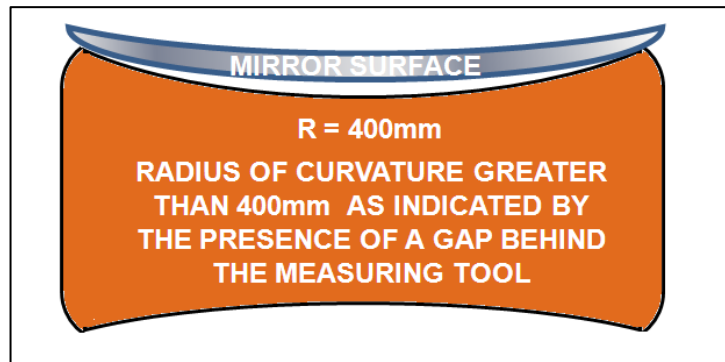


Figure 4: Image showing in incorrect radius of curvature i.e. greater than 400mm.

Equally, as shown in Figure 5 below, mirrors with a radius of curvature of 400mm will also **FAIL** to meet the field of vision requirements.

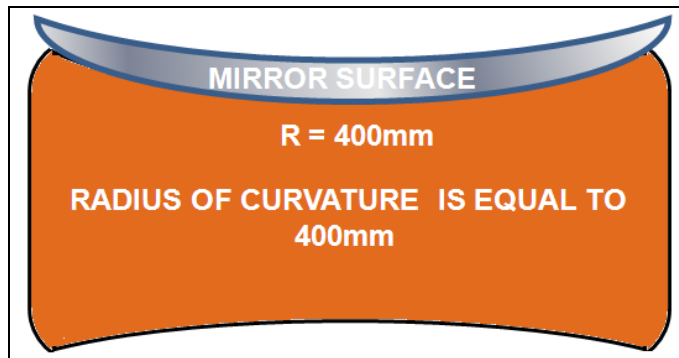


Figure 5: Image showing in incorrect radius of curvature i.e. equal to 400mm.

Mirrors should be tested using both curves on the measuring tool to ensure that they fall within the limits of between 300mm and 400mm, i.e. the radius of curvature can be greater than 300mm **BUT** it must be less than 400mm.

ITEM	REASON FOR FAILURE
Rear View Mirrors, internal and external	<p>(1) Missing.</p> <p>NOTES:</p> <p>(2) For vehicles first registered since 1st January 2000 if there is no close proximity (Class V) mirror fitted but the hatched area in Figure 1 above can be seen through a combination of the Front and Wide Angle mirrors or other supplementary devices for indirect vision then there is no need for a close proximity (Class V) mirror to be fitted.</p> <p>(3) Vehicles of Class N2 with a DGVW exceeding 3,500kg and not exceeding 7,500kg will not be tested for the presence of either a wide angle (Class IV) or a close proximity (Class V) mirror at this time.</p> <p>In the case of vehicles first registered since 1st January 2000 that are required to have both wide angle (Class IV) and close proximity (Class V) mirrors fitted (i.e. N2 category vehicles exceeding 7,500kg DGVW and all N3 category vehicles) to the passenger's side and don't the following will apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the vehicle owner can provide evidence that a supplementary device for indirect vision fitted instead of the mirrors fulfils the requirements of Directive 2007/38/EC there is no need for either of these mirrors. <p>(4) Reflecting surface deteriorated or broken so as to impair the driver's view.</p> <p>(5) Unsuitably placed or not designed to give an adequate view to the rear.</p> <p>(6) So designed that it may cause undue injury in accidents.</p> <p>(7) Head or mounting loose.</p> <p>(8) Mirror not adjustable.</p> <p>(9) Ambulance, goods vehicle, passenger vehicle for more than 8 passengers (excluding the driver's seat) not equipped with two rear view mirrors.</p> <p>(10) For goods vehicles, and passenger vehicles for more than 8 passengers one of the required rear view mirrors is not fitted externally on the right hand side.</p> <p>(11) At least 85% of the Class V mirror diagram (Figure 1) cannot be seen when seated in normal driving position.</p> <p>(12) An incorrect radius of curvature of the wide angle (Class IV) mirror, i.e. the radius must not be less than 300mm nor greater than or equal to 400mm. The RSA Mirror Checking Tool must be used to perform the check.</p>