

# 1.6 Headlamp Aim

Information	Method of Inspection	Reason for Rejection
<p><b>This inspection applies to:</b> all obligatory headlamps and optional (additional) dip beam headlamps.</p> <p><b>Type of headlamp</b></p> <p>The aim of headlamps must be checked on main or dipped beam according to their type. See diagrams 1, 2 or 3, which include details appropriate to each headlamp type.</p> <p>These methods of inspection involve the use of beam checking equipment with a collecting lens.</p> <p><b>Masks or Converter kits</b></p> <p>Right hand dip beam headlamps can be temporarily altered for use in the UK by fitting masks or converter kits which remove the beam 'kick-up' to the right.</p> <p>A headlamp altered in this way is not a reason for Rejection, if</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>the headlamp is not rejected for the reasons listed under diagram 1 (except that the top of the beam image will be a straight line)</li><li>the light output is not unduly reduced – not usually a problem with commercially produced kits</li><li>the mask or converter is securely attached</li></ol> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Cont'd</b> ↓</p>	<p>To check head lamp aim</p> <p><b>A1.</b> Position the vehicle on the designated headlamp aim standing area.</p> <p>Follow the headlamp tester manufacturer's user manual instructions, and align the headlamp aim equipment with the longitudinal axis of the vehicle.</p> <p>Align the centre of the collecting lens with the centre of the headlamp under test.</p> <p>Switch on the headlamps to the beam on which the headlamp is to be checked.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> When checking headlamp aim on vehicles with hydro-pneumatic suspension systems, it is necessary to have the engine idling.</p> <p>Determine the appropriate headlamp beam Image and its aim (see diagrams 1, 2 and 3). Older vehicles (approx. pre 1950) headlamps Beam image may not conform to either Diagrams 1, 2 and 3. In such cases check</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>dip beam</b> headlamps are aimed so they do not dazzle, i.e. the beam image brightest part is aimed at least 0.5% below the horizontal</li></ul> <p><b>or</b> for headlamps which cannot be checked on dip beam, check</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>main beam</b> headlamps are aimed so that the beam image centre is on or slightly below the horizontal.</li></ul>	<p><b>A1.</b> An old (approx. pre 1950) vehicle with a Headlamp which does not conform to diagrams 1, 2 &amp; 3 that has a beam image which is aimed so that it dazzles other road users.</p> <p>An alternative headlamp dipped beam pattern (not being one of the examples) is acceptable providing all of the beam upper edge, including any "peak" is contained within the appropriate tolerance band.</p>