

From: Information Access
inform@vosa.gov.uk

Information Access Team
Berkeley House
Croydon Street
BRISTOL
BS5 0DA

Our ref: F0001369

Tel: 0117 954 2545

Fax: 0117 954 2546

Date: 16th July 2008

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

I refer to our previous correspondence concerning MOT testing. I believe the following should answer your questions.

The test takes as long as required and will vary from vehicle to vehicle however, the average test time for a class 4 vehicle is approx 58 mins

The purpose of the MOT test is to ensure that cars, other light vehicles (including some light goods vehicles), private buses and motor bicycles over a prescribed age are checked at least once a year to see that they comply with key roadworthiness and environmental requirements in the Road Vehicle Construction and Use Regulations 1986 and the Road Vehicle Lighting Regulations 1989 as amended.

The test does not require the dismantling of parts of the vehicle although doors, boot lids and other means of access will normally need to be opened. In the case of motor bicycles, cover panels may also need to be removed or raised to examine the vehicle structure.

They can use
a pit or lift
jacking beam
wheel play detectors (optional)
wheel turning plates
brake test equipment
brake pedal application device (optional)
headlamp aim equipment
smoke or gas analyser dependant on fuel
tread depth gauge
suitable mirrors for lighting checks (optional)

suitable inspection lamp
corrosion assessment tool
suitable pinch bars or levers
steel tape measure
suitable wheel chocks
and if it is not an automated test lane an assistant must be used for certain aspects
of the test

Attached at the end of this letter is a list of the test contents.

If you are unhappy with the information supplied, you may ask for an internal review.
To request an internal review, please write to:

VOSA Corporate Office,
Berkeley House,
Croydon Street,
Bristol,
BS5 0DA

or email vosa.corporateoffice@vosa.gsi.gov.uk

giving the reasons for your dissatisfaction. It will help us if you quote the reference number for your case.

If you do not agree with the outcome of the internal review, you may lodge an appeal with the Information Commissioner (www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk). The Information Commissioner is an independent official appointed by the Crown to oversee the Data Protection Act 1998, the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

The Information Commissioner can consider complaints about any aspect of the way in which requests for information have been handled. Please note: the Information Commissioner would be unlikely to consider your complaint if you have not first requested an internal review.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us, quoting reference **F0001369**.

Yours sincerely

Information Access

Test content

Lighting and Signalling Equipment

Front and Rear Position Lamps, Registration Plate Lamps,
Rear Fog Lamps

Headlamps

Stop Lamps

Rear Reflectors

Direction Indicators and Hazard Warning Lamps

Headlamp Aim

Audible Warning (Horn)

Steering (including suspension)

Steering Control

Steering System

Power Steering

Suspension – General

Front Suspension, Wheel Bearings and Drive Shafts

Rear Suspension and Wheel Bearings

Shock Absorbers

Brakes

Parking Brake Lever Mechanism and Associated Mountings

Hand Operated Brake Control Valves

Service Brake Control

Anti-Lock Braking System

Mechanical Brake Components

Hydraulic, Air and Vacuum Systems

Brake Performance

Method of Calculating Brake Performance

Examples of latest type 'Ministry' and Manufacturers Plates

Brake Efficiency Table

Tyres and Road Wheels

Tyres

Road wheels

Seat Belts

Seat Belts

Body and Structure

Vehicle Structure, Body Security and Condition

Load Security and Spare Wheel Carrier

Speed Limiter

Exhaust, Fuel and Emissions

Exhaust System

Fuel System

Exhaust Emissions-Spark Ignition

Exhaust Emissions-Compression Ignition

Drivers View of the Road

Mirrors

Wipers and Washers

Windscreen

Bonnet

Motor Tricycles and Quadricycles

Lighting

Motorcycle Derived Steering / Suspension Systems

Brakes

Tyres and Road Wheels

Seat Belts

Body and Structure

Exhaust, Fuel and Emissions

Drivers View of the Road

