

FAQs on Use of Fog Lights on Vehicles

RSA

Are vehicles required to be fitted with fog lights front or rear? Front fog lights are not mandatory but some vehicles may have them fitted. All new cars since 1998 are required to be fitted with rear fog lights.

Do I require two rear fog lamps on my vehicle? No. Where a vehicle is fitted with only one fog light either right or centre position is acceptable.

What is the law on using fog lights? The Road Traffic Lighting of Vehicles Regulations 1963 to 2014 [S.I. No. 189 of 1963](#) outline which lights a vehicle must be fitted with and how or when they must be used. Fog lights must only be used if you cannot see more than 100 m in front of the vehicle, in dense fog or falling snow and night-time driving. Fog lights must be switched off when visibility improves.

Why is it illegal to have fog lights on during normal visibility? Fog lights are extremely bright and powerful and if used when there is no dense fog or falling snow can cause glare and dazzle to other drivers which is illegal under the road traffic lighting of vehicles regulations.

Are there any specific requirements for replacing damaged fog lights? Fog lights should be replaced with 'like for like' and type approved where possible showing e-mark. If in doubt contact your vehicle manufacturer or authorised distributor for exact specifications.

Can I retrofit fogs lights to my vehicle? You will need to contact the original manufacturer or authorised distributor.

What colour should fog lights be?

- Front fog lights should be either white or selective yellow.
- Rear fog lights should be red – this can be a red bulb in a clear lens, a red lens with a clear bulb or a combination of both red bulb and red lens.

Will a vehicle fail the roadworthiness test if it does not have fog lights fitted? It is not mandatory for fog lights to be fitted to vehicles however where fitted they must work otherwise the vehicle will fail its roadworthiness test. For further information see the *Reasons for failure* in [NCT](#) and [CVRT](#) Manuals.

If fog lights are removed from a vehicle will it pass NCT? It is illegal to make changes to a vehicle which may increase the danger liable to be caused thereby. The removal of a fog light could be construed as such and therefore illegal to remove.

Are fog lights required on heavy commercial vehicles? Fog lights are not mandatory to be fitted to HCV's but where they are fitted they must be working.