

Vehicle Standards Instruction (General 3.2)

Fitting of visual display units in vehicles

Released March 2011

Updated July 2014



Advancements in electronics have seen a number of visual display units made available for use in vehicles. A number of these visual display units are designed to assist the driver of the vehicle and are therefore considered a driver's aid. Other units are designed for entertainment purposes, which can cause dangerous distractions to the driver and other vehicle operators.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads allows the fitting of visual display units in a position visible by the vehicle operator, provided it is classified as a driver aid. All other visual display units must be positioned so no part of the image is visible to the vehicle operator unless the screen cannot be operated when the vehicle is moving. In cases where one screen provides a multiple function display, or for dual view units which provide the driver and passenger with different images, only the content considered a driver's aid may be visible to the driver while the vehicle is being operated.

The following visual display units are considered driver aids:

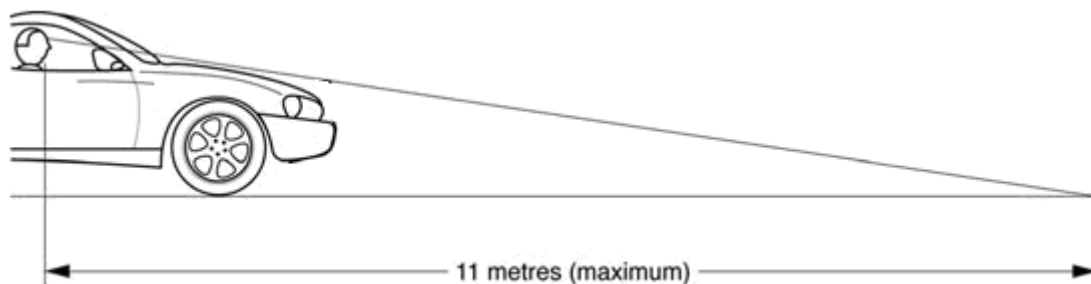
- Dispatch systems;
- Navigational or intelligent highway and vehicle system equipment e.g. GPS;
- Rear view screens;
- Ticket-issuing machines;
- Vehicle monitoring devices.

Other visual display units not considered driver aids include:

- DVD players;
- Television receivers;
- Gaming systems;
- In-vehicle traffic cameras (which do not increase the vehicle operator's field of view).

When fitting a visual display unit it must not:

- be positioned in a way which adversely affects the driver's field of view. It is recommended that the vehicle operator maintains an 11 metre (or if less, that provided for by the original vehicle manufacturer) field of view from the driver's seating position with the seat in the rearmost position.



- encroach upon the deployment area of any of the vehicle's Secondary Restraint System (Air bags, seatbelts, head restraints, etc);
- impede the movement of occupants in the vehicle;
- be fitted in a location which will contact occupants in the event of a crash;
- be fitted in a location where any image on the screen is likely to distract other drivers;
- be fitted in a way which can easily dislodge in a crash or under heavy braking or acceleration;
- obstruct occupant access into the vehicle.

Please note, modifications that adversely affect the safety of a vehicle and driving or parking an unsafe vehicle on a road are breaches of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management - Vehicle Standards and Safety) Regulation 2010*.

Additional Information

Transport Operations (Road Use Management – Vehicle Standards and Safety) Regulation 2010

<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/T/TrantOpRUVSSR10.pdf>

Transport Operations (Road Use Management – Road Rules) Regulation 2009

<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/T/TrantOpRURR09.pdf>