

French obligation to equip trucks operating in France with blind spot signs

In application of decree no. 2020-1396 of 17 November 2020, from 1st January 2021, vehicles operating in France with a maximum permissible mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes must bear, visible on the sides as well as at the rear of the vehicle, a sign indicating the position of the blind spots.

The fact, for any driver, of contravening the signalling obligation is punished by the fine of 135 € (90 € for a reduced fine).

The model of the sign is specified on the government's website <https://www.securite-routiere.gouv.fr/reglementation-liee-la-route/reglementation-de-la-visibilite>.

The fixing rules are as follows.

Motor vehicle:

Rear: to the right of the longitudinal median plane and at a height of between 0.90 and 1.50 m from the ground. For tractors, the sign is to be placed at the rear of the cab.

On each lateral side: in the first metre in front of the vehicle, excluding glass surfaces, at a height of between 0.90 and 1.50 m from the ground.

In the case of direct vision systems on the doors, the sign should be placed as close as possible within a distance of 3 metres.

Trailer/Semi-trailer:

Rear: to the right of the longitudinal median plane and at a height of between 0.90 and 1.50 m from the ground.

On each lateral side: in the 1st metre behind the kingpin of the vehicle (within 1 metre of the front bodywork of the vehicle for the semi-trailers) and at a height of between 0.90 and 1.50 m from the ground.

Any trailer is concerned: van and tautliner

If it's impossible to comply with the above-mentioned dimensions (flatbed vehicle, tanker vehicle, container carrier, car carrier, dollys), stick the sign or add a support for the sign as follows :

- Rear: at a location compatible with the technical characteristics;
- On each side: at a location compatible with the technical specifications.

