

CHAPTER 8 KITS



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Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual (Traffic Safety Measures & Signs for Road Works & Temporary Situations 2006) was issued by the Department for Transport. It provides guidelines for companies operating on public highways on a whole range of issues - including High Visibility Markings.

Section five (5.2 & 5.5) outlines what conspicuous markings are needed on vehicles that intentionally stop for work purposes or inspections on fast moving public highways.

In addition to laying out specifications for the colour of the vehicle, (section 5.2.1), Chapter 8 also sets out the requirements for rear reflective markings on vehicles stopping on high speed roads, 40 mph (5.2.3 & 5.5).



Who does it affect?

It affects any operator of large or small vehicles from HGV to road maintenance trucks, small vans and cars that intentionally stop for work purposes or inspections on high speed roads.

Are there different requirements for different types of vehicles?

Yes, but generally speaking all vehicles must be marked up.

Four marking options exist of which two refer to high visibility film markings. Whilst signing to diagram 7403 and an alternative light arrow sign are allowed on their own, it is generally accepted that high visibility film markings maximise the benefits associated with being seen.

In addition, Maintenance vehicles need to have a "HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE" legend or "MOTORWAY MAINTENANCE" legend when working on motorways.

Also, in temporary traffic management situations, inspection, supervisory, traffic management and maintenance vehicles require a HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE sign (externally mounted on the rear of the vehicle) to be applied.

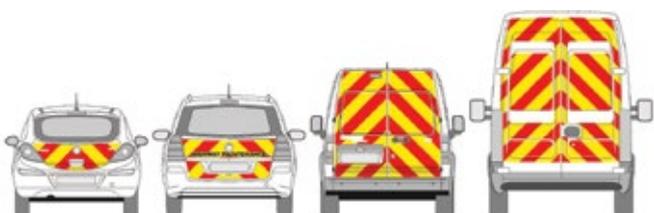
Where do the markings need to be?

The high visibility film markings have to be on the rear of the vehicle. They should comprise of either;

1. chevron markings comprising alternate strips of red retro-reflective material (minimum class ref 2 to EN12899-1 or micro-prismatic film) and fluorescent yellow non retro-reflective material of not less than 150mm width each, inclined at 45-60° to the horizontal and pointing upwards, or
2. a solid block of fluorescent orange-red retro-reflective material.

The markings should cover as much of the rear-facing portion of the vehicle as possible without obscuring windows, vehicle lighting or registration plates.

The illustrations below show how different vehicles are marked up correctly with high visibility tape.



Red retro-reflective tape shall also be applied to all rear-facing edges of doors, guardrails and equipment lockers.

Which material is recommended?

We are recommending that 3M Scotchlite 980-72 red micro-prismatic reflective film should be used for the red markings and 3M Scotchal 3485 Series Saturn Yellow non-reflective film for the fluorescent markings. Both films have been designed for high visibility impact.

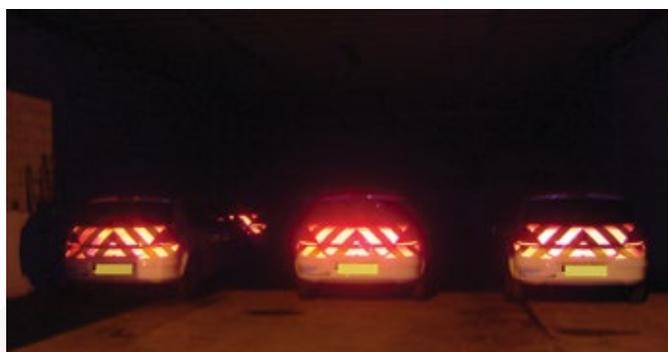
980 Series offers nine times more reflectivity than standard reflective films, is visible up to 1000 metres and reflects to nearly 90 degrees. It is edge-sealed, to prevent moisture and dirt ingress and comes with a seven year life warranty.

3485 Series Saturn Yellow has been designed to provide high attention value under conditions of poor visibility and comes with a three year life warranty.

Chapter 8 kits are available upon request and are ready to apply, we can also supply both materials cut to the size or shape you require.

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Where can I get advice?

William Smith can offer you advice please contact us on 01833 690305 or you can visit the Department for Transport website www.dft.gov.uk for further guidance.

This product card is advisory only and relates to section five of Chapter 8 - General Vehicle Issues. To download a full copy of the document visit the Department for Transport website www.dft.gov.uk