

# V55 – Driver training vehicles (dual control fitment)

## Information Bulletin

### Introduction

This bulletin is a guide for the fitment of dual controls to a motor vehicle for driver training use. The fitting of dual controls is a vehicle modification that requires approval by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles.

### Minimum requirements

To render a vehicle suitable for professional driver training, the following minimum requirements apply:

- 1 a passenger's side brake pedal
- 2 an additional internal rear vision mirror located such that the instructor can see traffic approaching from the rear (sun visor mounted vanity mirrors are not acceptable for this application)
- 3 a clearly visible label fitted to the passenger's side of the dashboard carrying the words:

**THIS VEHICLE IS FITTED WITH DUAL CONTROLS**

**Note:**

*A major purpose of dual controls is emergency crash avoidance.*

*Dual controls must be able to be operated instantly without the need for visual check of pedal location.*

### Technical requirements and approval

Driver training vehicles fitted with dual controls will be acceptable for registration subject to the following conditions:

- a) An application to modify a vehicle must first be made to the Department for an approval in principle prior to any modifications being carried out unless prior assessment of the product has been approved by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles under a "type-approval" arrangement.
- b) The controls are to be mounted:
  - i. on a suitable structural section of the vehicle
  - ii. as close as practicable to the same horizontal plane as the driver's side pedals
  - iii. as close as practicable to the same vertical plane as the driver's side pedals
  - iv. such that travel and response is similar to those of the driver's side pedals.
- c) Pedals, cables and pivots are to be of equivalent strength, material and durability as original controls. The installation of controls shall not compromise the vehicle's compliance with any

Australian Design Rule or interfere with any occupant protection system, including a passenger SRS airbag.

- d) Items such as glovebox compartment or parcel tray must not prevent ready access to dual controls.
- e) All modifications are to be carried out in accordance with best engineering practice (i.e. *Australian Standard 3954.1-1991 Motor Vehicle Controls – Adaptive systems for people with disabilities*).
- f) The vehicle must be inspected as and when directed by the Department's approval in principle, where applicable. A certificate of vehicle modification will be issued when all the required inspections are completed satisfactorily.

## Modified vehicle application

Refer to [Vehicle information bulletins and forms - NT.GOV.AU](#)

## Conditions

### Driver training – primary use of vehicle

The primary use of the vehicle will be for driver training purposes with a person who is authorised to provide driver training.

### Ownership restriction

A restriction will be placed on the vehicle registration record to prevent the unauthorised transfer of ownership of the modified vehicle unless the proposed new owner intends to use the vehicle primarily for driver training.

### Decommissioning of vehicle

Before the modified vehicle is disposed of or on-sold, the dual control modification will need to be removed and returned to standard condition. Validating the safe removal of the modified system may be required unless transferring to another owner for driver training.

### Appropriate safe guards

When the vehicle is not being used for driver training purposes, the driver of the vehicle is to ensure that appropriate safe guards are in place to prevent the accidental activation of the dual control system.

### Cautionary note

Failure to comply with modification requirements and conditions may affect any claim for insurance that may result from an incident arising from the use of a modified vehicle. Any unapproved modification may deem the vehicle to be “defective”.

## More information

For more information, contact the department on 08 8924 7157 or email [vehiclestandards.mvr@nt.gov.au](mailto:vehiclestandards.mvr@nt.gov.au)