

Press release (13.10.2015)

Reminder: Winter tyres mandatory in the Grand Duchy

When conditions are wintry, winter tyres are essential!

Since 1 October 2012, driving an automotive vehicle on the road in **winter conditions (black ice, packed snow, slush, ice or frost)** is only allowed throughout the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg if all the vehicle's wheels are fitted with winter tyres (marked 'M + S', 'M. S.' or 'M & S'). In some cases there is also an alpine symbol on the tyre as well (a three-peak mountain with a snowflake).

For lorries, buses and coaches, only the wheels on all the vehicle's driving axles must be fitted with winter tyres. The same applies to motor homes with a maximum authorised mass exceeding 3,500 kg.

Exceptions

- This obligation does not apply to:
- mopeds, motorcycles, tricycles, quad bikes (both lightweight and standard);
- tractors;
- self-propelled machinery.

Given that winter tyres are **not made for the following vehicles**, they are also **exempted from the obligation**:

- special vehicles other than motor homes;
- vehicles belonging to the army, national police, Customs & Excise Agency, Administration of emergency services, and municipal fire and rescue services.

Foreign vehicles

It should be noted that these provisions:

- apply to all drivers, regardless of the country of registration of the vehicle they are driving (cross-border workers, transit traffic);
- do not apply to vehicles parked on a public road.

Fines

Non-compliance with the regulation is punishable with a fine of 74 euros.

Roadworthiness testing

If your vehicle has to be tested for roadworthiness during the winter, be prepared for the possibility of your **vehicle's wheel rims and/or tyres** needing to be subjected to an acceptance procedure, particularly if their dimensions are not the same as those indicated on the certificate of conformity for your vehicle. Make sure you always take with you all the technical documentation for the rims and/or tyres.

Some of the most frequently asked questions

The obligation to fit winter tyres in wintry conditions was introduced in the Grand Duchy on 1 October 2012; is there a date limit for driving with winter tyres fitted?

Winter tyres are only compulsory when driving in the corresponding weather and road conditions. This is a rule for behaviour that relates to the state of the road, rather than a general obligation; there is therefore no date for the start and end of winter. The regulation applies throughout the year. Driving with winter tyres fitted is not prohibited during the summer months, but obviously it is not recommended.

Does the requirement to drive with winter tyres fitted still apply if there is snow left on the pavements and fields, but not on the road?

The rule only applies to the state of the road. If the road is clean and the snow has been completely cleared away, it is possible to drive without winter tyres.

Is it possible to fit four winter tyres of different types on my car?

No; indeed in general in the Grand Duchy you are not allowed to mix different types of tyres. Cars must be fitted with four tyres of the same type.

(Press release from the [Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure](#))