

# WILL YOUR CAR OR TRUCK MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR NEW Driver's License?

**Performance Standards For Motor Vehicle Inspection As Specified By the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles  
Submitted By: North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association**

1. **LICENSES:** Vehicle Registration Card and Driver's License shall be produced. Vehicle Registration Card shall check with Serial, Motor and License Number on vehicle. Operator's and chauffeur's license card shall be legible and for the current period. Vehicle license plates shall be displayed in the intended and lawful manner and shall be securely fastened to eliminate swinging. They shall be legible, visible and present an entirely unobstructed view. They shall be flat and shall not be cut or in any way mutilated, and displayed at place provided under the light for illumination at night.

2. **HORN:** The horn shall be in good working condition and capable of emitting a clear sound, audible under normal conditions at a distance of not less than 200 feet, but no horn or other warning device shall emit an unreasonably harsh sound or whistle.

3. **MIRROR:** The rear view mirror shall be so arranged and in such condition as to present to the driver an unobstructed rear view of the highway.

4. **WINDSHIELD WIPER:** Every motor vehicle having a windshield shall be equipped with at least one windshield wiper in good working order for cleaning rain, snow or other moisture from the windshield, so as to provide clear vision for the driver. All such devices shall be so constructed and installed as to be operated or controlled by the driver. All motor vehicles originally equipped with dual windshield may not in this respect be altered and both are subject to the above standard.

5. **WINDSHIELD:** All motor vehicles originally equipped with approved safety glass may not in this respect be altered. (Windshield shall be completely clear of posters, stickers or other non-transparent materials except as required by law and shall be free from breaks, cracks, or discoloration, which will impair driver's vision or in any way create a hazard.)

6. **REAR-SIDE GLASS:** All motor vehicles originally equipped with approved safety glass may not in this respect be altered. All rear and side glass shall be completely clear of posters, stickers, except as required by law and shall be free from breaks, cracks or discoloration which will impair driver's vision or in any way create a hazard.

7. **STEERING ALIGNMENT:** Side-slips (mis-alignment between right and left front wheels) shall not exceed 30 feet per mile as indicated by the alignment tester.

8. **STEERING ASSEMBLY:** Front wheels when free of the ground shall have not more than one-fourth inch free movement in and out, top or bottom. There shall be no dangerous or undue looseness anywhere in the steering mechanism. Any unusual mechanical condition that would cause difficult or uncertain steering will be cause for rejection. Broken main or secondary spring leaves or shackle bolts will be cause for rejection. Free play or movement of the steering wheel, when measured at its rim, shall not exceed three inches.

9. **REAR WHEEL ALIGNMENT:** Side-slip (mis-alignment between right and left rear wheels), must not exceed 30' per mile as indicated by the alignment tester. The rear axle shall be reasonably square with vehicle frame.

10. **EXHAUST SYSTEM:** All motor vehicles with internal combustion motors shall at all times be equipped with a muffler in good working order to prevent excessive or unusual noise. The entire exhaust system, including manifolds, exhaust pipes, mufflers and tailpipes, shall be leakproof.

11. **TIRES:** All motor vehicle tires shall be free from any exposed fabric or bulges which indicate broken fabric or which exhibits dangerously weakened conditions.

12. **TURN SIGNALS:** All motor vehicles originally equipped with turn signals may not in this respect be altered and such device shall be in good working order, and shall present a plainly visible signal in accordance

with original design. All trucks so constructed that the hand signal is not visible, both to the front and rear, shall be equipped with approved signals.

13. **TAIL LIGHTS:** All motor vehicles originally equipped with approved tail light or lights, may not in this respect be altered. Such light, or lights, when lighted must exhibit a red light, plainly visible for a distance of not less than 500 feet to the rear.

14. **STOP LIGHTS:** All motor vehicles originally equipped with approved stop lights must not in this respect be altered. Such light, or lights, shall present a red signal upon application of the foot brake, plainly visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet to the rear.

15. **PARKING LIGHTS:** All motor vehicles shall be equipped with parking lights capable of presenting one or more white lights at the front and one or two red lights at the rear, all of which shall be visible from a distance of not less than 500 feet. All motor vehicles originally equipped with dual front or rear parking lights may not in this respect be altered.

16. **PASSING LIGHT:** All motor vehicles originally equipped with a means for dimming or depressing headlight beams may not in this respect be altered and such device shall be in good working order.

17. **AUXILIARY LIGHTS:** All motor vehicles may be equipped with not to exceed two auxiliary driving lights mounted on the front and must be aimed in such a manner that no part of the high intensity portion of the beam shall be directed to the left of the extreme left side of nor more than 75 feet ahead of the vehicle. The center of the high intensity beam shall not be higher than 8 inches below lamp center at 125 feet. Note: Any or all unauthorized lights, or lighting devices, warning devices or other unauthorized equipment shall be removed.

18. **HEADLIGHTS:** All motor vehicles shall be equipped with two headlights, the assembly of which shall be of an approved type and in good working order. Each headlight shall be capable of producing at least 3,750 apparent beam candlepower on the high or driving beam.

On the symmetrical, multiple beam headlights, the highest, or driving beam, of each headlight shall be so aimed that the center of the high intensity portion shall not be above headlight center level nor more than 7 inches below same at a distance of 25 feet; not more than 7 inches to the right or left of straight ahead at a like distance.

On asymmetric, multiple beam headlights, the high or driving beam of each headlight shall be so aimed that the center of the high intensity portion shall not be above headlight center level nor more than 7 inches below same at a distance of 25 feet. The center of the high intensity portion of the driving beam of the headlight which does not regularly depress upon operation of a driving beam switch, shall be aimed not less than 13 inches to the right nor more than 19 inches to the right of straight ahead at a distance of 25 feet. The center of the high intensity portion of the opposite headlight beam shall not be aimed more than 7 inches to the right or left of straight ahead at a distance of 25 feet.

On single beam headlights the center of the high intensity portion of the beam shall not be higher than 8 inches below headlight center level nor more than 13 inches below same at a distance of 25 feet, nor more than 7 inches to the right or left of straight ahead at a like distance.

19. **CLEARANCE LIGHTS:** Every motor vehicle having a width at any part in excess of 80 inches shall carry 2 clearance lamps at the front, one at each side, reflecting an amber light plainly visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of said vehicle and two clearance lamps at the rear, one on each side and reflecting a red light

visible under like conditions from a distance of 500 feet to the rear of the vehicle. Note: All lighting equipment on motor vehicles must be of an approved design and in good working order.

20. **REFLEX-REFLECTORS:** Trailers or semi-trailers over 2500 lbs. gross shall carry at least one reflex-reflector as approved by the Commissioner. In addition to the regular tail light located as to a height and maintained as to be visible for at least 500 feet when approached by a motor vehicle displaying lawful undimmed headlights at night on an unlighted highway.

Trailers under 2500 lbs. gross shall carry two red reflex-reflectors, each not less than 4 inches in diameter and to be of a type approved by the Commissioner and which are so located as to height and maintained so as for each reflector to be visible for at least 500 feet when approached by a motor vehicle displaying lawful undimmed headlights at night on an unlighted highway.

21. **SWITCHES AND WIRING:** All motor vehicle light switches and wiring shall comply with the approved assembly requirement and shall be in good working order and in accordance with original design. All wiring must be maintained in safe condition.

22. **BREAKING EFFORT:** All motor vehicles except motor trucks or tractor-trucks with semi-trailers originally equipped with 4-wheel service brakes may not in this respect be altered, shall be capable of producing a total braking effort of not less than 54 per cent of the vehicle weight (corresponding to a stopping distance of 25 feet at 20 miles per hour).

All motor vehicles originally equipped with 2-wheel service brakes shall be capable of producing a total braking effort of not less than 30 per cent of the vehicle weight (corresponding to a stopping distance of 45 feet at 20 miles per hour).

All motor trucks or tractor-trucks with semi-trailers originally equipped with brakes on all wheels may not in this respect be altered and shall be capable of producing a braking effort of not less than 43 per cent of the permissible gross weight or vehicles weight (corresponding to a stopping distance of 30 feet at 30 miles per hour).

Semi-trailers or trailers having a gross weight of two tons and all house trailers of 1000 lbs. gross weight or more, shall be equipped with brakes controlled or operated by the driver of the towing vehicles and shall conform to these specifications: 30 feet at 20 miles per hour. Note: The stopping distances set forth above would be on a dry, hard approximately level stretch of highway, free from loose material when brakes are applied.

23. **BRAKE EQUALIZATION:** The brake equalization on all motor vehicles shall correspond to the following:

Front wheel braking effort shall total not less than 50 per cent of the rear wheel braking effort or vice versa. The braking effort of one front wheel shall be not less than 64 per cent of the other front wheel. The braking effort of one rear wheel shall be not less than 64 per cent of the other rear wheel.

All motor vehicles equipped with 2-wheel brakes shall correspond to the following:

The braking effort of one rear wheel shall be not less than 64 per cent of the other rear wheel.

24. **BRAKE PEDAL:** The complete braking system shall be in good working order and shall afford a pedal reserve upon full application of not less than one-third of the designed pedal travel.

25. **HAND BRAKE:** All motor vehicles shall be equipped with a hand brake in good working order, having a lever reserve upon full application of at least one-fourth of the total designed travel. The ratchet, or holding device, shall be in good working order.

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**YADKIN VALLEY MOTOR CO.**

**MOTOR MARKET, Inc.**

**WILKES AUTO SALES, Inc.**

**FRAZIER MOTOR CO.**

**MOTOR SERVICE SALES CO.**

**WILKES HUDSON CO.**

**MIDWAY PONTIAC, Inc.**

**GADDY MOTOR CO.**

**WILLIAMS MOTOR CO.**

**BARBER-SOMERS MOTOR CO.**