News story: MOT rule changes: 20 May 2018

Updated: Added Welsh translation.

The way that the MOT test works in England, Scotland and Wales will change from Sunday 20 May 2018.

The MOT test works differently in Northern Ireland.

The changes will affect cars, vans, motorcycles and other light passenger vehicles.

There are 5 main changes you need to know.

1. Defects will be categorised differently

Defects found during the MOT will be categorised as either:

- dangerous
- major
- minor

The category the MOT tester gives each item will depend on the type of problem and how serious it is.

MOT testers will still give advice about items you need to monitor. These are known as 'advisories'.

What the new categories mean

Item result	What it means about the item	How it affects your MOT result
Dangerous	A direct and immediate risk to road safety or has a serious impact on the environment. Do not drive the vehicle until it's been repaired.	Fail
Major	It may affect the vehicle's safety, put other road users at risk or have an impact on the environment. Repair it immediately.	Fail
Minor	No significant effect on the safety of the vehicle or impact on the environment. Repair as soon as possible.	Pass
Advisory	It could become more serious in the future. Monitor and repair it if necessary.	Pass
Pass	It meets the minimum legal standard. Make sure it continues to meet the standard.	Pass

2. Stricter rules for diesel car emissions



There will be stricter limits for emissions from diesel cars with a diesel particulate filter (DPF).

A DPF captures and stores exhaust soot to reduce emissions from diesel cars.

Check your car's handbook if you don't know if your car has a DPF.

Your vehicle will get a major fault if the MOT tester:

- can see smoke of any colour coming from the exhaust
- finds evidence that the DPF has been tampered with

3. Some new things will be included in the MOT



Daytime running lights will be checked on vehicles first used from 1 March 2018.

Some new items will be tested during the MOT.

They include checking:

- if tyres are obviously underinflated
- if the brake fluid has been contaminated
- for fluid leaks posing an environmental risk
- brake pad warning lights and if brake pads or discs are missing
- reversing lights on vehicles first used from 1 September 2009
- headlight washers on vehicles first used from 1 September 2009 (if they have them)
- daytime running lights on vehicles first used from 1 March 2018 (most of these vehicles will have their first MOT in 2021 when they're 3 years old)

There will be other smaller changes to how some items are checked. Your MOT centre will be able to tell you about these.

4. The MOT certificate will change

Driver & Vehicle Standards			MOT Test Certificate	MOT test certif			20%
Agency				® Vehicle identification r			Driver & Vehicle
MOT Test Number	Vehicle Registration	Mark	Vehicle Identification Number	QQIDAAAAAA05856	8		Standards
100000010240	FNZ6110		1M8GCM9AXKP042788		Country of regist	ration	
Make	Model		Colour	AA11BBB	GB		Agency
RENAULT	CLIO		Grey	Make and model			
Issuer's Name	Test Class		Country of Registration	ASTON MARTIN DB11			
B. T. Arctor Testerl	4		Great Britain	*Vahiala astasas	Mileage	Mileage history	
Expiry Date	Issued		Test Station	Wehicle category M1	22,341 miles	19,697 miles	
21 December 2018 (EIGHTEEN)	22 Dec 2017		V1234		22,541111105	18,910 miles	
Odometer Reading and History		Inspection Authority				18,216 miles	
22 12 2017: 947035 km		Popular Garages 67 Main Road					
		Bristol 858 2NT	+768-45-4433630		ects		
				# Penair as soo	n as possible (n	inor defects	`
							nappropriately [reference 5.1.1 (a)]
Additional Information		Signature of Issuer			orrosion [reference 1.		importanting presentence 5.1.1 (a)]
To preserve the anniversary of t							ted [reference 6.2.1 (b)]
the earliest you can present you test is 22 November 2018.	ur vehicle for						
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Advisory Information				Child seat fitted	not allowing full inspe	ction of adult belt	[reterence 0.1.1 (a)]
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The current MOT test certificate (left) will change to a new style (right) to list the new types of defects.

The design of the MOT certificate will change.

It will list any defects under the new categories, so they're clear and easy to understand.

The service to <u>check the MOT history of a vehicle</u> will be updated to reflect the changes.

5. Some vehicles over 40 years old won't need an MOT



Cars, vans, motorcycles and other light passenger vehicles won't need to have an MOT if they're over 40 years old and have not been <u>substantially changed</u> (PDF, 62.8KB).

At the moment, only vehicles first built before 1960 are exempt from needing an MOT.

When the rules change on 20 May 2018, vehicles won't need an MOT from the 40th anniversary of when they were registered. You can check the date the vehicle was registered online.

Example

If a car was first registered on 31 May 1978, it won't need an MOT from 31 May 2018.

You won't have to apply to stop getting an MOT for your vehicle.

However, each time you <u>tax your historic vehicle</u> (even if you don't pay a fee), you'll have to declare it meets the rules for not needing an MOT.

More information

The <u>maximum fees</u> MOT centres can charge won't change.

In January 2018, the government decided to keep the age a vehicle needs its

first MOT at 3 years, rather than extend it to 4 years.

You can <u>get a free MOT reminder</u> by text message or email a month before your MOT is due.

You can be fined up to £1,000 for driving a vehicle without a valid MOT.

CHP investigates three suspected food poisoning clusters

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health is today (March 27) investigating three suspected food poisoning clusters affecting eight persons, and reminded the public to maintain personal, food and environmental hygiene to prevent food-borne diseases.

The first cluster comprised three women aged 25 to 54, who developed fever, abdominal pain, vomiting and diarrhoea about seven to 13 hours after having dinner at a restaurant in Tsim Sha Tsui on March 23.

The second cluster comprised one man and one woman aged 30 to 40, who developed fever, abdominal pain and diarrhoea about 15 to 21 hours after having dinner at the same restaurant on the same day.

The third cluster comprised two males and one female aged nine to 40, who developed fever, abdominal pain, vomiting and diarrhoea about 10 to 25 hours after having a meal at the same restaurant on the same night.

All affected persons have sought medical advice and three of them required hospitalisation. All patients are in a stable condition.

"We have alerted the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to the incident and investigations are ongoing," a spokesman for the CHP said.

To prevent food-borne diseases, members of the public are reminded to maintain personal, food and environmental hygiene at all times. When dining out:

- Patronise only reliable and licensed restaurants;
- Avoid eating raw seafood;
- Be a discerning consumer in choosing cold dishes, including sashimi, sushi and raw oysters, at a buffet;
- Ensure food is thoroughly cooked before eating during a hot pot or barbecue meal;
- Handle raw and cooked foods carefully and separate them completely during the cooking process;

- Use two sets of chopsticks and eating utensils to handle raw and cooked food:
- Do not patronise illegal food hawkers;
- Drink boiled water;
- Do not try to use salt, vinegar, wine and wasabi to kill bacteria as they are not effective; and
- Always wash hands before eating and after going to the toilet.

News story: Skills Minister calls on employers to join new T level panels

Leading businesses are being urged to grasp the opportunity of working with the government to develop prestigious new T level qualifications.

Skills Minister Anne Milton has called on industry experts from agriculture, environmental and animal care; business and administration; hair and beauty; creative and design; and catering and hospitality to join the influential T level employer panels and help develop the outline content for new qualifications.

T levels are new courses, which will be on a par with A levels and provide young people with a genuine choice between technical and academic education post 16. The first subjects in digital, education and childcare, and construction will be taught from 2020.

Skills Minister, Anne Milton said:

T levels are about giving greater choice to young people to get the skills they need to achieve good jobs. It is also about businesses — we know they are crying out for a skilled workforce and T levels will create the next generation of talented employees for them.

We are already working with top industry leaders and want even more to join us to make this a success for individuals, businesses and the economy.

T level content is already being developed with the help of top firms like Rolls-Royce, IBM, Lloyds and Morphy Richards, among others.

The Department for Education wants business representatives to step-up and help design the new qualifications in T level routes which will be delivered from 2022:

- agriculture, environmental and animal care
- business and administration

- hair and beauty
- creative and design
- catering and hospitality

Businesses can <u>apply</u> to be part of the T level qualification panels. The closing date for applications is 5pm Tuesday 8 May 2018.

Cluster of Multi-drug Resistant Acinetobacter cases in Queen Elizabeth Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Queen Elizabeth Hospital made the following announcement today (March 27):

Three patients (aged 48 to 67) of a male Neurosurgery ward have been confirmed as having Multi-drug Resistant Acinetobacter (MDRA) since March 12. They are currently under isolation. One of them is in stable condition. The remaining two are in serious condition due to underlying diseases.

Infection control measures in the ward concerned have already been stepped up according to prevailing guidelines. All other patients in the ward are under close medical surveillance.

The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection.

SRPA promotes Residential Properties (First-hand Sales) Ordinance to estate agents (with photos)

The Sales of First-hand Residential Properties Authority (SRPA) today launched a new promotional initiative to brief estate agents on requirements of the Residential Properties (First-hand Sales) Ordinance.

SRPA officers visited 18 estate agency companies in Aberdeen and Tseung Kwan O this morning, reminding estate agents on issues they should pay attention to when promoting first-hand residential properties, in particular

requirements of the Ordinance in relation to advertisements and prohibitions against misrepresentation and the dissemination of false or misleading information.

Information kits, comprising a summary that sets out how estate agents should comply with the requirements of the Ordinance when publishing advertisements on first-hand residential properties, a pamphlet on the main requirements of the Ordinance and "Notes to Purchasers of First-hand Residential Properties" setting out information of interest to prospective purchasers of first-hand residential properties, were distributed to the estate agents.

"In most circumstances, estate agents are the first contact point of prospective purchasers. As such, estate agents' understanding of and compliance with the Ordinance are of paramount importance in the course of sale of first-hand residential properties," an SRPA spokesman said.

"With a view to enhancing protection for prospective purchasers, the SRPA will continue to foster awareness of estate agents on requirements of the Ordinance as a targeted measure," the spokesman added.

In parallel, the SRPA will also step up inspections of estate agency companies to check whether advertisements on first-hand residential properties comply with the requirements in the Ordinance so as to further enhance the transparency and fairness of the sales of first-hand residential properties and protect the interests of purchasers.



