

# MAINE MOTOR VEHICLE



## INSPECTION MANUAL

REVISED 01/31/2022

MAINE STATE POLICE  
TRAFFIC SAFETY UNIT  
20 STATE HOUSE STATION  
TELEPHONE 624-8935

Maine

- (4) Reject vehicle if the horizontal movement between upper and lower saddle mount halves exceeds  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

200.15 EXHAUST SYSTEM

1. MUFFLER

~~\*~~

Reject vehicle if it does not have a muffler. Do not reject if the vehicle was manufactured without a muffler, but in accordance with the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.

2. EXHAUST SYSTEM

- A. Reject vehicle if there are exhaust system leaks at any point forward of, or directly below the driver/sleeper compartment. Exhaust system must be solid and secure.

- B. Reject vehicle if any exhaust emission control system is incomplete or not functioning properly.

- C. Bus Exhaust Systems;

- (1) Reject vehicle if it is a gasoline powered bus and exhaust fumes leak or discharge forward of a point 6 inches from the rearmost part of the bus.

- (2) Reject vehicle if it is a non-gasoline powered bus and exhaust fumes leak or discharge to a point in excess of 15 inches forward of the rearmost part of the bus or forward of a door or window designed to be opened, except for emergency exits.

- (3) Reject vehicle if any part of the exhaust system of the vehicle is located in a position that would be likely to result in burning, charring or damaging the electrical wiring, the fuel supply, or any combustible part of the motor vehicle, including but not limited to, excessive oil leaking from the engine, transmission, or rear end.



☰ OPEN MENU

[Home](#) > [Inspections & Emissions](#)

## Inspections & Emissions

*What you need to know about vehicle inspections, emissions and On-Board Diagnostics.*

Vehicle Inspections

Emissions/On-Board Diagnostics (OBD)

### Vehicle Inspections

All New Hampshire registered vehicles require a safety inspection to be conducted within ten (10) days of the registration. After the initial inspection, registered vehicles must be re-inspected every year, no later than ten (10) days after the end of the owner's birth month. When a vehicle changes owners, it must be inspected in the new owner's name within ten (10) days of the registration date, even if the original inspection sticker has not expired. Please note that antique motor vehicles must be inspected in the month of May ([RSA 266:1](#)).

Please review our [Administrative Rules, Saf-C 3200](#) for more information regarding the inspection process.

### Where to Get a Vehicle Inspected

Vehicles may be inspected and OBD tested at any state licensed inspection station or an authorized New Hampshire automobile dealer. Not every mechanic is certified to perform inspections but all authorized stations are required to post a notice indicating that the station is an authorized inspection station. The State of New Hampshire does not mandate the amount a station may charge for an inspection. Prices generally range from \$20 to \$50 per vehicle.

### Inspection Process

Inspection information from both the safety and emission inspections will be entered into a computer system and electronically transferred to the DMV. Vehicles which pass both the safety and emissions inspections will be issued an inspection sticker. It will be valid for the same time period as the vehicle's registration. The mechanic is required to give a copy of the official Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR) to the motorist every time the vehicle is inspected.

Below is a list of items which are included in the general inspection process:

- Registration, plates, registration certificate and vehicle identification number.
- Steering, front end and suspension.
- Brakes, including parking brake.
- Odometer and speedometer.
- Electrical system, horn and defroster.
- Lights and reflectors, including headlight aim.
- Glass, glazing and mirrors.
- Wipers.
- Exhaust system.
- On-board diagnostics system.

New. #10886, INTERIM, eff 7-16-15, EXPIRES: 1-12-16; ss by #11016, eff 1-6-16

Saf-C 3217.11 Defroster. Pursuant to RSA 266:56, any vehicle manufactured after January 1, 1947, shall be rejected if not equipped with a functional defroster capable of melting snow and ice on the windshield.

Source. (See Revision Notes at Chapter Heading Saf-C 3200) #8915, eff 6-22-07, EXPIRED: 6-22-15

New. #10886, INTERIM, eff 7-16-15, EXPIRES: 1-12-16; ss by #11016, eff 1-6-16

Saf-C 3217.12 Windshield Wipers.

(a) A vehicle shall be rejected if:

- (1) The wiper blades fail to clear the windshield, so that the driver's vision is limited or obscured;
- (2) The rubber section of the wiper blade is worn or missing;
- (3) The wiper does not have 2 or more functioning speeds, if the vehicle was manufactured after January 1, 1968;
- (4) The wiper blades do not meet the manufacturer's specifications; or
- (5) If equipped with a front windshield washer system, it does not function per manufacturer's specifications.

Source. (See Revision Notes at Chapter Heading Saf-C 3200) #8915, eff 6-22-07, EXPIRED: 6-22-15

New. #10886, INTERIM, eff 7-16-15, EXPIRES: 1-12-16; ss by #11016, eff 1-6-16

Saf-C 3217.13 Window Function. A vehicle shall be rejected if all of the occupant windows do not open and close as the manufacturer intended.

Source. (See Revision Notes at Chapter Heading Saf-C 3200) #8915, eff 6-22-07, EXPIRED: 6-22-15

New. #10886, INTERIM, eff 7-16-15, EXPIRES: 1-12-16; ss by #11016, eff 1-6-16

## PART Saf-C 3218 EXHAUST SYSTEM

Saf-C 3218.01 Inspection of Exhaust System.

(a) The exhaust system, including the exhaust pipe, muffler, resonator, catalytic converter, tailpipe, hangers, brackets and all other component parts shall be inspected for leakage, improper fastening or excessive noise pursuant to RSA 266:59.

(b) All vehicles shall be equipped with mufflers in good working condition and shall meet the requirements of RSA 266:59.

(c) All replacement exhaust systems shall meet the requirements of RSA 266:59. Trucks that are not equipped with a camper or other enclosed structure for carrying passengers may be inspected without a tail pipe, as long as the muffler extends past the passenger compartment and has a down spout.

(d) A vehicle shall be rejected if:

- (1) It has no tailpipe or muffler;
- (2) There are holes, or structural rust or worn components in any part of the exhaust system that compromises the integrity of the system;
- (3) There are loose or leaking joints or leaking seams in any section;
- (4) Any portion of the exhaust system is not securely fastened;
- (5) Any portion of the exhaust system passes through the passenger compartment or trunk;
- (6) Muffler jackets or flexible pipe, which does not seal itself, is used in the exhaust system;
- (7) The tail pipe end is pinched or damaged in such a way to restrict exhaust flow;
- (8) The muffler has loose or missing interior baffles, or holes which have been repaired with patches;
- (9) There is a muffler cut-out, muffler by-pass or similar device which allows excessive or unusual noise;
- (10) Excessive fumes, smoke, flame, gas, oil or fuel residue escapes in violation of RSA 266:59; or

N.H.

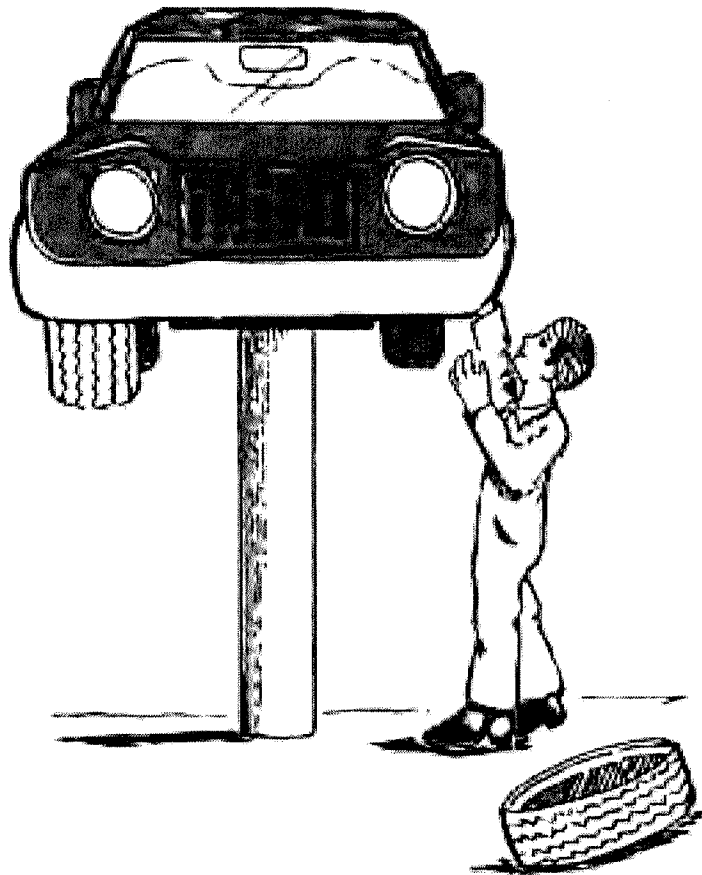


**Department of  
Motor Vehicles**

# **MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION REGULATIONS**

---

Effective January 1, 2017



N.Y.

<p>4. Drawbar/towbar tongue  A. Condition  B. Operation</p>	<p>A. Any cracks.  B. Movement of 1/4 inch or more between subframe and drawbar at point of attachment.   Ineffective latching mechanism. (Added 1/23/08)   Missing or ineffective stop. Added 1/23/08)   Movement of more than 1/4 inch (6mm) between the slider and housing. Added 1/23/08)   Any leaking air or hydraulic cylinders, hoses, or chambers (other than slight oil weeping normal with hydraulic seals). Added 1/23/08)</p>
<p>5. Safety chains and cable  A. Presence of safety chains  B. Condition      i. Chains and hooks               ii. Cable (Added 12/22/99)</p>	<p>A. Missing   B. i. -Worn to the extent of a measurable reduction in link cross section.      -Incapable of secure attachment.      -Improper repairs, including welding, wire, small bolts, rope or tape.      ii. -Kinked or broken cable strands.      -Incapable of secure attachment. (Added 12/22/99)      -Improper clamps or clamping. (Added 12/22/99)</p>
<p>6. Full trailer (double ring, ball-bearing turntable) (Added 1/23/08)  Mounting - top and bottom        Wear</p>	<p>Top or bottom flange has less than 6 effective bolts. Twenty percent or more of original welds (or repaired original welds), or parent metal, is cracked.   Upper flange half touching lower flange half. Cracked flanges.</p>

(l) Exhaust system (Amended 1/23/08)

Inspect for:	Reject if:
1. Presence	A. Vehicle does not have either a muffler or turbocharger.



	<p>B. Exhaust discharge does not meet the following criteria: (Amended 1/23/08)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. discharges either to the rear or above the cab.</li> <li>ii. gasoline engine powered buses – discharge may not be more than 6 inches forward from the rear most part of the vehicle; (Amended 1/23/08)</li> <li>iii. buses powered by other than gasoline engine – discharge may not be more than 15 inches forward of the rearmost part of the vehicle, or must be to the rear of all doors or windows designed to be open, except windows designed to be opened solely as emergency exits. (Added 1/23/08)</li> </ul>
2. Condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Vehicle has gutted, altered or patched muffler.</li> <li>B. The exhaust system is excessively loose.</li> <li>C. Exhaust gases leak at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-the manifold gasket</li> <li>-the muffler</li> <li>-any other point in exhaust system (except on tilt cabs where pipe is attached to cab)</li> </ul> </li> <li>D. Exhaust system is so located as it would be likely to result in burning, charring or damaging the electric wiring, fuel system, or any other combustible part of the vehicle.</li> </ul>

(m) *Lighting and reflectors* (A lighting device may perform more than one function) (Amended 1/23/08)

Inspect for:	Reject if:
1. Headlights A. Presence	A. Any motor vehicle does not have headlights. (Not required for trailers) (Amended 1/23/08)
B. Approved type	B. i. A headlight or the headlight system does not meet SAE or DOT standards. ii. Any headlamp has an unapproved material over or in front of the lens. (Amended 8/13/03)
C. Condition	C.i. Any lens is broken (pieces missing). ii. Any headlamp is not securely mounted or can easily be moved.
D. Operation	D. Any headlamp fails to light in the high or low beam switch position.

2020

# PERIODIC INSPECTION MANUAL



*Agency of Transportation*

**Department of Motor Vehicles**

120 State Street

Montpelier, Vermont 05603-0001

**[dmv.vermont.gov](http://dmv.vermont.gov)**



VT

## EXHAUST SYSTEM

The exhaust system includes the piping leading from the flange of the exhaust manifold to and including the mufflers, resonators, and tail piping.

no rejection if missing ?

### Procedure:

1. Visually examine the mufflers, resonators, tailpipes, exhaust pipes, and supporting hardware.
2. Rusted or corroded surfaces should be given particular attention.
3. Holes in the system made by the manufacturer for drainage are not cause for rejection.

### **Reject vehicle if:**

1. The exhaust system on a truck is leaking at a point forward of or directly below the driver/sleeper compartment.
2. There are loose or leaking joints.
3. There are holes caused by corrosion, leaking seams, or patches on the muffler or tailpipe.
4. Elements of the system are not securely fastened.
5. The tailpipe end is pinched.
6. Exhaust stacks are located where a person may be burned while entering or leaving the vehicle.
7. Any part of the system passes through the occupant compartment.
8. Any bus exhaust system leaks or discharges under the chassis more than 6 inches forward of the rearmost part of a gasoline-engine-powered bus or more than 15 inches forward of the rearmost part of a bus powered by other than a gasoline engine.
9. Any part of the exhaust system is located where it would be likely to burn, char, or damage the electrical wiring, fuel supply, or any combustible part of the vehicle.

## VEHICLE INTERIOR

**Note:** The vehicle interior examination must be performed according to the procedures outlined in the Pleasure Car and Light Truck Section unless additional procedures are described below.

### **Items include:**

#### **1. SPEEDOMETER AND ODOMETER/HUBOMETER**