

4 Lamps, Reflectors and Electrical Equipment

A main-beam 'tell-tale' is only required on vehicles first used on or after 1 April 1986. The inspection of the main-beam tell-tale does not apply to Class 3 vehicles.

A hazard warning 'tell-tale' must be a flashing light.

A direction indicator 'tell-tale' can be audible or visual.

A rear fog 'tell-tale' is only required where a rear fog lamp is obligatory.

Defect	Category
(a) A mandatory tell-tale:	
(i) for direction indicators or hazard warning missing or inoperative	Minor
(ii) for main beam headlamp or rear fog lamp missing or inoperative.	Major

4.9.2 Compliance with requirements

This inspection only applies to the 'tell-tale' for hazard warning lamps, which must be a flashing light.

Defect	Category
(a) A hazard warning lamp tell-tale is not a flashing light.	Minor

4.10 Trailer electrical socket

This inspection only applies to vehicles fitted with a towing coupling.

If a tow ball or pin is not present at the time of test, because it is detachable, has been unbolted or otherwise removed, but the attachment brackets are still in place, any trailer electrical socket should still be assessed. This does not apply if the attachment brackets have been deliberately rendered unfit for further use.

Some trailer electrical sockets are 'hidden' behind an access panel in the bumper or bodywork. Unless requiring the use of tools or specialist equipment, these panels must be removed to facilitate the inspection of the tow bar socket.

A trailer electrical socket with a defective or missing cover flap that incorporates a lug and spring to hold the plug in place is not considered to be a defect.

On vehicles fitted with a trailer 13 pin Euro-socket, use an approved device to check that the socket is wired to correctly operate the trailer:

- Position lamps
- Stop lamps
- Direction indicators
- Rear fog lamp.