

# ADR (Australian Design Rules)

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From 1970, new plates were put on MGBs. Previously, the cars had an ID plate that showed:

Type:

Car No:

Engine No:

Colour (see below).

After a period of no ID plate whatsoever from approximately mid-June to Dec 31, 1969, BMC/Leyland fell in line with the rest of the Australian motor industry and used the now compulsory compliance plate. The following information is an extract from the monthly BMC Service Liaison Summary...

"BMC Australia - A Division of British Leyland Motor Corporation Australia Pty. Limited

## SERVICE LIAISON SUMMARY

DATE: 2nd May, 1969

ISSUE: 169"

*On page 3 of this 3 page summary, under the heading...*

## "GENERAL:

## IDENTIFICATION PLATES.

The identification plate has been deleted from all passenger vehicles, and the final vehicle number is stamped direct to a body panel.

A pressure sensitive label indicating the paint code is located in a similar position to the deleted identification plate.

The new position for the car numbers is: Mini 1100 L.H. valance radiator cowl.

Sports cars: L.H.S. Dash panel.

## Commencing Car Nos.

Mini 1100	501	Mini "K"	711	Cooper 'S'	5393
Morris 1100	69084	Morris 1100 'S'	15414	Morris 1100 'S' Auto	998

Austin 1800 Manual	4412	Austin 1800 Auto	3305	M.G.B. Manual	621
M.G.B. Auto	537	M.G. Midget	1043	M.G.B. O/D	1478

NOTE: Commercial vehicles will retain the identification plate.”

*Whilst this obviously doesn't show the starting car numbers for Jan 1, 1970 (the date at which I believe the compliance plates start) I do have photographic proof elsewhere on the website of compliance plates starting at '1/70'*

*Also note the 3 different MGB numbers they use are: 621 (YHN6, non-overdrive cars), 537 (YHN7, automatic cars) and 1478 (YHN5, manual cars with overdrive).*

The details displayed were different than before. Now:

Date of manufacture: (eg 2/70)

Type and car number: (eg YHN9 1234)

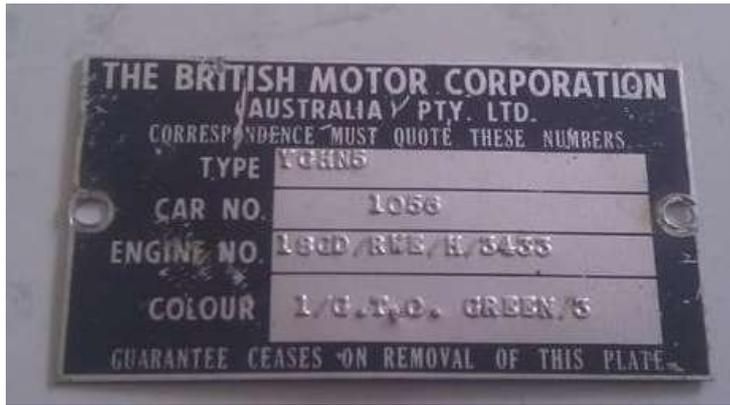
ADR numbers: (these were the rules that the particular car complied with)

The ADRs told authorities that the particular vehicle ‘should’ have the listed items in place. If not, the vehicle did not comply and was subject to various ramifications.

The dropping of the engine number was missed, so too the colour, but the colour was catered for by the inclusion of a separate sticker showing the colour and paint code. Unchanged was the use of the stamped car number in the bulkhead of the engine bay (see photo below)



Car number in bulkhead



ID plate used up until mid-'69



First style of compliance plate



Second (smaller) style compliance plate



New paint identification sticker

**Help for the restorer/purchaser**

The specific ADRs listed on the compliance plate, tell the restorer/purchaser some of the items that should be on that vehicle (did it/should it have headrests? etc.).

The following is a list of ADRs that apply to the MGB and a brief explanation of what they mean.

24480 - RELEASE		5879	12-11-6
BRITISH MOTOR CORPORATION MOTORWAY PTY. LTD. PRODUCT ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT			
DO NOT SCALE. THIRD ANGLE PROJECTION. ALLOWABLE VARIATIONS ON ALL DIMENSIONS IS PLUS .02 OR MINUS .02 UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.			
DATE 27-11-69	FIRST USED ON ALL PROBLEMS	DRM. E. WATERMAN	
REF.		CHD. J. P. HUNT	
SCALE		CH. DRIFT. P. G. M. & S.	
FINISH		APPD. [Signature]	
MATERIAL .020 NON-ANODISED ALUMINIUM			
NAME PLATE. VEHICLE COMPLIANCE.			
PART No. MYH O639			SIZE A4

12 DIA 4 HOLES

FOR BLMC VARIABLE INFORMATION REFER BLMC STANDARDS.  
DETAILS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AMVCB REQUIREMENT.

BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH PRODUCTION QUANTITIES A SAMPLE FROM PRODUCTION TOOLS MUST BE APPROVED BY B.M.C. (AUST.) PRODUCT ENGINEERING OR THEIR NOMINEES.

## **ACTION: A**

The information in this section is a brief description of each Australian Design Rule.

### **ADR 1 Reversing Signal Lamps.**

Lamps that are switched on automatically whenever reverse gear is selected and the ignition is on to signal the driver's intention to reverse and to aid the driver in reversing manoeuvres at night. These lamps must only operate when the vehicle is in reverse gear and must be amber or white.

### **ADR 2 Door Latches and Hinges.**

Side door latch and striker assemblies and hinges that are able to resist accidental opening through crash impact or distortion. When locked by controls inside the vehicle, outside door handles must be inoperative. When locked, regardless of operation of other child-proof locking systems, if fitted, the rear doors must not open by movement of the inner door handle. There must also be a fully latched and a secondary latched position.

### **ADR 3 Seat Anchorages.**

Requirements for seats, their attachment assemblies and installation to reduce failure in crashes. Hinged or folding seats must be self-locking with the lock release within reach of the seat occupant or any other person seated immediately behind the seat. ADR 3A specifies additional requirements for seats intended to be fitted with child restraints.

### **ADR 4 Seat Belts.**

Requirements for seatbelts for all adult seating positions to restrain vehicle occupants under impact conditions. Specifies the type of belt, material properties and buckle design features. Compliance with Australian Standards is necessary but not sufficient proof of compliance with this design rule.

### **ADR 5 Seat Belt Anchorages.**

Requirements for seat belt anchorage points to ensure that seat belt assemblies are securely fixed to the vehicle structure in specified areas and provide a safe and comfortable restraint system.

### **ADR 6 Direction Turn Signal Lamps.**

Specifies flashing amber lamps at front and rear with specified levels of brightness and fields of view and readily distinguishable to warn other road users of the driver's intention to turn to the right or left.

### **ADR 7 Hydraulic Brake Hoses.**

Specifies minimum standards of performance and durability for flexible hoses and end fittings in hydraulic brake systems to reduce risk of failure. Hose assemblies marked "SAE J 1401" are acceptable.

### **ADR 8 Safety Glass.**

Requires glass in motor vehicle windscreens, windows and interior partitions to be of an automotive safety type such as toughened or laminated (and be so marked). Windscreens must be clear glass and transmit at least 75% of visible light in the primary vision area. Tinted bands are permissible outside this area.

### **ADR 9 Automatic Transmission Controls.**

Repealed. However, the requirements for automatic transmission controls are now in ADR 42 which includes the requirement that the engine of a vehicle fitted with an automatic transmission must not be capable of being started in any forward or reverse gear.

### **ADR 10 Steering Columns.**

Requires that steering wheel and column assemblies must collapse under specified forces to reduce injuries to drivers on impact and limits the horizontal intrusion of the steering column into the cabin.

### **ADR 11 Internal Sun Visors.**

If fitted, sun visors must be suitably padded and without dangerous projections or noticeable internal frames in order to reduce head injury on impact with the visor or panel work or windscreen glass behind it.

### **ADR 12 Glare Reduction in Field of View.**

Requires a low reflective finish on windscreen wiper arms and blades, interior windscreen mouldings, horn rings and steering wheel components, interior rear vision mirror frames and mountings, steering column mounted control lever and gear selection quadrants to minimise glare from these features in the driver's field of view.

### **ADR 13 Installation of Lighting and Light-Signalling Devices.**

Defines requirements to ensure that the installation of lighting and light-signalling devices on the vehicle is such that the effective operation of these devices is not impaired. For further details see Vehicle Standards Information sheet No 10 or Vehicle Standards Bulletin No. 9.

### **ADR 14 Rear Vision Mirrors.**

Defines requirements for the type, location, field of view, reflecting capabilities and mounting details of rear vision mirrors. The internal and right-hand side external mirrors required under this ADR must be flat.

### **ADR 15 Demisting of Windscreens.**

Specifies requirements for demisting equipment to maintain the driver's forward vision clear of mist.

### **ADR 16 Windscreen Wipers and Washers.**

Wipers to have two operating speeds and be capable of wiping defined areas of the windscreen, with washers able to supply sufficient fluid to the wipers over the wiping cycles.

#### **ADR 17 Fuel Systems for Heavy Goods**

Specifies requirements to facilitate safe operation and reduce the risk of fire during filling operations or as a result of impacts. Applies to all trucks and buses having a gross vehicle mass of or over 4.5 tonne.

#### **ADR 18 Location and Visibility of Instruments.**

Defines positions of certain important instruments and warning lamps and requirements for their illumination at variable brightness levels.

#### **ADR 19 Installation of Lighting and Light-Signalling Devices on L Group Vehicles.**

Ensures that the installation of lighting and light-signalling devices on motor cycles and mopeds is such that the effective operation of these devices is not impaired.

#### **ADR 20 Safety Rims.**

Specifies that wheel rims on passenger cars will retain a deflated tyre in the event of sudden loss of pressure as in a blow-out.

#### **ADR 21 Instrument Panels.**

Provides for instrument panels to be suitably padded and free of any sharp projections and edges to reduce head injury on impact.

#### **ADR 22 Head Restraints.**

Specifies devices built onto the top of each outer front seating position to reduce "whiplash" type injuries in rear end collisions. When seated, the top of the head restraint must be at about eye level. A clip-on type is unacceptable.

#### **ADR 23 New Pneumatic Passenger Car Tyres.**

Specifies standards of strength, construction and performance and requires this information to be indicated on the side walls of tyres manufactured for passenger cars and their derivatives.

#### **ADR 24 Tyre Selection.**

Requires vehicles to be fitted with tyres and wheel rims suitable for the vehicle's speed, mass and usage. Also requires vehicles to have a placard showing the range of tyres and wheels, together with inflation pressures, which the vehicle manufacturer has certified as being suitable.

#### **ADR 25 Anti-theft Locks.**

When the ignition is locked and the key is removed, it must be impossible either to steer the vehicle or alternatively, to engage a forward gear or to release a brake without removing or destroying the lock mechanism. Also minimises the chances of a key fitting more than one lock to less than 1 in 2,000.

#### **ADR 26 Engine Emission Control.**

Defines limits of carbon monoxide emissions from passenger car engine exhausts under idling conditions.

#### **ADR 27 Engine Emission Control.**

Additional to the requirements of ADR 26, defines limits of passenger car and passenger car derivative engine emissions of carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons (also oxides of nitrogen in ADR 27A) in all phases of operation.

#### **ADR 28 Motor Vehicle Noise.**

Specifies maximum levels of external noise that motor vehicles may emit.

#### **ADR 29 Side Door Strength.**

Specifies strength and stiffness requirements for side doors as protection in case of side impact. Generally requires the fitment of a reinforcing beam in the door.

#### **ADR 30 Diesel Engine Exhaust Smoke Emissions.**

Limits the smoke density emitted from diesel engine exhausts.

#### **ADR 31 Hydraulic Braking Systems.**

Requires split hydraulic braking systems and brake failure warning devices, and specifies stopping performance of passenger cars to ensure safe braking under normal and emergency conditions.

#### **ADR 32 Seat Belts - Heavy Vehicles.**

Defines requirements for seat belts and their mounting points for the front outer seating positions for trucks having a gross vehicle mass of more than 4.5 tonnes. Minimum requirement is a lap belt in both front outboard seating positions.

#### **ADR 33 Motorcycle and Moped Braking Systems.**

Specifies independent or split service brakes to ensure safe braking under normal and emergency conditions. Must also provide a visual indication of the brake pad or shoe wear.

#### **ADR 34 Child Restraint Anchorages.**

Specifies requirements for anchorage points behind each rear seating position of passenger cars to facilitate the satisfactory installation of child restraint systems.

#### **ADR 35 Commercial Vehicle Braking Systems.**

Specifies braking requirements for heavy commercial vehicles under both normal and emergency conditions. Also requires a brake failure warning device.

#### **ADR 36 Exhaust Emission Control for Heavy Duty Vehicles.**

Requirements to limit exhaust emissions for petrol fuelled heavy duty vehicles in order to reduce air pollution. ADR 36A also requires operation on unleaded petrol.