

Explanatory note

Decree for the application of article R.313-32-1 of the highway code relating to signs that materialize blind spots on heavy vehicles.

The obligation to visibly display a sign indicating the position of blind spots starting from 1 January 2021 is enshrined in article L. 313-1 of the Highway Code, introduced by article 55 of Law no. 2019-1428 of 24 December 2019 of orientation to mobility (Link).

Which vehicles are affected by this obligation?

Any vehicle with a gross weight of more than 3.5 tons.

Which vehicles are exempt from this obligation?

- agricultural and forestry vehicles;
- winter service vehicles;
- the intervention vehicles of the motorway management services;
- motor vehicles and towed vehicles for which structural impossibility is demonstrated (possibility of total or partial exemption).

How can the signage be attached to the vehicle?

- Collage;
- Riveting;
- any other means of fixing;
- Paint on the bodywork;
- Pockets on the bodywork.

Are foreign vehicles subject to this obligation?

Yes. Please note that if they are already wearing a device intended to indicate the presence of blind spots under the legislation of another EU Member State on the sides and back, they are considered to be in good standing.

Where does the signage go?

Signs shall be positioned in such a way that they are visible in all circumstances and in such a way that they cannot obstruct the visibility of the vehicle's regulatory plates and inscriptions, the visibility of the various lights and signalling devices as well as the vehicle's field of vision. driver.

Are there regulatory requirements for the placement of signage?

Yes. The signs must respect a very specific position foreseen by article 2 of the draft decree.

| - Motor vehicles

A) Carriers

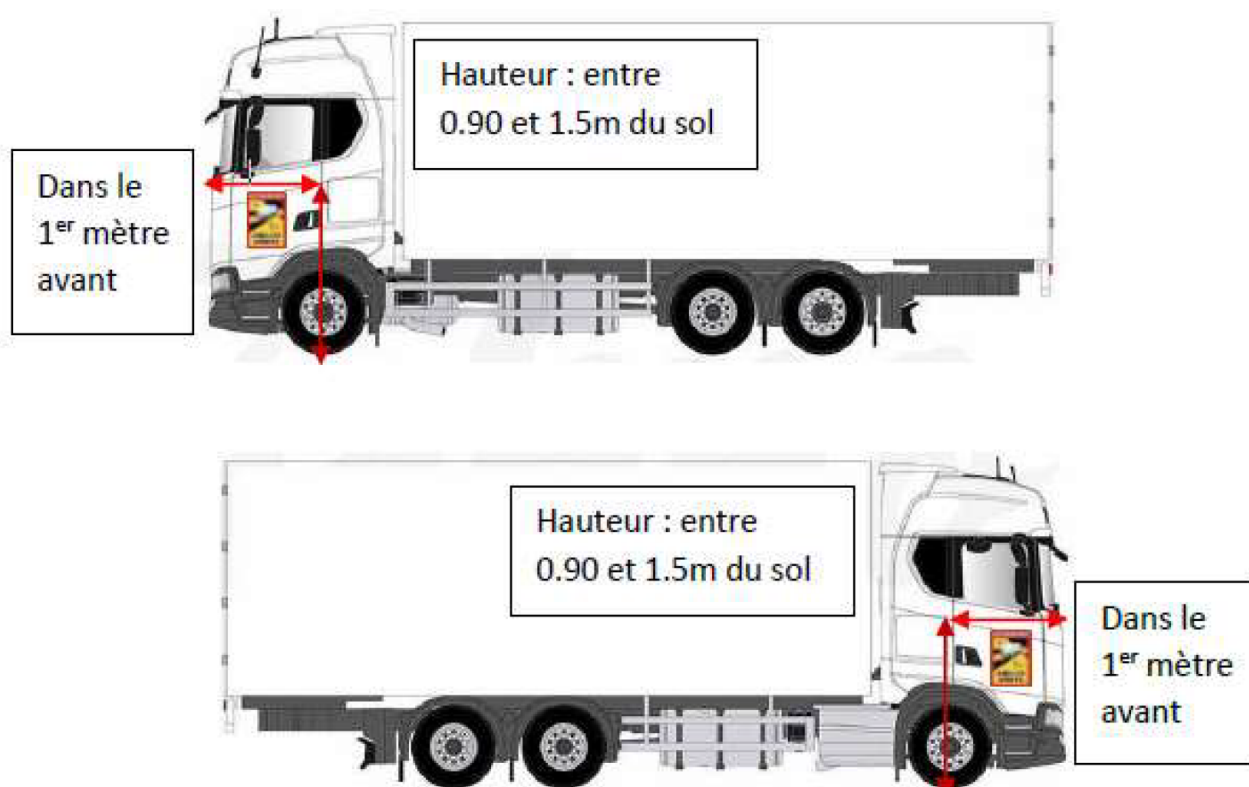
The signs must be affixed to the rear face of the vehicle to the right of the median longitudinal plane (between 0.9 and 1.5 m from the ground) and on each side excluding the glazed surfaces of the first front meter (between 0.9 and 1.5 m from the ground).

1) Rear fixing

:



2) Lateral affixing:



B) Tractors

The signs must be affixed to the rear of the vehicle in a place compatible with its technical characteristics as well as on each side with the exception of the glazed surfaces in the first front meter (between 0.9 and 1.5 m from the ground).

1) Rear affixing:



Apposition à un emplacement compatible avec les caractéristiques techniques

2) Lateral affixing:



Dans le 1^{er} mètre avant

Hauteur : entre 0.90 et 1.5m du sol



Hauteur : entre 0.90 et 1.5m du sol

Dans le 1^{er} mètre avant

II - Towed vehicles

A) Trailer

The signs must be affixed to the rear of the vehicle to the right of the longitudinal median plane at a height between 0.9 and 1.5 m on each side in the first meter of the front of the vehicle body at a height between 0,9 and 1.5 m high.

1) Rear affixing:



3) Lateral affixing:

2) Apposizione laterale



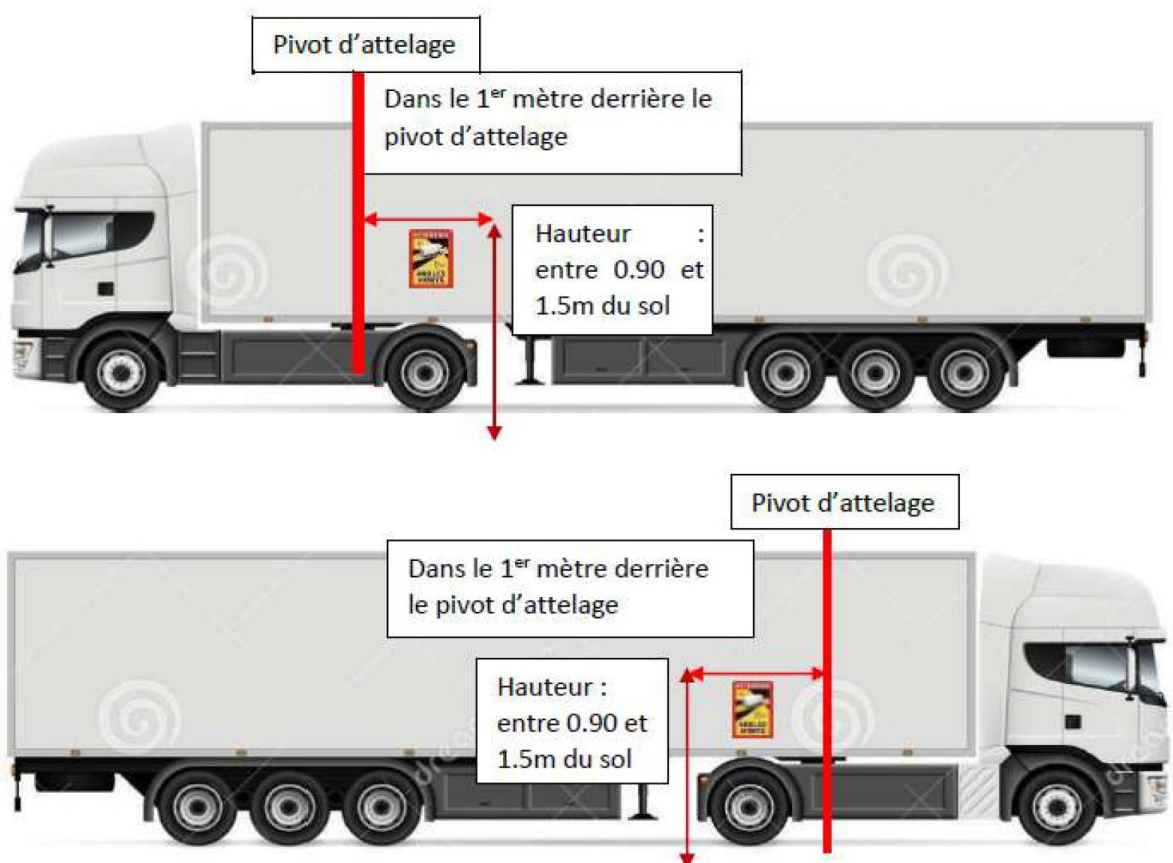
B) Semi-trailer

The signs shall be placed on the rear of the vehicle to the right of the median longitudinal plane at a height of between 0,9 and 1,5 m on each side in the first meter behind the steering pin of the vehicle at an intermediate height between 0 , 9 and 1.5 m high.

1) Rear apposition:



2) Lateral affixing:



Are there any exceptions to this placement?

Yes.

Derogations from the height requirements:

- Motor vehicles and towed vehicles, for which it is technically impossible to comply with the requirement of the signal height from the ground, are equipped with signs placed at an altitude as close as possible to that prescribed in the articles. 2 of this decree and within the limit of 2.10 meters.

Derogations from the requirements for lateral positioning:

- Vehicles with direct vision systems in the lower part of the doors or glass doors are equipped with signs placed at a distance from the front of the vehicle as close as possible to the requirements of article 2 of this decree and a limit of 3 meters. The distance of 3 meters can be waived when the vehicle structure does not allow the positioning of the signs according to the provisions of this article without obstructing part of the glazing.
- The positioning criteria for side signs are not applicable to towed vehicles for which there is a technical impossibility. These vehicles carry the side signs in a position compatible with their technical characteristics.

Derogations from rear positioning requirements

- The rear sign positioning criteria are not applicable to motor vehicles and towed vehicles for which there is a technical impossibility. These vehicles are marked on the back in a position compatible with their technical characteristics.

Examples (non-exhaustive list):

- container holder;
- car doors;
- tractors for semi-trailers;
- tank vehicles;
- removable armrests for box;
- dollies