

Information signs

Information about the road ahead



Distance to the beginning of a dual carriageway road ahead



A section of dual carriageway road begins directly ahead



A short length of dual carriageway road begins directly ahead



Motorway



Primary route



Non-primary route

These signs indicate the loss of the right-hand lane on a dual carriageway road or one-way street. The signs may be reversed to indicate the loss of the left-hand lane. The number of ahead lanes is varied as appropriate. The signs are often used at the end of a climbing lane and may include a distance (as shown for the motorway sign)



No through road for vehicular traffic



"No through road" sign incorporated in a street nameplate



No through road for vehicular traffic in the direction indicated from junction ahead



This sign may be varied to indicate that a road is not suitable for a particular type of vehicle



Narrow road ahead with passing places at intervals



Passing place on a narrow road

Signs for lay-bys and parking areas



Distance ahead to a parking place



Location of parking place (may include an arrow to indicate the entrance to a parking area)



Distance ahead to a parking place with an emergency telephone



Location of parking place with an emergency telephone (may include an arrow)



Distance ahead to a parking place for emergency use only



Location of parking place for emergency use only (may include an arrow)

Boundary signs

Signs indicating county, town or village boundaries may include a crest or logo, a message of welcome, a phrase about a local geographical or historical feature, or the names of twin towns. They may be any shape or colour. The town and village signs may also include tourist attraction symbols and road safety messages. A speed limit sign may be placed in combination with a boundary sign at a village gateway (see page 76). Other signs may show the name of a river, inland waterway, bridge or tunnel.



Hospital signs



Hospitals with accident and emergency departments, or minor injury units, are indicated by red signs. The words "not 24 hrs" are omitted when facilities are available at all times

Blue signs indicate hospitals without accident and emergency facilities

The route to a hospital may be indicated on direction signs by the "H" symbol on a red or blue patch, denoting whether accident and emergency facilities are available or not (see page 109).

Signs for pedestrians



Stepped entrance to a subway



Ramped entrance to a subway



Ramped approach to a footbridge



Stepped approach to a footbridge



Direction to an emergency exit from a road tunnel



This sign advises pedestrians crossing the road that traffic is one-way in the direction shown

Signs for vehicle checks

Temporary signs are put out when vehicles are to be stopped for an excise licence check or vehicle inspection. These signs may apply to specific types of vehicle such as goods vehicles or buses, and they may indicate which lanes to use.

Examples of temporary signs for vehicle checks



The type of vehicle indicated may be varied to a bus, or lorry and bus together



Police signs



These temporary signs are put out by the police to warn of potential danger or an accident ahead and the need to proceed with caution

In an emergency, drivers may be diverted onto the hard shoulder and told when to rejoin the main carriageway



Parking area reserved for police vehicles (the sign might say "Police vehicles only") or additionally, when varied to "Authorised vehicles only", vehicles such as those of the Highways Agency's Traffic Officers



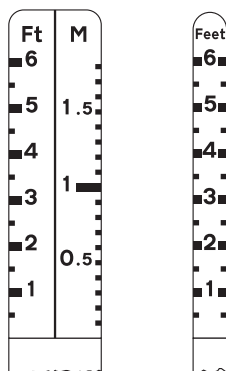
Area where, from time to time, police carry out checks on the speed of vehicles

Signs for traffic surveys



These temporary signs are used when traffic surveys are taking place. Vehicles may be directed to stop at the census point

Other information signs



The depth of water at a ford may be shown in both metric and imperial units, or in imperial units only

Signs used where there are separate entry and exit points to and from a car park, private access road or private property



Signs for drivers leaving the public road



Signs for drivers joining the public road



Where a road is physically closed part-way along its length to prevent its use by through traffic, this sign may be erected at the closure point. Vehicles should not be parked in a manner that would obstruct any gateway or opening that allows access for emergency vehicles



A temporary sign may be provided for up to three months following a permanent change to the road layout ahead. The sign may be varied to indicate the nature of the change, such as a new roundabout, or that the operation of traffic signals has been changed