



GB Domestic Drivers' Hours rules

Goods Vehicles

Simplified guidance

GB Domestic Drivers' Hours Rules

The GB (Great Britain) domestic drivers' hours rules apply to most passenger-carrying vehicles and goods vehicles that do not have to follow the EU rules.

GB domestic drivers' rules apply in England, Wales and Scotland. There are separate rules in Northern Ireland.

Who needs to follow these rules?

Drivers of goods vehicles and buses & coaches who do not need to follow the EU drivers' hours rules. This guidance is for drivers of good vehicles. There is a separate guidance document for drivers of buses and coaches.

About this guidance

This guidance is an abbreviated version of the GB domestic drivers' hours rules and is not a substitute for the current full guidance documents on drivers' hours and working time, which are available on the gov.uk website at:

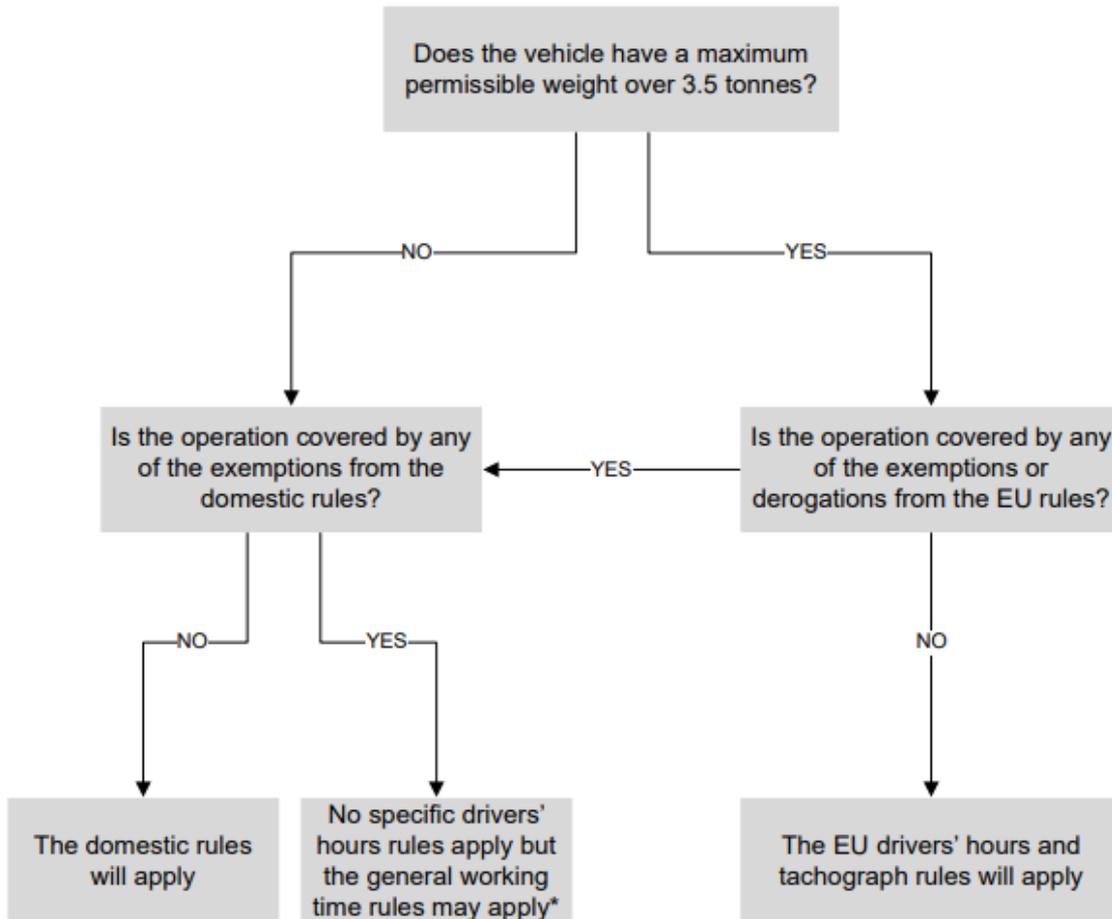
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/drivers-hours-rules-and-guidance>



Goods Vehicles

How do I know which rules to follow?

The flow chart below shows which rules would apply.



* The Working Time Regulations 1998

If you drive a goods vehicle, there are rules you need to follow on duty time, daily driving limits and daily duty limits. There is also a requirement to take "adequate rest" under The Working Time Regulations 1998.

For more information please see: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/drivers-hours-goods-vehicles>



How many hours can I drive each day?

You must not drive for more than 10 hours in a day either on or off road:

Off-road driving counts as duty time if it's for:

- agriculture
- quarrying
- forestry
- building work
- civil engineering

What is Duty time?

If you work as a driver for one or more companies, duty time is any working time but does not include rest or breaks. If you're self-employed, duty time is only time you spend driving the vehicle or doing other work related to the vehicle or its load.

What is my daily duty limit?

You must not be on duty for more than 11 hours in any working day. This limit does not apply on any working day when you do not drive. Any driver who does not drive for more than 4 hours on each day of a week is exempt from the daily duty limit for that week.

Some vehicles are exempt from the duty limit.

You're exempt from the daily duty limit if your vehicle weighs less than 3.5 tonnes and you're using your vehicle:

- as a doctor, dentist, nurse, midwife or vet
- for inspection, cleaning or maintenance, repair, installation or fitting work
- as a commercial traveller when carrying goods (other than personal effects) only for the purpose of soliciting orders
- while working for the AA, RAC or RSAC
- for cinematography or radio and television broadcasting



Exemptions from all GB domestic rules

You do not need to follow the GB domestic rules if you:

- are dealing with an emergency which requires immediate preventative action - for example, a major disruption to public services or danger to life (this only applies while you're dealing with the emergency)
- are using the vehicle for private driving and not in connection with a job or in any way to earn a living
- always drive off the public road system
- drive a vehicle used by the armed forces, police or fire brigade

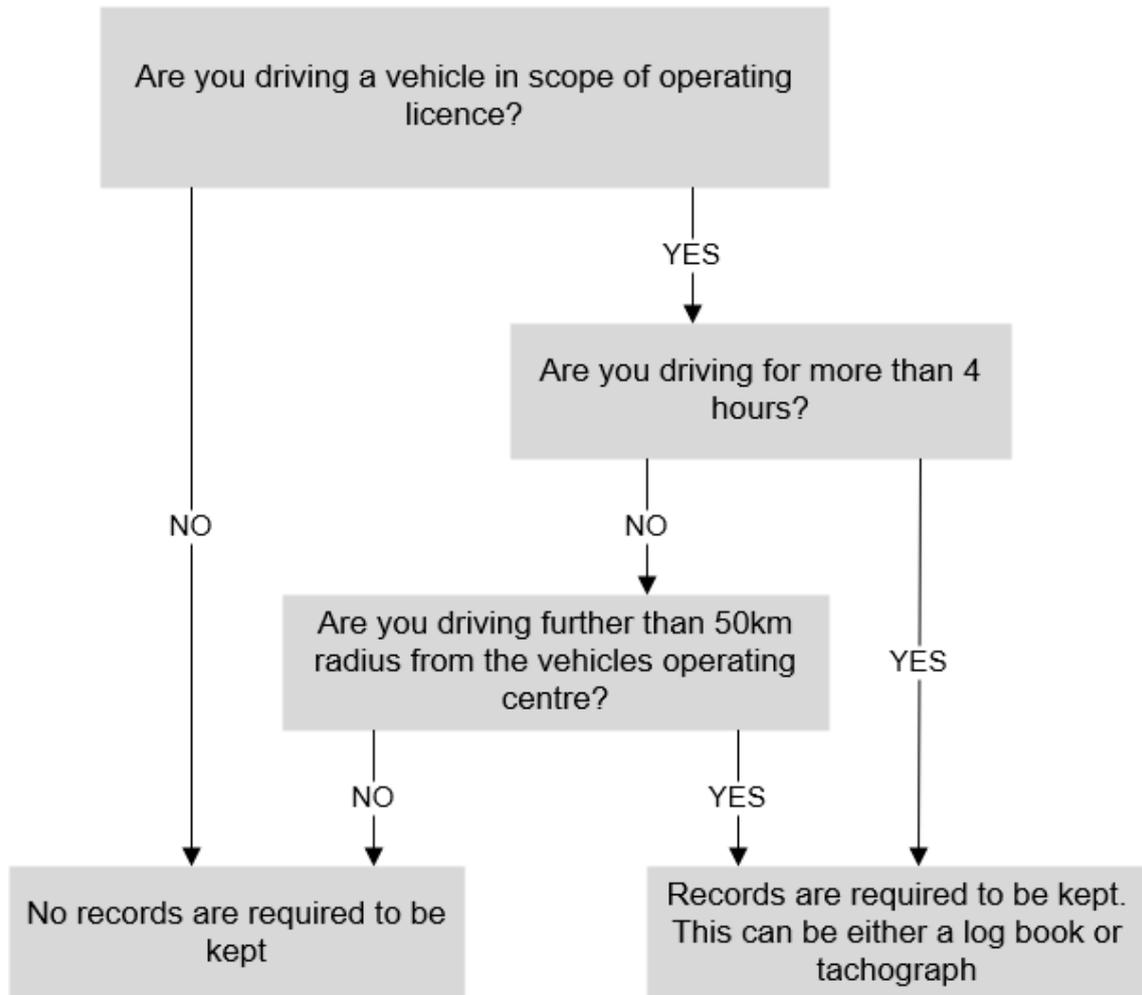
Summary of GB Domestic Drivers' Hours rules for Goods Vehicles

RULE	DETAIL	CONCESSIONS
Daily Driving Limit	In any working day (24hrs from the start of a period of work/driving) the maximum amount of driving is 10 hours. Applies to driving on and off the public road.	Off-road driving for the purposes of agriculture, quarrying, forestry, building work or civil engineering counts as duty time rather than driving time
Daily Duty Limit	In any working day (24hrs from the start of a period of work/driving) the maximum amount of duty is 11 hours . For self-employed drivers, 'duty' means driving a vehicle connected to their business, or doing any other work connected with the vehicle and its load.	Drivers are exempt from the duty limit on any working day they do not drive. Drivers that do not drive for more than 4 hours on each day of a fixed week (commencing midnight Sun/Mon) are also exempt the duty limit for that week. But if they drive for more than 4 hours on any day in that fixed week, the limit applies to every driving day in that week.
Goods vehicles (including dual purpose vehicles) not exceeding 3.5 tonnes	The rules as the same as for larger goods vehicles although there are additional concessions	Drivers are exempt from the daily duty limit when used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For any service of inspection, cleaning, maintenance, repair, installation or fitting. • By the AA, RAC or RSAC. • By commercial travelers. • By cinematography or radio and television broadcasting. By doctors, dentists, nurses, midwives or vets.



Do I need to keep a written record of my driving?

If you are only driving under GB domestic drivers' hours rules, some operations do not require you to keep written records on certain days. See the flowchart below to determine if you need to keep a written record.



Note: If you mix EU and GB domestic driving then records will be required to be kept under EU rules. For more information, please go to: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/drivers-hours-goods-vehicles>