

Windscreen mounted phones and GPS Fact Sheet

Driver's aids such as GPS navigation systems and mobile phones can only be used when driving if they are mounted in a fit-for-purpose cradle fixed to the vehicle that does not obscure the driver's view of the road. While devices secured to the windscreen can obscure the driver's field of view, obstructions to the driver's vision can be minimised by considering the screen size and the position of the cradle.

Size of device screen

Select the smallest appropriate screen for devices mounted on the windscreen. Large, 7-inch GPS devices are available on the market, but significantly obstruct driver's vision in all but the largest vans.

Drivers of smaller vehicles, such as compact cars, will have their field of view badly compromised should they mount such large devices on their windscreen.

Drivers of compact cars should only use devices with screens smaller than 5.5 inches. Drivers of larger vehicles should use devices with screens smaller than 6 inches.

Position of screen cradle

Mounting the screen as far down on the windscreen as possible will limit obstructions to the drivers' field of view. Ideally, the screen should be mounted towards the centre of the windscreen, to the left of the driver. If this is not practicable, the next best location is in the far right, bottom corner of the windscreen. These two locations are marked as locations 1 and 2 respectively in Figure 1 below.

Care should be taken to ensure that the device is not positioned where it could interfere with the inflation of airbags in a crash.

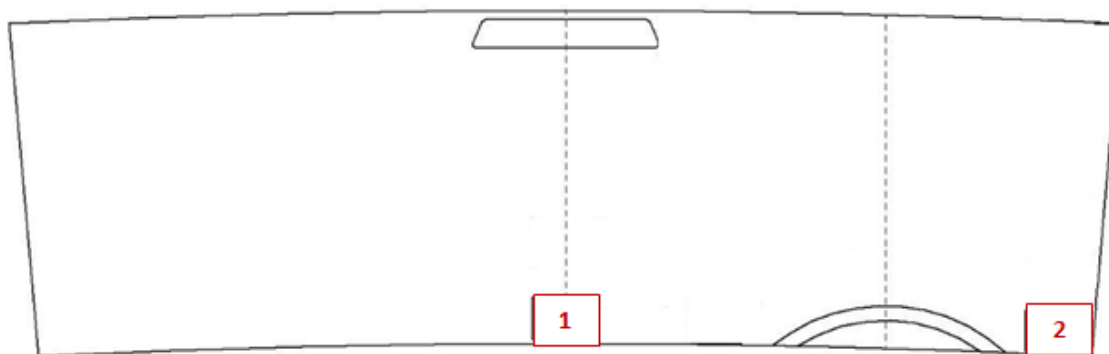


Figure 1: Recommended location of windscreen mounted devices

Limit of two devices

No more than two devices should be mounted on the windscreen and a gap of at least 150 mm should be kept between the two screens.

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