

# Keeping it legal



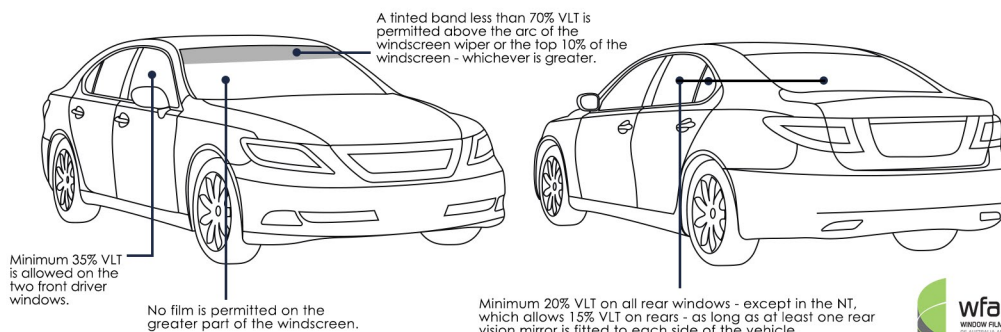
## What you need to know

There is a limit to how dark you can tint the windows in your car. The limit is set by the road authority in each State and Territory. After recent legislation amendments, all regions (except the Northern Territory) now have the same VLT regulations for the aftermarket application of automotive window film.

VLT stands for Visible Light Transmission, basically, how much light gets through the glass. VLT levels are expressed as a percentage - the lower the percentage, the darker the glass. All States and Territories allow 35% VLT on the two driver (front) windows, and 20% VLT on windows rear of the driver. In the Northern Territory, 15% VLT is allowed on windows rear of the driver.

WFAANZ recommends you consult a local, experienced window film installer who is a member of WFAANZ and who abides by the regulations in your State or Territory for advice on the 'darkest legal' film to suit your vehicle.

### Light vehicle VLT regulations for aftermarket window film



**Windscreen.** A windscreen cannot be coated or tinted in any way that reduces its VLT. So, window film cannot be applied to the greater part of a windscreen - even optically clear film, as it still reduces the VLT to some degree. Film is only allowed in a strip along the top 10% of the windscreen, or the point above the highest arc of the wipers.

**Driver windows.** In all States and Territories, a minimum 35% VLT is the legal limit for the application of aftermarket window film on the side windows next to the driver and front passenger.

**Keep in mind,** the combination of glass plus tint must comply with this VLT limit. That's why it's so important to know the darkness of the glazing **before** tint is applied.

**Rear windows.** This relates to all glazing behind the driver, including the rear window. In all States and Territories, tint applied to windows rear of the driver must have a VLT of no less than 20% VLT, except in the Northern Territory, which allows 15% VLT on rears. One rear vision mirror must be fitted to each side of the vehicle for this allowance to be acceptable.

## RISKS OF IGNORING THE REGULATIONS

- ❑ **Fine.**  
During police crack downs on illegal auto tint, patrol officers are equipped with electronic light meters and VLT cards to perform spot checks. If found in breach, you will be issued a fine
- ❑ **Insurance.**  
Modifying your vehicle in a way that makes it 'unsafe' could void your insurance coverage, leaving you exposed
- ❑ **Unroadworthy.**  
Vehicles with aftermarket window film outside the legal limit are more likely to fail inspections and have registration denied
- ❑ **Legality.**  
If you're in an accident and your illegal windows are found to be a contributing factor, you could be open to litigation
- ❑ **Safety.**  
Side and rear windows that are too dark could compromise your awareness of the road and surroundings, especially in low light conditions

**WFAANZ**

Suite 1, Level 1, Building 1  
20 Bridge Street  
PYMBLE NSW 2073  
02 9160 4736  
info@wfaanz.org.au  
www.wfaanz.org.au

