When checking a driver’s licence, you need to understand what any codes mean in relation to penalty points or disqualifications. The following is a comprehensive list of these codes and the corresponding number of points given for the offence.

If in doubt as to whether a driver can legally drive, you are advised to seek clarification directly from the DVLA. Due to the Data Protection Act, you are not able to find out information on the driver’s record without their consent, so the procedure for seeking further clarification is as follows:

**Option 1 – Driver Present**
Ask the driver to call the DVLA on 09061 393837. Once the DVLA advisor has carried out the necessary security checks and has gained his/her consent, the driver can hand the phone to you and the advisor will then be able to provide the information you require verbally.

**Option 2 – Driver Not Present**
If it is not possible to telephone when you are together, he/she may ring in advance and with his/her consent, the DVLA will place a marker on his/her driving licence record to show that he/she has left permission to release his/her licence details. The number the driver should ring to leave consent is 0300 790 6801. You may then telephone 09061 393837 with the driver’s name, date of birth etc. and the DVLA will confirm his/her licence details verbally.

No details can be provided via e-mail due to the insecurity of the Internet.

**Note that calls to the 09061 number are charged at premium rates (up to £1.50 per minute from landlines, and may be considerably higher from mobiles and other networks). Many companies charge the driver a flat fee for making these checks (typically £5).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Penalties</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AC10</td>
<td>5-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>AC20</td>
<td>5-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>AC30</td>
<td>4-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA10</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>BA30</td>
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<td>CU10</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>CU20</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CU30</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CU40  Using a vehicle with defective steering 3
CU50  Causing or likely to cause danger by reason of load or passengers 3

**Reckless/Dangerous Driving**
DD40  Dangerous Driving 3-11
DD60  Manslaughter or culpable homicide while driving a vehicle 3-11
DD80  Causing death by dangerous driving 3-11

**Drink or Drugs**
DR10  Driving or attempting to drive with alcohol level above limit 3-11
DR20  Driving or attempting to drive while unfit through drink 3-11
DR30  Driving or attempting to drive then failing to supply a specimen for analysis 3-11
DR40  In charge of a vehicle while alcohol level above limit 10
DR50  In charge of a vehicle while unfit through drink 10
DR60  Failure to provide a specimen for analysis in circumstances other than driving / attempting to drive 10
DR70  Failing to provide specimen for breath test 4
DR80  Driving or attempting to drive when unfit through drugs 3-11
DR90  In charge of a vehicle when unfit through drugs 10

**Insurance Offences**
IN10  Using a vehicle uninsured against third party risks 6-8

**Licence Offences**
LC20  Driving otherwise than in accordance with a licence 3-6
LC30  Driving after making a false declaration about fitness when applying for a licence 3-6
LC40  Driving a vehicle having failed to notify a disability 3-6
LC50  Driving after a licence has been revoked or refused on medical grounds 3-6

**Miscellaneous Offences**
MS10  Leaving a vehicle in a dangerous position 3
MS20  Unlawful pillion riding 3
MS30  Play street offences 2
MS40  Driving with uncorrected defective eyesight or refusing to submit to a test 3
MS50  Motor racing on the highway 3-11
MS60  Offences not covered by other codes  As Appropriate
MS70  Driving with uncorrected defective eyesight 3
MS80  Refusing to submit to an eyesight test 3
MS90  Failure to give information as to identity of driver etc 3

**Motorway Offences**
MW10  Contravention of Special Roads Regulations (excluding speed limits) 3

**Pedestrian Crossings**
PC10  Undefined Contravention of Pedestrian Crossing Regulations 3
PC20  Contravention of Pedestrian Crossing Regulations with moving vehicle 3
PC30  Contravention of Pedestrian Crossing Regulations with stationary vehicle 3

**Provisional Licence Offences**
PL10  Driving without L-plates 2
PL20  Driving while not accompanied by a qualified person 2
PL30  Carrying a person not qualified 2
PL40  Drawing an unauthorised trailer 2
PL50  Undefined failure to comply with conditions of a Provisional Licence 2

**Speed Limits**
SP10  Exceeding goods vehicle speed limits 3-6
SP20  Exceeding speed limit for type of vehicle (excluding goods or passenger vehicles) 3-6
SP30  Exceeding statutory speed limit on a public road 3-6
SP40  Exceeding passenger vehicle speed limit 3-6
SP50  Exceeding speed limit on a motorway  3-6
SP60  Undefined speed limit offence  3-6

Traffic Direction and Signs
TS10  Failing to comply with traffic light signals  3
TS20  Failing to comply with double white lines  3
TS30  Failing to comply with "Stop" sign  3
TS40  Failing to comply with direction of a constable/warden  3
TS50  Failing to comply with traffic sign (excluding stop signs, traffic lights or double white lines)  3
TS60  Failing to comply with a school crossing patrol sign  3
TS70  Undefined failure to comply with a traffic direction sign  3

Special Code
TT99  To signify a disqualification under totting-up procedure. If the total of penalty points reaches 12 or more within 3 years, the driver is liable to be disqualified

Theft or Unauthorised Taking
UT50  Aggravated taking of a vehicle  3-11

Aiding, Abetting, Counselling or Procuring
Offences as coded, but with the end 0 changed to 2, e.g. PL10 becomes PL12

Causing or permitting
Offences as coded, but with the end 0 changed to 4, e.g. PL10 becomes PL14

Inciting
Offences as coded, but with the end 0 changed to 6, e.g. DD30 becomes DD36

Conditions of Conviction
Persons cannot be convicted of reckless, careless or inconsiderate driving, failing to comply with traffic signs, leaving a vehicle in a dangerous position, exceeding the speed limits unless:

a. They are warned at the time of the offence that the question of prosecution will be considered, or
b. Within 14 days of the offence a summons is served, or
c. A notice of intended prosecution is served on the driver or registered keeper of the vehicle within 14 days.

Offences Resulting in Automatic Disqualification
- Causing death by reckless driving.
- Reckless driving committed within three years of a previous conviction or one of causing death by reckless driving.
- Failing to provide a specimen of blood or urine for laboratory test after arrest for either of the above two offences.
- Racing on the highway.

Period of time
Periods of time are signified as follows: D=Days, M=Months, Y=Years

Endorsements remain on a counterpart licence for:

• 11 years from date of conviction for offences relating to drink/drugs and driving, causing death by careless driving whilst under the influence of drink/drugs and causing death by careless driving then failing to provide a specimen for analysis
• 4 years from date of conviction for reckless/dangerous driving and offences resulting in disqualification
• 4 years from the date of offence in all other cases