

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).

Code	Penalty Points
Accident Offences	
AC10 Failing to stop after an accident	5-10
AC20 Failing to give particulars or to report an accident within 24 hours	5-10
AC30 Undefined accident offences	4-9
Disqualified Driver	
BA10 Driving whilst disqualified by order of court	6
BA30 Attempting to drive while disqualified by order of court	6
Careless Driving	
CD10 Driving without due care and attention	3-9
CD20 Driving without reasonable consideration for other road users	3-9
CD30 Driving without due care and attention or without reasonable consideration for other road users	3-9
CD40 Causing death through careless driving when unfit through drink	3-11
CD50 Causing death by careless driving when unfit through drugs	3-11
CD60 Causing death by careless driving with alcohol level above the limit	3-11
CD70 Causing death by careless driving then failing to supply a specimen for analysis	3-11
Construction & Use Offences	
CU10 Using a vehicle with defective brakes	3
CU20 Causing or likely to cause danger by reason of use of unsuitable vehicle or using a vehicle with parts or accessories (excluding brakes, steering or tyres) in a dangerous condition	3
CU30 Using a vehicle with defective tyre(s)	3

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	
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Theft or Unauthorised Taking

UT50	Aggravated taking of a vehicle	3-11
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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:-

- They are warned at the time of the offence that the question of prosecution will be considered, or
- Within 14 days of the offence a summons is served, or
- 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