

HGV Classes Explained: Licence Classes 1, 2 & More

You need different types of driving licences to drive different types of HGVs. HGV classes essentially outline the type of licence you need to drive any given HGV.

In this post we'll explain what the various HGV classes mean. We'll also look at some of the licences you'll need for LGVs, and we'll then explain some of the other qualifications you might need to drive a commercial vehicle.

1) HGV CLASS 1 LICENCE

A Class 1 HGV licence enables you to drive a vehicle that weighs 7.5 tonnes or more with a detachable trailer. Another name for a Class 1 licence is a Category C+E licence.

2) HGV CLASS 2 LICENCE

Like Class 1 licences, Class 2 licences enable you to drive vehicles that weigh 7.5 tonnes or more. The difference is that, while Class 1 licences are for vehicles with detachable trailers, Class 2 licences are for vehicles with rigid body bases where the cab does not separate from the trailer. Another name for a Class 2 licence is a Category C licence.

3) CATEGORY C1 LICENCE

This licence lets you drive vehicles that weigh more than 3.5 tonnes but less than 7.5 tonnes. If you passed your driving test before 1997, you'll automatically get a Category C1 licence. But if you passed your test after 1997, you may have to take another test before you get your C1 licence.

Read the full blog to see more about HGV licences here





Industry slams new UK plan to increase fines for hauliers carrying migrants

The UK government plans to increase fines for hauliers found carrying illegal migrants into the country, but it has been warned the new penalties, which would apply "irrespective of driver compliance with security measures and schemes", could exacerbate the worsening driver shortage crisis.

The Home Office's New Plan for Immigration study closed for comment yesterday, and alarmingly for the haulage industry, the draft contains proposals "increasing the maximum penalty, currently £2000, to ensure that it provides enough incentive to comply with the requirements of the schemes".

They also include: a new penalty for 'failure to secure a vehicle', regardless of whether an illegal migrant is found on board; expanding the scheme to entail levying a penalty on all hauliers where a migrant is found in their vehicle, regardless of load security; and reviewing accreditation for "hauliers repeatedly found in breach".

But industry association Logistics UK argued that "responsible hauliers and drivers who are unwitting victims of people-smuggling gangs should not be penalised if all precautions have been taken to protect their vehicles".

Read the full blog to find out more about the new fines **here**

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