

Guide to Penalty Points/Endorsement offence codes

Penalty Points System

Penalty points can only be added to your license where allowed by statute. The most common example nowadays is **penalty points for speeding**, which range from 3 to 6. **The general rule is that the penalty points remain active for 3 years.** The DVLA approach requires the record of points to be kept on the license for at least 4 years. After that you can apply to the DVLA to have those points removed.

There are some exceptions to the general rule, the main one being **drink- driving convictions, which remain active on your license for 10 years.** It is also important to remember that the Court can legitimately look at your entire driving history when punishing you for any road traffic offence no matter how old the conviction is! That is why it is important to always fight any allegation where possible.

Penalty Points UK

Points can only be added to a *UK license* or to a license for a country where there is a reciprocal arrangement. New laws are being introduced to expand this, but at the moment most foreign driving licenses cannot have points added to them.

Totting

Traditionally this was a system whereby consistently bad drivers would end up disqualified from driving. Should you accumulate 12 penalty points or more on your license over any 3 year period then you can be disqualified from driving (usually for 6 months). People falling into this category are generally known as "**totters**". The ban is not mandatory, so it is possible to argue you should not be disqualified despite having 12 or more points. It can also sometimes be better to accept a short ban for an offence than have the points and be disqualified under the totting-up procedure. This can be a risky strategy and we do not recommend you try it without proper legal advice.

The Guide

The following is a guide to the main **motoring offence codes** and number of **motoring offence penalty points** a court may impose for offences, but does not reflect the fact that some offences may incur a **disqualification**.

Code	Offence	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

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

CD71 Causing death by careless driving then failing to supply a specimen for drug 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

Dangerous/Reckless 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

DR31 Driving or attempting to drive then failing to supply a specimen for drug 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 or attempting to drive 10

DR61 Failure to supply a specimen for drug analysis in circumstances other than driving or 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

License offences

LC20 Driving otherwise than in accordance with a license 3-6

LC40 Driving a vehicle having failed to notify a disability 3-6

Miscellaneous offences

MS10 Leaving a vehicle in a dangerous position 3

MS20 Unlawful pillion riding 3

MS50 Motor racing on the highway 3-11

MS70 Driving with uncorrected defective eyesight 3

MS90 Failure to give information as to identity of driver etc (pre-24 September 2007) 3

MS90 Failure to give information as to identity of driver etc (24 September 2007 onwards) 6

Motorway offences

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

Pedestrian crossings

PC20 Contravention of Pedestrian Crossing Regulations with moving vehicle 3

PC30 Contravention of Pedestrian Crossing Regulations with stationary vehicle 3

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

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

Special Code

TT99	To signify a disqualification under totting-up procedure. If the total of penalty points reaches 12 or more within three 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 an offence

- Offences as coded, but with the end 0 changed to 2

Causing or permitting an offence to occur

- Offences as coded, but with the end 0 changed to 4

Inciting an offence

- Offences as coded, but with the end 0 changed to 6