Traffic Note 18

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Traffic Information Signs: Black on White Background - Information

The Fourth Schedule of the Traffic Regulations 1976 describes the shape, size, lettering, symbols, colours and the purpose of regulatory, warning, parking and information signs. Information signs are generally described as having white reflectorised lettering and border on a black background. In recent usage some of these signs have the colours reversed to improve general legibility and conform more closely with overseas, particularly, Australian practice.

The erection, installation and maintenance of reflectorised information signs has been approved in terms of regulation 129(6) of the Traffic Regulations 1976. This approval has been notified in the NZ Gazette and road controlling authorities may now use the form of information sign described below:

1. Shape and colour: rectangular not less than 600mm wide and 600mm high
2. Background colour: white reflectorised
3. Border: black 25mm wide
4. Lettering: contain such words as are necessary to convey the required information to the driver. The letters must be black, not smaller than 100mm high and 16mm stroke width.
5. In terms of legibility the sign must be designed in accordance with Austroads Guideline to Traffic Engineering Practice, Part 8: Traffic Control Devices.

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