

How to Have a Successful Limousine Vehicle Inspection

Vehicle safety inspections are conducted by MnDOT staff during the application process for new operators and annually thereafter for all operators. The primary items that will be inspected include:

<p>Exterior Inspection Components</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lights • Wipers and washer fluid • Horn • Windshield • Wheels, rims and lug nuts • Tires • Brakes • Mirrors • Doors and windows <p>Engine Compartment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluid levels • Battery securement • Battery posts • Hoses, wiring and belts 	<p>Interior Inspection Components</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall cleanliness • Critical light indicators on dashboard • Emergency parking brake • Defroster <p>Overall Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brakes • Exhaust • Fuel • Steering • Suspension • Frame <p>NOTE: The mechanical components of a limousine must be maintained according to the manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule.</p>
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Vehicle Requirements - Operation

A limousine operator may not cause or permit a limousine to be driven, and a driver may not drive a limousine on the public highway, when its mechanical condition is so imminently hazardous that it is likely to contribute to a loss of control of the vehicle or cause an accident or breakdown. The "North American Uniform Vehicle Out-of-Service Criteria," adopted in Minnesota Statutes, section 221.031, subdivision 9, must be followed in determining whether a limousine's mechanical condition is so imminently hazardous that it is likely to contribute to a loss of control of the limousine or cause an accident or breakdown.

A limousine providing limousine service must be operated in compliance with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 169, governing the operation of motor vehicles and with the rules or ordinances of a political subdivision relating to routing, parking, speed, or the safety of operation of a motor vehicle.

Safety Equipment Will Be Inspected

Use this checklist	✓
Fire Extinguisher that conforms to Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, section 393.95, paragraph a <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (not less than 5B:C rating) 	
Working cellular telephone or other means of two-way communications	
Three bidirectional, emergency, reflective triangles that comply with Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, section 571.125 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17-22" in length 2-3" in width 	

Vehicle Inspection Records

- **Daily Inspections:** Daily inspections records are not required to be kept.
- **Annual MnDOT inspections:** Records must be kept for three years.
- **Annual mechanical inspections:** Records must be kept for three years

Limousine Service Definition and Decal Requirements

By definition, limousine service means a service that:

- is not provided on a regular route;
- is provided in a luxury passenger automobile that has a seating capacity of not more than 15 persons, including the driver;
- provides only prearranged pickup; and
- charges more than a taxicab fare for a comparable trip.

No person may operate a limousine providing limousine service unless the limousine displays a valid limousine identification decal that:

- Bears an identifying number, the month and year of expiration and the letters "LM"
- Is securely affixed to the lower corner of the limousine windshield on the passenger side of the vehicle
- Is not obscured and is easy to read when the vehicle is stationary

How long is a decal valid?

A decal is valid for one year from the last day of the month in which it is issued and until it is removed from the limousine or upon revocation of the limousine operator's permit, whichever occurs first. Example, a decal issued in March of 2019 will expire on March 31 of 2020.

Are decals transferrable?

A limousine decal may not be transferred to another limousine and must be removed if a limousine operator stops using the limousine to provide limousine service.

Possible Inspection Outcomes:

Outcome	Limousine Company Actions
Vehicle passes inspection; an inspection report is given to the driver and a copy is given to the operator. Decal is not issued at the time of the inspection.	Operator must submit the Inspection Report, the Vehicle Registration form and the decal fee to MnDOT. Operator will receive the decal in person or by mail.
Non-critical violations are found and discussed with the driver. An inspection report is given to the driver and a copy is given to the operator. Decal is not issued at the time of the inspection.	Provider must certify on the Inspection Report that the violations have been corrected. Operator must submit the Inspection Report, the Vehicle Registration form and the decal fee to MnDOT. Operator will receive the decal in person or by mail.
Violations likely to cause an accident or break down are found. A report noting the critical violation(s) is given to the driver and the provider, and the violations are discussed. Decal is NOT issued. NOTE: The vehicle cannot be used to provide limousine services until violations are fixed.	Limousine company fixes all violations. Provider must contact MnDOT to schedule a new inspection. NOTE: Decal will not be issued until vehicle is re-inspected and passes the inspection.

To schedule an inspection:

Call 651-366-3648

Metro Inspection Location:

1912 East 66th Street
 Richfield, MN 55423

This information is intended to provide you with general guidance concerning the applicable laws and rules and does not constitute legal advice.