

WAC 204-10-022 Body requirements. (1) Defroster and defogging devices: Every enclosed motor vehicle must be equipped with a device capable of defogging and defrosting the windshield area. Vehicles or exact replicas of vehicles manufactured prior to January 1938 are exempt from this requirement.

(2) Door latches: Every enclosed motor vehicle equipped with side doors leading directly into a compartment that contains one or more seating accommodations must be equipped with door latches which firmly and automatically secure the door when pushed closed and which allow each door to be opened both from the inside and outside.

(3) Hoodlatches: A front opening hood must be equipped with a primary and a secondary latching system to hold the hood in a closed position.

Hoods are optional equipment on vehicles defined as street rod vehicles, custom vehicles and kit vehicles.

(4) Enclosed passenger compartment: A motor vehicle with an enclosed passenger compartment and powered by an internal combustion engine must be constructed to prevent the entry of exhaust fumes into the passenger compartment.

(5) Floor pan: A motor vehicle must be equipped with a floor pan under the entire passenger compartment capable of supporting the weight of the number of occupants that the vehicle is designed to carry.

(6) Bumpers: A motor vehicle must be equipped with a bumper on both the front and rear of the vehicle with the exception of motor vehicles where the original or predominant body configuration, provided by a recognized manufacturer, did not include such bumper or bumpers in the design of the vehicle. For the relevant model year, bumpers must accommodate recognized manufacturer impact absorption systems pursuant to applicable SAE Bumper Standards or equivalent standards.

Bumpers are optional equipment on vehicles defined as street rod vehicles, custom vehicles and kit vehicles.

Bumpers, unless specifically exempted above, must:

- (a) Be at least four and one-half inches in vertical height.
- (b) Be centered on the vehicle's centerline.
- (c) Extend no less than the width of the respective wheel track distances.
- (d) Be attached to the vehicle in a manner equivalent to the original manufacturer's installation.
- (e) Be horizontal load bearing and attach to the vehicle frame to effectively transfer energy when impacted.
- (f) Be mounted at a maximum height based on the vehicle classification and original gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of the vehicle, measured from a level surface to the highest point on the bottom of the bumper. For vehicles exempted from the bumper requirement for the reasons stated above, a maximum frame elevation measurement must be made to the bottom of the frame rail. Maximum heights are as follows:

	Front	Back
Passenger Vehicles and Neighborhood Electric Vehicles	22 Inches	22 Inches
For Trucks:		
4,500 lbs. and under GVWR	24 Inches	26 Inches
4,501 lbs. to 7,500 lbs. GVWR	27 Inches	29 Inches

	Front	Back
7,501 lbs. and over GVWR	28 Inches	30 Inches

A blocker beam or additional bumper may not be used to meet the above requirements.

(g) If an existing bumper from a recognized manufacturer is not used and a special bumper is fabricated, it must be certified as meeting the bumper standards set under 49 C.F.R. 581.

(7) Fenders: All wheels of a motor vehicle must be equipped with fenders designed to cover the entire tire tread width that comes in contact with the road surface. Coverage of the tire tread circumference must be from at least fifteen degrees in front and to at least seventy-five degrees to the rear of the vertical centerline at each wheel measured from the center of the wheel rotation. At no time can the tire come in contact with the body, fender, chassis, or suspension of the vehicle. Street rods and kit vehicles which are more than forty years old and are owned and operated primarily as a collector's item need not be equipped with fenders when the vehicle is used and driven during fair weather on well-maintained, hard-surfaced roads.

(8) Frame: A motor vehicle must be equipped with a frame. If an existing frame from a recognized manufacturer is not used and a special frame is fabricated, it must be constructed of wall box or continuous section tubing, wall channel, or unitized construction capable of supporting the vehicle, its load, and the torque produced by the power source under all conditions of operation. The structural strength of the frame must be certified by the builder as meeting the applicable standards set under 49 C.F.R. 571 Parts 201, 214, 216, and 220 through 224, and the SAE Standards. Such certification must be made by either:

(a) Certification provided on the vehicle in the form of a label which has been affixed in accordance with FMVSS outlining the portions of the FMVSS which have been met; or

(b) A notarized letter from the builder of the frame outlining the portions of the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) which have been met; or

(c) If the vehicle is a kit vehicle, as outlined in RCW 46.12.440, documentation from the manufacturer of the vehicle frame that informs the owner that the frame has not been certified as meeting the applicable federal motor vehicle safety standard set under 49 C.F.R. 571 Parts 201, 214, 216, and 220 through 224, and the applicable SAE Standards.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.37.005. WSR 15-19-102, § 204-10-022, filed 9/18/15, effective 10/19/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.37.005 and 46.37.320. WSR 12-03-085, § 204-10-022, filed 1/13/12, effective 2/13/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.37.005 and 46.37.240. WSR 09-18-071, § 204-10-022, filed 8/31/09, effective 10/1/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.37.005 and 46.37.320. WSR 08-19-079, § 204-10-022, filed 9/16/08, effective 10/17/08.]