

Top 10 Reasons Vehicles Fail Inspection:

1. Improper First Aid Kit

The First-Aid Kit cannot be expired and must meet or exceed the legal requirements and standards of the Deutsche Industrienorm (DIN 13164). You must also have a warning triangle located in the vehicle during the inspection and at all times. Items are available at the local Base Exchange or shoppette.

Note: Although not required for inspection and registration, German law requires one reflective vest per vehicle.

2. Driver and Front Passenger Door Window Tint

After-market transparent or tinted material cannot be attached to the windshield, drivers-side window or front passenger-side window.

3. Chips and Cracks in the Windshield

Glass in the front, rear, or side windows may not have cracks that impair or distort the driver's vision. Windshields with cracks or fracture damage in the passenger windshield-wiping area over 1-inch long (2.5 cm), or star-shaped fractures over ½ inch (12.5 mm) are not allowed. Any chips or cracks in the driver's side windshield wiping area are not allowed.

4. Brakes

Braking effort from any wheel less than 70% of maximum effort recorded from another wheel on the same axle will be failed. Also, if during the road test the vehicle deviates excessively from a straight line when the brakes are tested will cause the vehicle to fail inspection.

5. Lights

Headlights must be aimed correctly (higher than 56 cm and lower than 137 cm). All lights must function properly and be the correct color, position, and intensity in compliance with regulation AE 190-1.

6. Worn Tires

The tread depth of the vehicle tires must be at least 1/16 of an inch (1.6 mm) over the entire tread of the tire. Inspectors will use a tread-depth gauge at any two adjacent major grooves at three areas spaced approximately equally around the outside of the tire to test the depth.

Note: Although not required for inspection and registration, German Law requires winter rated tires during snow and icy conditions. Recommend you have these tires installed on your vehicle before arriving. If your tires have the M+S symbol on the sidewall then you have mud & snow tires and meet the requirement.

7. Engine/Transmission/Power Steering Fluid Leaks

The vehicle will be rejected if there is evidence of an excessive leak, or an ongoing slow leak of oil, antifreeze or saturation of the underbody of the vehicle. If there is evidence of a slow leak, the undercarriage must be cleaned and re-inspected to verify whether or not there is still a slow leak. Excessive leaks are immediate failures.

8. Vehicle Height

Minimum body ground clearance for flexible body parts such as ground-effect spoilers or air dams must be at least 8 cm. Ground clearance for metal parts such as exhaust systems, or frame and suspension components must be at least 11 cm.

9. Exhaust Leaks/Noise Level

The exhaust system must be secured tightly and free of leaks. Tailpipes must extend behind the rear wheels or beyond the side edge or rear of the vehicle body unless prevented by the manufacturer's specifications. Vehicle will be rejected if it emits excessive blue or black smoke. All exhaust line parts must be strong enough to resist normal hand pressure applied by the inspector. All repairs to exhaust systems must be made by welding or component replacement. All motorcycles and automobile exhaust systems will be inspected for noise levels. Noise level may not exceed 95 decibels.

10. Decals

The use of decals and material attached to the POV that show connection with the United States, including but not limited to: Auto dealership markings that include city or state, US sports teams, Armed Forces (USAF, USA, USMC, USN, etc) stickers, old installation passes (DoD Form 2220), state inspection stickers, US patriotic decals, or American slogan decals are prohibited on POVs with U.S. Forces-provided German license plates.