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POINTS-BASED DRIVING LICENCE

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The points-based driving licence

How the points-based driving licence works

The points-based licence was introduced in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on 1 November 2002. It applies to all drivers on the road anywhere in the Grand Duchy, regardless of their place of residence (Luxembourg residents, trans-frontier workers, tourists passing through).

The points-based driving licence is an administrative measure of a punitive and educational nature, based on the withdrawal of points, weighted according to the gravity of the offence committed. The withdrawal of points does not take the place of a court conviction.

The system also applies to professional drivers. Certain offences may commit not only the driver but also the owner or keeper of the vehicle.

→ *Withdrawal of points*

All driving licences start off with **12 points**.

If you commit an offence for which points are withdrawn, the police will tell you how many points will be withdrawn and ask you to sign a form stating that you have been given this information.

The points are withdrawn automatically as soon as it is established that the offence was actually committed, either by your payment of the corresponding fine or by the court conviction becoming final.

You will be notified of the withdrawal in writing by the Ministry in charge of transport.

There are no negative points.

→ *Accumulation of offences*

You can never lose all the points in one go. Even if you commit a number of offences at the same time, you cannot lose more than 6 points in one go, except if the offences include at least one criminal offence, when the maximum number of points that may be withdrawn is 8.

How to get your points back

- Your original 12 points are returned automatically if you do not lose any more points within the following 3 years
- You can get 3 points back by attending a one-day training course at the driver training centre (Centre de Formation pour Conducteurs) in Colmar-Berg. The course can only be taken once every three years
- You cannot get more than 12 points
- You will be notified in writing by the Ministry in charge of transport of the points recovered

If you lose all your points

- Your entitlement to drive is suspended for a period of 12 months
- If you lose all your points again within 3 years of the end of an initial suspension, your entitlement to drive will be suspended for 24 months
- During the suspension of your entitlement to drive, you must attend a five-day training course at the driver training centre (Centre de Formation pour Conducteurs) in Colmar-Berg
- When your entitlement to drive resumes, you have 12 points again

Did you know?

- Even if your entitlement to drive resumes at the end of the period of suspension, your licence may not be returned to you if it has been withdrawn or restricted by an administrative or judicial decision
- If you are banned from driving by the courts or your licence is withdrawn by the administrative authorities, an arrangement can be reached, to take account of your professional needs for instance, but this is not possible if your entitlement to drive is suspended under the points system
- The police will withdraw your driving licence **immediately**, for a maximum of 8 days not including Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, in the following cases:
 - **drunken driving** (alcohol level of at least 1.2‰)
 - **refusal** to submit to testing for alcohol or drugs
 - **exceeding the speed limit** by more than 50% of the maximum permitted speed, on condition that the limit is exceeded by at least 40 km/h
- The immediate withdrawal of a driving licence is not part of the points system

List of driving offences for which points are withdrawn

Driving offences classified as criminal offences	No. of points withdrawn
Manslaughter	6
Unintentional bodily harm	4
Driving without a valid driving licence or tolerance of the same by the owner/keeper of the vehicle	4
Driving without insurance (committing the driver and the owner/keeper of the vehicle if the latter has tolerated use of the vehicle)	4
Hit and run	4
Overloading the vehicle/combination of vehicles by more than 10% of maximum authorised mass (committing the driver and the owner/keeper of the vehicle if the latter has tolerated the overloading)	4
Serious speeding	4
Drunken driving (alcohol level $\geq 1.2\%$) or second alcohol offence within 2 years (alcohol level $\geq 0.2\%$ */ 0.5% but $< 1.2\%$) (committing the driver and the owner/keeper of the vehicle if the latter has tolerated the offence)	4

*** The 0.2% alcohol level applies to:**

- learner drivers
- recently qualified drivers during their probationary period (for two years after passing the driving test)
- drivers under 18 years of age
- driving school instructors
- the person accompanying a learner driver (under the accompanied driving “conduite accompagnée” scheme)
- drivers of taxis, lorries, buses and coaches, hire cars, ambulances, breakdown vehicles
- drivers of vehicles carrying dangerous goods

Serious offences	No. of points withdrawn
Exceeding the speed limit by more than 15 km/h in a built-up area, by more than 20 km/h on the open road, or by more than 25 km/h on a motorway	2
Driving under the influence of alcohol (alcohol level $\geq 0.2\text{‰}/0.5\text{‰}$ but $< 1.2\text{‰}$) (committing the driver and the owner/keeper of the vehicle if the latter has tolerated the offence)	2
Defective tyres (committing the driver and the owner/keeper of the vehicle if the latter has tolerated the offence)	2
Failure to observe a red traffic light, a "Stop" sign, a reversed triangle sign, or other priority rule	2
Refusal to allow a pedestrian with priority to cross the road	2
Overtaking where it is not permitted (including attempting to do so)	2
Infringement of the specific rules governing automotive vehicles on the motorway and on the road	2
Driving a vehicle that is not properly registered or without a valid technical inspection ("contrôle technique") certificate (committing the driver and the owner/keeper of the vehicle if the latter has tolerated the offence)	2
Refusal to comply with instructions given by a member of the police force or the Customs and Excise authorities	2

Offences involving safety equipment for drivers/riders and passengers	No. of points withdrawn
Driver's failure to wear seat belt or transport of a minor without suitable protection (seat belt or approved child seat, as appropriate)	1
Motorcyclist's failure to wear an approved helmet or transport of a minor not wearing a helmet	1

Source: [Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructures](#)