

One Way Vision Safety Recommendations Angle versus Vertical Rear Windscreens

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IMPORTANT: Performing a test prior to actual production can minimise costly errors and help to ensure the success of your project.

Vertical versus Angled Windscreens?

At what angle does One Way Vision become not recommended for use on a windscreen? Is it illegal to have One Way Vision on a windscreen which is angled? These are some of the questions people ask. Below, we guide you in your decision whether to use a perforated vinyl on your car or not.

Visible Light Transmittance (VLT) compliant One Way Vision film, such as AutoVue, on a wagon, hatch, van or ute vertical rear windscreen is not an issue. In fact, having laminated AutoVue on a vertical car rear windscreen is the optimum safety result (apart from not having any film applied), as it provides maximum view-ability.

Refer to our Visible Light Transmittance Fact Sheet for more information about VLT and the legalities of One Way Vision on vehicles.

However, the question arises when the car rear windscreen is angled, that is not vertical, not straight up and down. This is because the driver's view is increasingly inhibited as the windscreen becomes more angled, more horizontal to the road. At what angle does it become illegal? The surprising short answer is never. This is because VLT is measured at right angles to the glass surface. Therefore, irrespective of the angle of the glass, the glass will have the same VLT value.

However, it is not practical and in our opinion unsafe, to install One Way Vision onto some acutely angled rear windscreens. For example, Toyota Prius hatch. In all cases, we recommend to test prior to application, that is apply a sample of One Way Vision onto the rear windscreen, and let the driver see through the back and decide whether they are confident or not.

At what angle is too acute for One Way Vision? The answer to this question is dependent on the driver, hence our recommendation to test prior to application. For some drivers, the angle is too acute, the view-ability is diminished, and they are no longer confident or feel it's unsafe for them. Therefore, do not apply the One Way Vision in those cases.

Refer to images 1 to 6 below of two cars. The angle of the rear windscreen for one car is 55 degrees, and the other is more acute at 20 degrees. Whilst applying AutoVue to both cars complies with the VLT rules in all Australian States and Territories, some drivers may find the car with the 20 degree windscreen difficult to see through. Therefore we recommend not to apply the film in this instance.

Near Vertical (approx. 55 degrees)



Angled (approx. 20 degrees)



Inside View

Side View





Outside View



