

ADAC

Traffic signs and signals in Germany

- Warning and information signs
- Signs giving orders
- Special and supplement signs

➤ Information from road experts



Important information & phone numbers

ADAC breakdown assistance (landline)

0 180 2 22 22 22

(6 cent/call German landline; max. 42 cent/min from mobile networks.)

ADAC breakdown assistance (mobile phone)

22 22 22

(all mobile networks)

Publisher

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Product no. 2831554

StVO update: August 2009

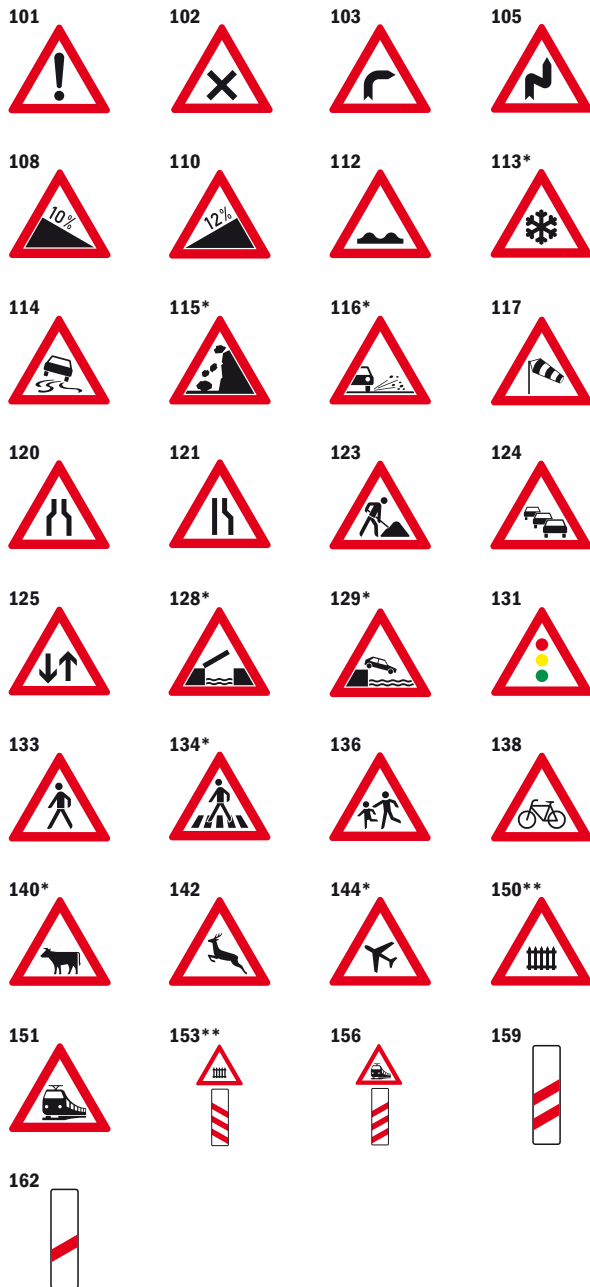
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Information from road experts

Traffic signs and signals in Germany (German Highway Code – StVO)

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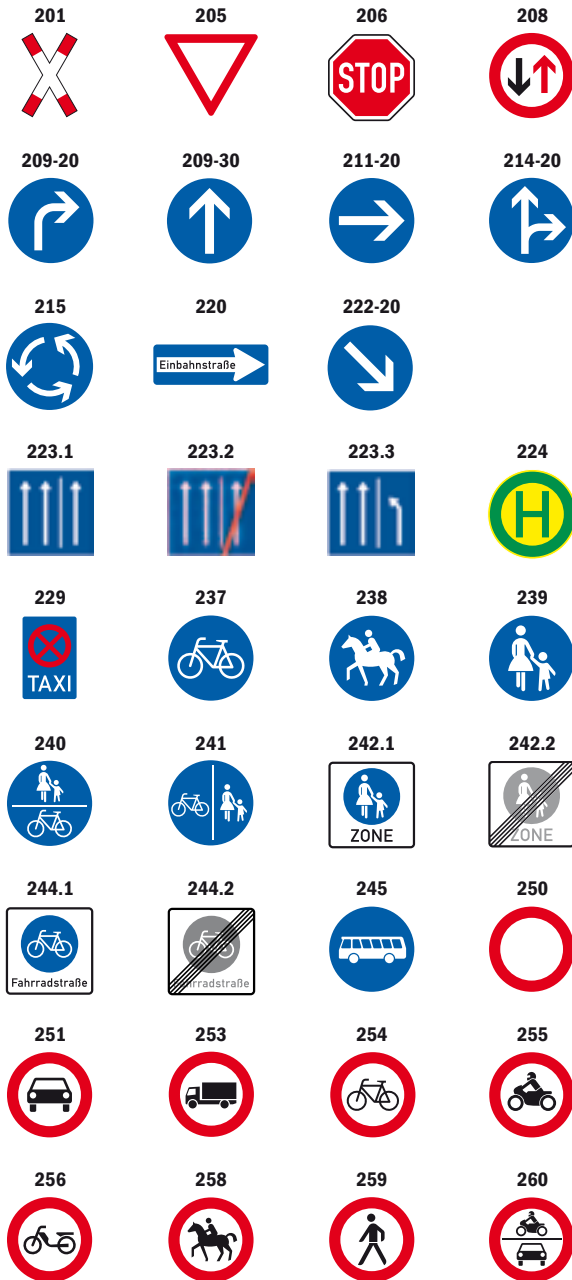


Article 40 Warning signs

- 101** Danger ahead
- 102** Unmarked intersection ahead with priority from right
- 103** Bend to right
- 105** Double bend (first to right)
- 108** Steep hill downwards
- 110** Steep hill upwards
- 112** Uneven road
- 113*** Risk of snow or ice
- 114** Road slippery when wet or dirty
- 115*** Falling or fallen rocks
- 116*** Loose chippings
- 117** Side winds
- 120** Road narrows on both sides
- 121** Road narrows (right)
- 123** Road works
- 124** Traffic queues likely ahead
- 125** Two-way traffic
- 128*** Opening or swing bridge ahead
- 129*** Quayside or river bank
- 131** Traffic signals
- 133** Pedestrians in road ahead
- 134*** Zebra crossing
- 136** Children crossing ahead
- 138** Cycle route ahead
- 140*** Cattle
- 142** Wild animals
- 144*** Low-flying aircraft or sudden aircraft noise
- 150**** Level crossing with gate/barrier or half-barrier ahead
- 151** Level crossing without barrier or gate ahead
- 153**** Countdown marker (left) to level crossing with gate or barrier
- 156** Countdown marker (right) indicating that level crossing is 240m ahead
- 159** Countdown marker (right) indicating that level crossing is 160m ahead
- 162** Countdown marker (right) indicating that level crossing is 80m ahead

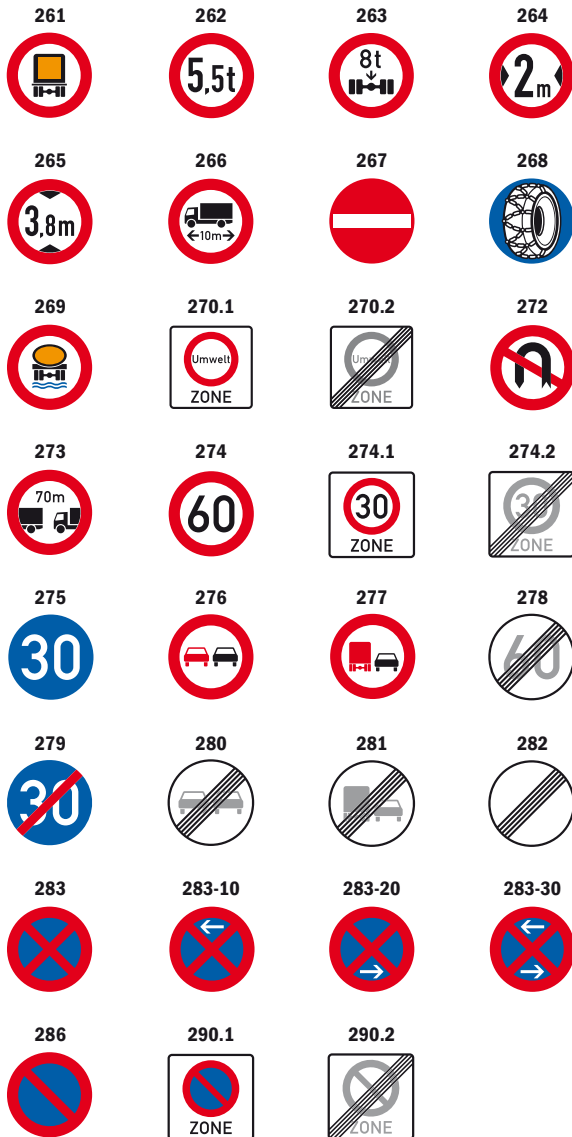
* Warning sign no longer included in the German Highway Code (1 September 2009); its erection may only be authorised in special risk situations.

** For level crossings, one standard sign (151) will now be used.



Article 41 Signs giving orders

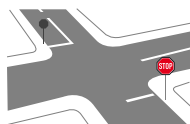
- 201** St. Andrew's cross; railway traffic has priority
205 Give way
206 Stop and give way
208 Give priority to vehicles from opposite direction
209-20 Turn right ahead
209-30 Ahead only
211-20 Turn right
214-20 Ahead or right only
215 Roundabout
220 One-way-street
222-20 Pass by on right, i.e. keep right
223.1 Shoulder lane open to traffic
223.2 End of shoulder lane
223.3 Shoulder lane ends
224 Bus/tramway stop (also school buses)
229 Taxi rank
237 Route for pedal cycles only
238 Horses only
239 Pedestrians only
240 Unsegregated route for use by pedal cycles and pedestrians only
241 Segregated pedal cycle and pedestrian route
242.1 Pedestrian zone
242.2 End of a pedestrian zone
244.1 Route for pedal cycles
244.2 End of route for pedal cycles
245 Buses only
250 No vehicles
251 Motor vehicles except solo motor cycles prohibited
253 Prohibited for vehicles with a permitted gross weight over 3.5t including their trailers, and for tractors except passenger cars and buses
254 Bicycles prohibited
255 Solo motor cycles prohibited
256 Mopeds prohibited
258 Ridden or accompanied horses prohibited
259 Pedestrians prohibited
260 Motor vehicles prohibited



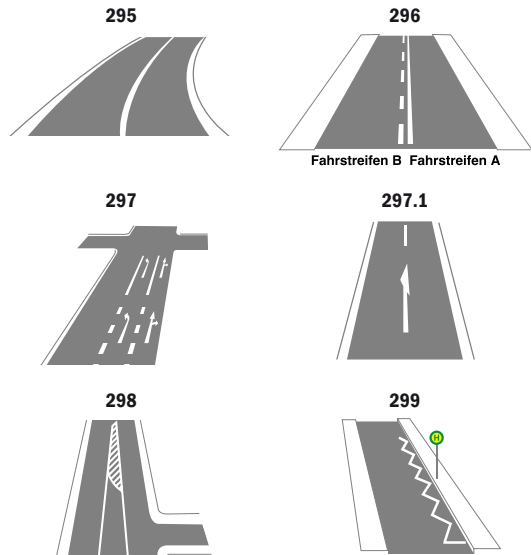
293



294



- 261** Hazardous cargo prohibited (no vehicles transporting marked hazardous materials)
- 262** Weight limit (no vehicles over maximum gross weight shown)
- 263** Axle weight limit (no vehicles over weight on axle shown)
- 264** Horizontal clearance (no vehicles over width shown)
- 265** Vertical clearance (no vehicles over height shown)
- 266** Length restriction (no vehicle or combination of vehicles over length shown)
- 267** No entry for vehicular traffic
- 268** Snow chains required
- 269** Water polluting cargo prohibited
- 270.1** Traffic restriction zone for reduction of air pollution
- 270.2** End of traffic restriction zone for reduction of air pollution
- 272** No U-turns
- 273** Minimum following distance (vehicles shown are required to maintain the indicated minimum following distance)
- 274** Maximum speed
- 274.1** Entry to 30kph zone
- 274.2** End of 30kph zone
- 275** Minimum speed
- 276** No overtaking
- 277** No overtaking for vehicles with a permitted gross weight over 3.5t including their trailers, and for tractors except passenger cars and buses
- 278** End of speed limit
- 279** End of minimum speed
- 280** End of no-overtaking zone
- 281** End of no-overtaking zone for vehicles with a permitted gross weight over 3.5t including their trailers, and for tractors except passenger cars and buses
- 282** End of all speed and overtaking restrictions
- 283** No stopping
- 283-10** No stopping (start)
- 283-20** No stopping (end)
- 283-30** No stopping (in either direction)
- 286** No waiting
- 290.1** No-waiting zone
- 290.2** End of no-waiting zone
- 293** Pedestrian crossing
- 294** Stop line



- 295** No passing (solid centre line)
- 296** No passing in one direction
- 297** Intersection arrows
- 297.1** Merge arrow indicating lane restriction or end of lane ahead
- 298** Restricted zone (white diagonal lines)
- 299** No stopping/parking zone (zigzag lines next to the curb)

Article 42 Information signs



- 301** Priority at next intersection
- 306** Priority road
- 307** End of priority road
- 308** Traffic has priority over oncoming vehicles
- 310** Town/city limit sign (front)
- 311-40** Town/city limit sign (back)
- 314** Parking area
- 314-1** Parking management zone (entry)
- 314-2** End of parking management zone
- 315** Parking on sidewalk allowed
- 316*** Park & ride
- 317*** Hiker's parking
- 318** Parking disc
- 325.1** Traffic calming zone
- 325.2** End of traffic calming zone
- 327** Tunnel ahead
- 328** Emergency lay-by
- 330.1** Motorway entrance
- 330.2** End of motorway
- 331.1** Expressway entrance

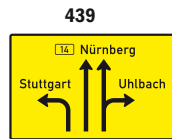
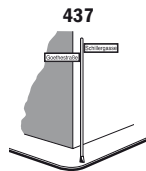
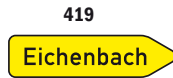
* Traffic sign no longer included in the German Highway Code.



- 331.2** End of expressway
- 332-20** Motorway exit ahead
- 332-21** Expressway exit ahead
- 332-22** Expressway exit for local destinations ahead
- 333-20** Exit from motorway (arrow sign)
- 333-21** Exit from expressways (arrow sign)
- 340** Lane separator/centre line
- 341** Wait line
- 350** Pedestrian crossing
- 353*** One-way street
- 354** Water protection area
- 355**** Pedestrian subway or bridge
- 356** Crossing guards
- 357** Dead-end street
- 358** First aid station
- 359**** Repair service
- 360**** Telephone
- 361**** Filling station
- 363** Police station
- 366**** Camping and caravan site
- 367**** Tourist information
- 375**** Hotel
- 376**** Restaurant
- 377**** Snack bar
- 378**** Toilets
- 380*** Advisory speed limit
- 381*** End of advisory speed limit
- 385** Place name sign
- 386.1** Tourist attraction
- 386.2** Tourist route
- 386.3** Geographical area containing several tourist attractions

* Traffic sign deleted from the German Highway Code; its erection may no longer be authorised.

** Traffic sign no longer included in the German Highway Code; it may still be erected.



- 388* Shoulder unsafe for multi-track motor vehicles
- 389* Shoulder unsafe for vehicles with a permitted gross weight over 3.5t and for tractors
- 390 Toll motorway
- 391 Toll road
- 392 Customs post
- 393 Information sign posted at international borders
- 394 Red band on lamp posts indicate that streetlight does not stay on all night
- 401 Federal Highway route number
- 405 Motorway route number
- 406 Motorway interchange number (exits, three and four-way interchanges)
- 410 European route number
- 415 Federal Highway direction sign
- 418 Primary road direction sign
- 419 Secondary road direction sign
- 421 Advance direction sign for designated type of vehicle
- 422 Routing for designated type of vehicle
- 430 Direction to motorway
- 432 Direction sign to important local destinations
- 434 Consolidated direction sign
- 437 Street name signs
- 438 Advance direction sign
- 439 Advance direction sign including lane configuration
- 440 Motorway entrance direction sign
- 442 Routing for designated type of vehicle

* Traffic sign deleted from the German Highway Code; its erection may no longer be authorised.

see 448



448



448.1



449



450



453



454



455.1



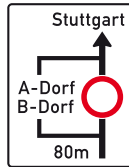
457.1



457.2



458



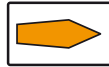
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466



467.1



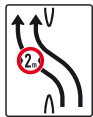
467.2



501



505



531



545



551



590



448 Motorway exit, four or three-way interchange ahead

448.1 Sign indicating off-motorway truck stop

449 Motorway interchange advance directional sign

450 Motorway interchange countdown markers (three bars, two bars, one bar)

453 Motorway distance board

454 Diversion sign

455.1 Numbered diversion route

457.1 Diversion ahead

457.2 End of diversion

458 Diversion routing

460 Provisional diversion route ahead

466 Provisional diversion route schematic

467.1 Recommended alternate route

467.2 End of recommended alternate route

501 Lane crossover at contra-flow road works

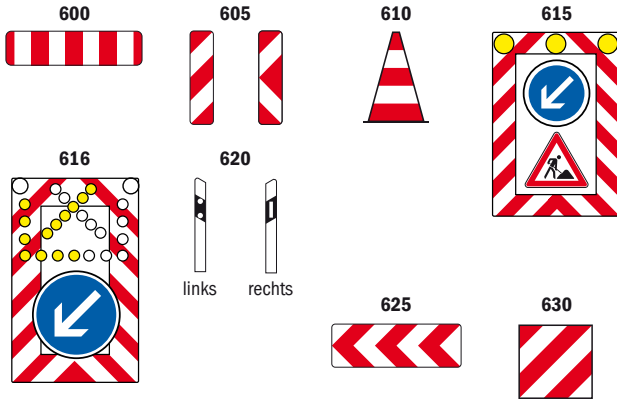
505 Lane crossover at contra-flow road works with width restriction

531 The number of lanes reduces from three lanes to two (closure of one lane)

545 Extension from two to three lanes with minimum speed by lane

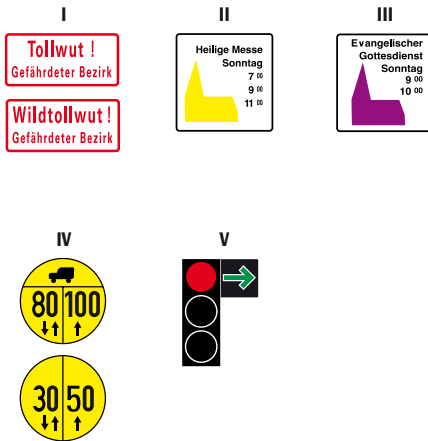
551 Lanes added to another roadway

590 Complicated traffic route



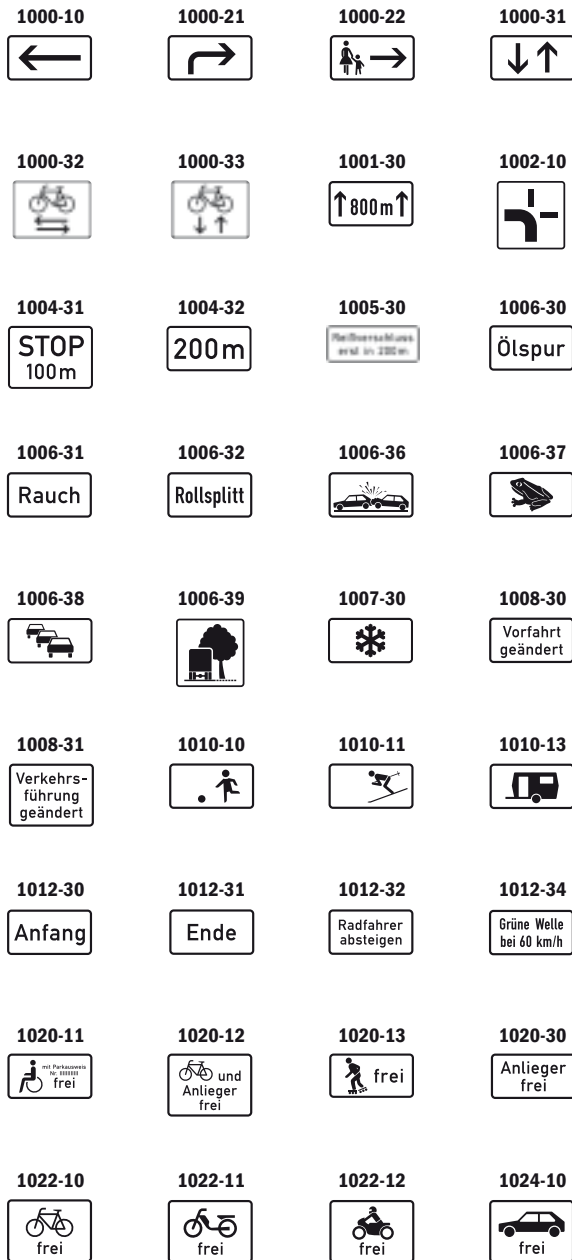
Article 43 Traffic control devices

- 600** Barricade
- 605** Obstruction marker
- 610** Traffic cone
- 615** Mobile lane closure board
- 616** Mobile lane closure board with flashing arrow
- 620** Reflector guide posts (left, right)
- 625** Bend ahead
- 630** Parking hazard



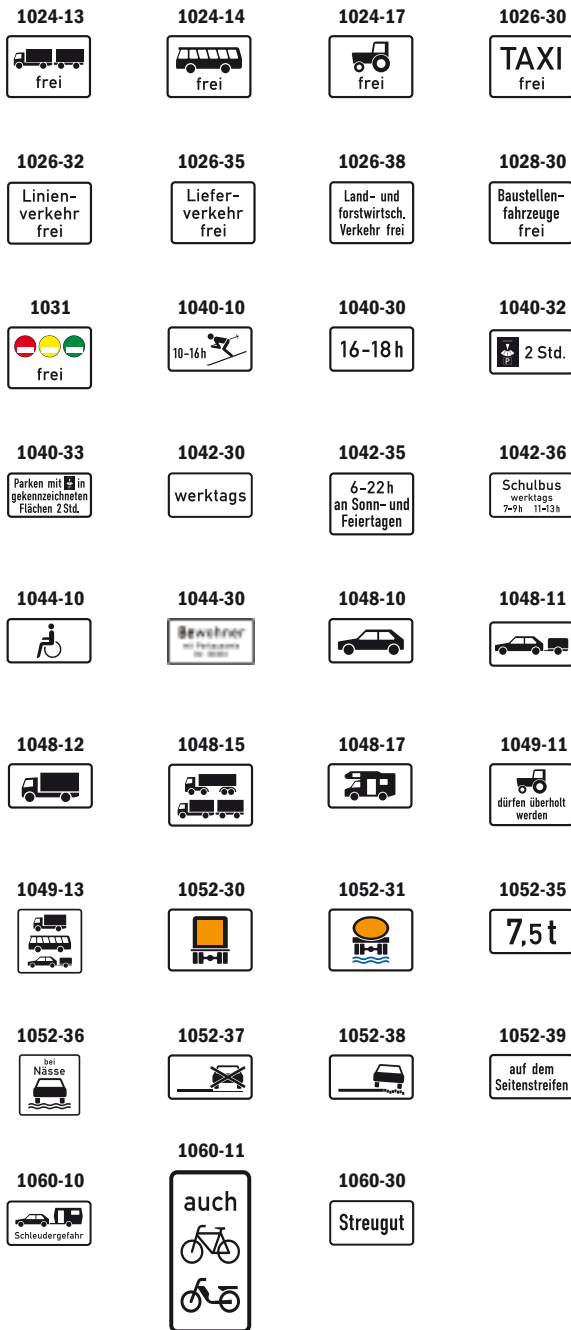
Special Signs

- I** Rabies (sign to warn of a rabies outbreak area)
- II** Church services (Catholic Mass)
- III** Church services (Protestant service)
- IV** NATO military bridge classification signs indicating carrying capacity
- V** Green-arrow sign
Right turn on red permitted after coming to a stop and yielding to all other traffic and pedestrians



Supplemental signs (selection)

- 1000-10** Direction, left
1000-21 Location of hazard, right
1000-22 Use opposite sidewalk
1000-31 Two-way traffic e.g. bicycle lane
1000-32 Bicycles intersecting
1000-33 Bicycles travelling in either direction
1001-30 Distance (metres) to which prohibition applies
1002-10 Priority road turns left in the intersection
1004-31 Stop ahead (100m)
1004-32 ... 200m ahead
1005-30 Zipper merge 200m ahead
1006-30 Trail of oil
1006-31 Smoke
1006-32 Loose chippings
1006-36 Accident hazard
1006-37 Toads crossing
1006-38 Congestion hazard
1006-39 Tree overhang
1007-30 Snow/ice hazard
1008-30 Priority changed
1008-31 Routing changed
1010-10 Children allowed to play on the road and shoulder
1010-11 Winter sports along the road
1010-13 Caravans allowed to park for over 2 weeks
1012-30 Start
1012-31 End
1012-32 Cyclists must walk
1012-34 All green signals ("green wave") at ...kph
- »Allowed«-Signs**
- 1020-11** Disabled persons with parking permit no. ... allowed
1020-12 Cyclists and residents allowed
1020-13 Inline skaters allowed
1020-30 Residents and local traffic allowed
1022-10 Cyclists allowed
1022-11 Mopeds allowed
1022-12 Motorcycles with and without sidecar and mopeds allowed
1024-10 Passenger cars allowed



- 1024-13** HGV with trailer allowed
1024-14 Buses allowed
1024-17 Motor vehicles and tractor vehicles with 25kph maximum (permissible) speed allowed
1026-30 Taxis allowed
1026-32 Public transport vehicles allowed
1026-35 Delivery vehicles allowed
1026-38 Agricultural and forestry vehicles allowed
1028-30 Construction vehicles allowed
1031 Exemption from traffic ban according to §40(1) of the Federal Immission Control Act
1040-10 Winter sports along the road between 10-16hrs
1040-30 Restricted times (16-18hrs)
1040-32 Parking disc 2hrs
1040-33 Parking with parking disc in designated area, 2hrs
1042-30 Restricted times (weekdays only)
1042-35 Restricted times (6-22hrs, Sundays and public holidays only)
1042-36 School bus (restricted to daytimes)
1044-10 Disabled and blind people only
1044-30 Residents with parking permit no. ... only
1048-10 Passenger cars only
1048-11 Passenger cars with trailer only
1048-12 Only vehicles over 3.5t and their trailers, excluding passenger cars and buses
1048-15 Only vehicles over 3.5t, also with trailers
1048-17 Motorhomes only
1049-11 Overtaking of slow-moving vehicles that cannot exceed 25kph
1049-13 Only vehicles over 3.5t, buses and passenger cars with trailers
1052-30 Speed and overtaking restrictions for the transport of hazardous goods
1052-31 Speed and overtaking restrictions for vehicles carrying water pollutants
1052-35 Indication of weight
1052-36 "Wet surface" sign supplementing sign 274
1052-37 No stopping/waiting on shoulder
1052-38 Soft verges
1052-39 On shoulder
1060-10 Sliding danger for vehicles pulling trailers on downhill section with strong side wind
1060-11 Also bicycles and mopeds
1060-30 Grit

Important traffic rules in Germany

- Alcohol – blood alcohol limit is 50mg per 100ml.
- Direction sign colours:
 - On motorways blue
 - Outside built-up areas yellow
 - In built-up areas white
- Emergency numbers: 110 for the police, 112 for an ambulance.
- Motorcyclists must ride with their headlights on at all times.
- Motorcyclists and their passengers must ride with helmets on at all times.
- Motorists approaching a motorway traffic jam are recommended to switch on their hazard warning lights.
- Special road signs announce the approach of filling stations, motels and service areas. These are usually open 24hours/7days.
- While overnight stays on parking areas are allowed, camping activities such as putting up chairs and tables are not.
- Speed limits for passenger cars and vehicles up to 3.5t:

| | without trailer | with trailer |
|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| In built-up areas: | 50kph | 50kph |
| Outside built-up areas: | 100kph | 80kph |
| On motorways: | | 80kph |
| Recommended maximum speed: | 130kph | |
- Fog regulation: a speed limit of 50kph applies on all roads if visibility in fog, snow or rain is less than 50m. If visibility is further reduced, the speed has to be adapted accordingly.
- Fog lights may be used in fog or snow or when visibility is generally reduced. Rear fog lights may only be used when visibility is less than 50m.
- Vehicles breaking down on motorways may only be towed to the nearest suitable garage. The hazard warning lights of both vehicles must be switched on. Immobilised vehicles are required to leave the motorway at the next exit.
- Seatbelts must be worn by drivers and all passengers. Children under 12 years old or shorter than 1.5m must use an approved child seat. If the child restraint system is not suitable for the child's size and weight, the fine is 30 Euros; if no restraint system is used, it is 40 Euros. Unless you use a hands-free car kit, the use of mobile phones is prohibited while your vehicle is in operation. The fine for non-compliance is 40 Euros.
- Tyre tread depth must be at least 1.6mm. This also applies to foreign-registered vehicles. Vehicle equipment must be appropriate to weather conditions. Make sure you use suitable tyres and have antifreeze in your washer system.