

Queensland Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices

Part 15: Direction signs, information signs and route numbering

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About this document

This document sets out the principles for use of direction and information signs that inform the road user of the direction and distance to a place on the route being followed or along another road that intersects that route. They may also supply information to identify points of geographical, historical or tourist interest and give directions to service and accommodation facilities. The main types of direction signs providing intersection direction are as follows:

- advance direction
- intersection direction
- fingerboard
- reassurance direction
- route markers, and
- freeway guide.

How to use this document

This document is designed to be read and applied together with AS 1742.15-2019 *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices Part 15* (AS 1742.15-2019). You must have access to the Australian Standard to understand what applies in Queensland.

This document:

- sets out how AS 1742.15-2019 applies in Queensland
- has precedence over AS 1742.15-2019 when applied in Queensland
- has the same section and clause numbering and headings as AS 1742.15-2019.

The following table summarises the relationship between AS 1742.15-2019 and this document:

Applicability	Meaning
Accepted	The Australian Standard section or clause is accepted.
Accepted, with amendments	Part or all of the section or clause has been accepted with additions, deletions or differences.
New	There is no equivalent section or clause in the Australian Standard.
Not accepted	The Australian Standard section or clause is not accepted.

Definitions

The following general amended definitions apply when reading AS 1742.15-2019.

Reference to...	Means
AS 1742.15-2019	AS 1742.15-2019, as amended by this document For example, a reference to AS 1742.15-2019 means you must refer to the Australian Standard Part 15, and Part 15 of the Queensland Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (Queensland MUTCD). Throughout AS 1742.15-2019, references are made to other parts of the Australian Standards (for example, when reading Part 15 you may be referred to Part 3 for further information.) In this case, you must refer to the equivalent Part within the Queensland MUTCD first. Check the applicability of the equivalent Part in the Queensland MUTCD before referring to the referenced Australian Standard Part.
TRUM	Traffic and Road Use Management Manual
Queensland (Q) series / Traffic Control (TC) signs	Queensland (Q) series signs can be found via TC signs :

Relationship table

Section	Clause	Description	Applicability
1	Scope and general		
	1.1	Scope	Accepted
	1.2	Normative references	Accepted
	1.3	Terms and definitions	
	1.3.1	<i>expressway type roads</i>	Accepted
	1.3.2	<i>focal point map</i>	Accepted
	1.3.3	<i>shall</i>	Accepted with amendments
	1.3.4	<i>should</i>	Accepted with amendments
	1.3.5	<i>85th percentile / V₈₅</i>	Accepted
	1.3.6	<i>May</i>	New
	1.3.7	<i>Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland (RPEQ)</i>	New
	1.3.8	<i>Innovative treatments</i>	New
	1.4	Responsibility and authority for installation	Accepted with amendments
	1.5	Principles of good sign practice	Accepted
	1.6	Sign design guidelines	
	1.6.1	<i>Signboard layout</i>	Accepted
	1.6.2	<i>Presentation of information</i>	Accepted
	1.6.3	<i>Sign format</i>	Accepted
	1.6.4	<i>Distances on signs</i>	Accepted
	1.6.5	<i>Route and street names</i>	Accepted
	1.6.6	<i>Directions to distant routes</i>	Accepted
	1.6.7	<i>Use of apostrophes</i>	Accepted
	1.6.8	<i>Letter types and sizes, and sign colour</i>	Accepted with amendments
	1.6.9	<i>Use of arrows</i>	Accepted
	1.6.10	<i>Illumination and reflectorization</i>	Accepted
	1.6.11	<i>Non-standard signs</i>	Accepted
	1.6.12	<i>Signing of dual names</i>	New
	1.6.13	<i>Signing of alternate names</i>	New
	1.7	Installation and location	Accepted
1.8	Materials and manufacturing specifications	Accepted	
1.9	Variation to treatments and Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland certification	New	
2	Direction signs at and near intersections		
	2.1	General	Accepted
	2.2	Advance direction signs	

Section	Clause	Description	Applicability
	2.2.1	<i>Application</i>	Accepted
	2.2.2	<i>Format and use</i>	Accepted
	2.2.3	<i>Legend</i>	Accepted
	2.2.4	<i>Location and mounting</i>	Accepted
	2.2.5	<i>Supplementary distance plate (G9-66)</i>	Accepted
	2.3	Driving instruction direction signs	
	2.3.1	<i>Single direction type (G9-7 and G9-8)</i>	Accepted
	2.3.2	<i>Multiple direction / lane type</i>	Accepted
	2.3.3	<i>Turning instruction signs</i>	Accepted
	2.3.4	<i>Variable lane designation signs</i>	Accepted
	2.4	Intersection direction signs and fingerboards	
	2.4.1	<i>Function and classification</i>	Accepted
	2.4.2	<i>Major intersection direction signs (Type 1) – Description and use</i>	Accepted
	2.4.3	<i>Minor Intersection Direction (Type 2) signs – Description and use</i>	Accepted
	2.4.4	<i>Fingerboards (Type 3 intersection direction signs) – Description and use</i>	Accepted
	2.4.5	<i>Signs to tourist attractions and services</i>	Accepted
	2.4.6	<i>Legend selection</i>	Accepted
	2.4.7	<i>Display of route numbers and distance</i>	Accepted
	2.4.8	<i>Location</i>	Accepted
	2.5	Reassurance direction signs	Accepted
	2.5.1	<i>Function</i>	Accepted
	2.5.2	<i>Legend</i>	Accepted with amendments
	2.5.3	<i>Location</i>	Accepted
	2.6	Typical arrangement diagrams	Accepted
3	Expressway direction signs		
	3.1	General	Accepted
	3.2	Provision of signs	Accepted
	3.3	Legend selection	
	3.3.1	<i>Amount of legend</i>	Accepted
	3.3.2	<i>Destination and route names</i>	Accepted
	3.3.3	<i>Route numbering</i>	Accepted
	3.3.4	<i>Exit numbering</i>	Accepted

Section	Clause	Description	Applicability
	3.4	Advance exit signs and signs at the exit	
	3.4.1	<i>Advance exit signs – Legend type (GE1-5, GE1-6, GE1-13)</i>	Accepted
	3.4.2	<i>Advance exit signs – Diagrammatic type (GE1-11, GE1-12)</i>	Accepted
	3.4.3	<i>Signs at the exit</i>	Accepted
	3.4.4	<i>Typical direction sign arrangements – single lane exits</i>	Accepted
	3.4.5	<i>Two-lane exits</i>	Accepted
	3.4.6	<i>Closely spaced exits and single trap lane exits</i>	Accepted
	3.4.7	<i>Location of exit direction signs</i>	Accepted
	3.5	Supplementary advance signs	
	3.5.1	<i>This (Next) exit, Use ... exit signs (GE1-8-1, GE1-8-2, GE1-8-4)</i>	Accepted
	3.5.2	<i>NEXT xx EXITS sign (GE1-8-3)</i>	Accepted
	3.5.3	<i>By-passed town signs (GE1-5)</i>	Accepted
	3.6	Reassurance and interchange sequence signs	
	3.6.1	<i>Reassurance direction signs (GE4-1)</i>	Accepted
	3.6.2	<i>Interchange sequence sign (GE1-9)</i>	Accepted
	3.7	Signs at Expressway-to-Expressway Interchanges	Accepted
	3.8	Signs on the approach to and along tolled expressways	
	3.8.1	<i>General</i>	Accepted with amendments
	3.8.2	<i>TOLL panel</i>	Accepted with amendments
	3.8.3	<i>Toll indicated by alternative sign colours</i>	Accepted with amendments
	3.9	Other expressway direction signs	
	3.9.1	<i>Expressway direction signs in tunnels</i>	Accepted
	3.9.2	<i>Combined direction signs with overhead lane control devices</i>	Accepted with amendments
	3.9.3	<i>G3-4 series signs on expressways</i>	Accepted
	3.9.4	<i>EXIT distance sign (GE1-18)</i>	Accepted
	3.10	Direction signs at ramp terminals	
	3.10.1	<i>Exit ramp terminals</i>	Accepted
	3.10.2	<i>Approaches to entrance ramp terminals</i>	Accepted
4	Route numbering		
	4.1	General principles	Accepted

Section	Clause	Description	Applicability
	4.2	Types of route numbering	
	4.2.1	<i>The alphanumeric system</i>	Accepted
	4.2.2	<i>Tourist routes</i>	Accepted
	4.2.3	<i>Over-dimensional load routes</i>	Accepted
	4.2.4	<i>Special routes using symbols</i>	Accepted
	4.2.5	<i>Maintaining existing shield based systems</i>	Accepted
	4.3	The alphanumeric system – Description and use	
	4.3.1	<i>Route classification</i>	Accepted
	4.3.2	<i>Number selection</i>	Accepted
	4.3.3	<i>Alternative and by-pass routes</i>	Accepted
	4.3.4	<i>Dual numbering</i>	Accepted
	4.4	Display of numbers	
	4.4.1	<i>Form of display and visual prominence</i>	Accepted
	4.4.2	<i>Display on direction signs</i>	Accepted
	4.4.3	<i>Display as free standing markers or supplementary plates</i>	Accepted
5	General information signs		
	5.1	Geographical feature signs (G6)	
	5.1.1	<i>Purpose</i>	Accepted
	5.1.2	<i>Location</i>	Accepted
	5.1.3	<i>Shape and colour</i>	Accepted
	5.1.4	<i>Legend</i>	Accepted
	5.1.5	<i>Types of signs</i>	Accepted
	5.1.6	<i>Town name (G6-1)</i>	Accepted
	5.1.7	<i>Stream name (G6-2)</i>	Accepted
	5.1.8	<i>State border (G6-3 and G6-4)</i>	Accepted
	5.1.9	<i>Local government boundary (G6-5)</i>	Accepted
	5.1.10	<i>Feature (G6-6)</i>	Accepted
	5.2	Kilometre plates	
	5.2.1	<i>General</i>	Accepted
	5.2.2	<i>Kilometre plates (G10-3, G10-4, G10-5)</i>	Accepted
	5.2.3	<i>Location and spacing</i>	Accepted
	5.3	Non-standard information signs	
	5.3.1	<i>General</i>	Accepted
	5.3.2	<i>Sign design</i>	Accepted
	5.3.3	<i>Sign location</i>	Accepted

Section	Clause	Description	Applicability
Appendices			
A	Determination of letter sizes for signs (informative)		
	A.1	<i>Scope</i>	Accepted
	A.2	<i>Procedure</i>	Accepted
B	Guidelines for the layout of legend elements on direction signs (informative)		
	B.1	<i>General</i>	Accepted
	B.2	<i>Selection of legend elements</i>	Accepted
	B.3	<i>Spacing of legend elements</i>	Accepted with amendments
	B.4	<i>Achieving visual balance</i>	Accepted
C	Illumination and reflectorization of signs (normative)		
	C.1	<i>Scope</i>	Accepted
	C.2	<i>General</i>	Accepted
	C.3	<i>Means of illumination</i>	Accepted
	C.4	<i>Means of reflectorization</i>	Accepted
D	Installation and location of signs (normative)		
	D.1	<i>Scope</i>	Accepted
	D.2	<i>Sign location – Roadside signs</i>	
	D.2.1	General	Accepted
	D.2.2	Longitudinal placement	Accepted
	D.2.3	Lateral placement and height	
	D.2.3.1	General	Accepted
	D.2.3.2	Lateral placement – Rural	Accepted
	D.2.3.3	Lateral placement – Urban	Accepted
	D.2.3.4	Height – Rural	Accepted
	D.2.3.5	Height – Urban	Accepted
	D.3	<i>Sign location – Overhead signs</i>	Accepted
	D.4	<i>Multiple signs on a single mounting</i>	Accepted
	D.5	<i>Sign orientation</i>	Accepted

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1 Scope and general

1.3 Terms and definitions

1.3.3 Shall

Addition

Indicates that a statement is mandatory. Where certain requirements in the design or application of the device are described with the 'shall' stipulation, it is mandatory that, when an installation is made, these requirements be met.

1.3.4 Should

Addition

Indicates a recommendation. Where the word 'should' is used, it is considered to be recommended usage, but not mandatory. Any recommendation that is not applied must be based on sound traffic engineering judgement and documented.

1.3.6 May

New

Indicates the existence of an option. Where the word 'may' is used, it indicates that use of the device is conditional, or optional. Usually, no specific requirements for the design or application are intended.

1.3.7 Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland

New

A person who is registered as a Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland (RPEQ), under the *Professional Engineers Act 2002* (Qld) with the [Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland](#).

1.3.8 Innovative treatments

New

Innovative treatments that provide improved safety, efficiency, and/or value-for-money outcomes are encouraged. Such treatments may include:

- a) innovative use of current devices
- b) alternative device layouts using existing and/or improved devices, and/or
- c) new devices or practices.

New or improved devices, treatments, or practices require approval by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (see Clause 1.9 for guidance about variations to optimal treatments) prior to their use or adoption.

For trials of new or innovative traffic control devices, treatments, or practices, a submission in accordance with the requirements of the Queensland *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD) Part 1 Clause 1.13 shall be submitted to TrafficEngineering.Support@tmr.qld.gov.au.

1.4 Responsibility and authority for installation

Difference

Replace with Section 1.4 of the *Queensland Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices Part 2*.

1.6 Sign design guidelines

1.6.8 Letter types

Difference

Replace Item (e) with the following:

- (e) Cautionary legends, excluding TOLLS, associated with directions shall be black upper case letter on a yellow panel. Where a TOLL panel is required, refer to Transport and Main Roads' *Traffic and Road Use Management manual Volume 3 Part 10 Signing and Pavement Marking for Toll Roads*.

1.6.12 Signing of dual names

New

Gazetted dual named places and features listed in the [Queensland Place Names Database](#) (as shown separated by a solidus '/') shall be signed in full on directional signs in the order they appear in the database. A solidus shall be used to separate each name, with both names considered one destination. Capitalisation and punctuation of each name shall be as per the standard signing principles and requirements of this Manual (see Section 1.6).

Where the signing of dual names creates long lines of text, a line break may be included following the solidus and the shorter line of text shall be centred either above or below the longest line (except for reassurance signs, where both lines shall be left-justified and additional line spacing should be provided between adjacent destinations for visual separation). A maximum of two lines of text shall be used per dual named place or feature (see Figure 1.6.13 for examples).

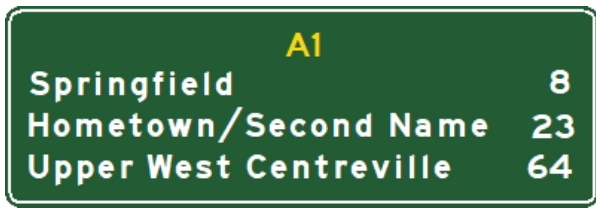
1.6.13 Signing of alternate names

New

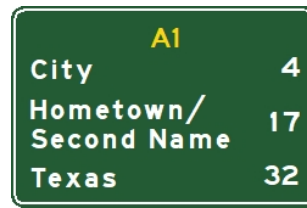
Where recently renamed places and features have alternate names listed in the [Queensland Place Names Database](#) (as shown in parentheses), the alternate name may be signed in accordance with Clause 1.6.12 to assist the travelling public with recognition of the new name.

Where the decision is made to sign an alternate name, a consistent approach should be applied to all applicable signs on a route. The signing of alternate names is considered a temporary measure to assist the travelling public with navigation. Alternate names should be covered up with a blank panel, once the new name is commonly recognised.

Figure 1.6.13 – Example signing of dual named places



G4-1



G4-1

(a) Reassurance signs

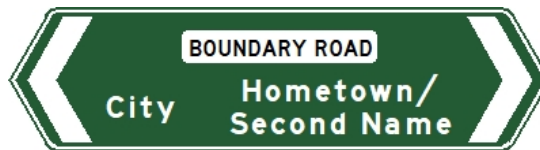


G1-2



G1-2

(b) Advance direction signs



G2-4



G2-4

(c) Fingerboards (double chevron ended)

1.9 Variation to treatments and Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland certification

New

This Part of the *Manual* contains mandatory requirements (*shall*), recommendations (*should*) and options (*may*). The application of these mandatory requirements and recommendations is intended to provide the optimal level of safety and traffic efficiency. It is acknowledged that, in some instances, variations to these requirements and recommendations may be necessary and, as such, variations to these requirements and recommendations may be undertaken as follows:

- a) Where recommendations (*should*) are not adopted, a risk assessment shall be undertaken and certified by an RPEQ.

- b) Where mandatory requirements (*shall*) are not adopted, a risk assessment shall be undertaken and certified by an RPEQ.

Notifications of variations to mandatory requirements (including all relevant information) shall be emailed to TrafficEngineering.Support@tmr.qld.gov.au for information purposes and for the benefit of identifying potential future practice changes – not for approval or endorsement. These variations may include learnings that may be attributed to the variation of a *shall* requirement, such as operational, cost or safety impacts.

- c) Where innovative treatments (see Clause 1.3.8) that are outside the scope of the Queensland MUTCD are proposed to be adopted, a risk assessment shall be undertaken and certified by an RPEQ.
- d) All proposed innovative treatments require approval by Transport and Main Roads prior to their use or adoption. Requests for approval of innovative treatments (including all relevant information) shall be emailed to TrafficEngineering.Support@tmr.qld.gov.au. As part of an approval to use or trial an innovative treatment, Transport and Main Roads may require that the applicant provides a detailed evaluation report on the performance and effectiveness of the treatment. Transport and Main Roads may use the results of the evaluation to identify potential future practice changes to this Part of the *Manual*.
- e) The use of options (*may*) is not a variation to the optimal treatment and does not require certification by an RPEQ.

2 Direction signs at and near intersections

2.5 Reassurance direction signs

2.5.2 Legend

Difference

Where a TOLL panel is required, refer to Transport and Main Roads' *Traffic and Road Use Management manual Volume 3 Part 10 Signing and Pavement Marking for Toll Roads*.

3 Expressway direction signs

3.8 Signs on the approach to and along tolled expressways

3.8.1 General

Difference

Where a TOLL panel is required, refer to Transport and Main Roads' *Traffic and Road Use Management manual Volume 3 Part 10 Signing and Pavement Marking for Toll Roads*.

3.8.2 TOLL panel

Difference

Where a TOLL panel is required, refer to Transport and Main Roads' *Traffic and Road Use Management manual Volume 3 Part 10 Signing and Pavement Marking for Toll Roads*.

3.8.3 Toll indicated by alternative sign colours

Difference

Where a TOLL panel is required, refer to Transport and Main Roads' *Traffic and Road Use Management manual Volume 3 Part 10 Signing and Pavement Marking for Toll Roads*.

3.9 Other expressway direction signs

3.9.2 Combined direction signs with overhead lane control devices

Difference

Replace Item (b) with the following:

- (b) The overhead lane control over a lane shall be limited to the speed limit (lane open without other restriction), a flashing or static X, or an exit-only arrow.

Appendix B Guidelines for the layout of legend elements on directions signs

B.3 Spacing of legend elements

Addition

Add the following to items (d) and (e):

- Where a TOLL panel is required, refer to Transport and Main Roads' *Traffic and Road Use Management manual Volume 3 Part 10 Signing and Pavement Marking for Toll Roads*.

