

# DRIVER'S HOURS SIMPLIFIED

## European rules

9 hours daily driving, except twice in a week when you can drive 10 hours per day.

A daily rest of 11 hours must be taken in any 24-hour period, this can be reduced to 9 hours a maximum of 3 times between any 2 weekly rest periods. This means that the working day (spread over) can be up to 13 hours except when a reduced rest is taken. These reduced rests must be compensated by the end of the following day.

Maximum 90 hours driving in any 2 weeks period, with no more than 56 hours in a single week. (Weeks are fixed Monday to Sunday not a rolling period).

The day starts at the commencement of the duty so can overlap the working week.

45 minutes break must be taken after a maximum of 4.5 hours.

This can be taken as 15 minutes then 30 minutes by the end of the 4.5 hours. Once the 45-minute break is taken you start a new driving period.

If you have to travel to meet your vehicle this counts as other work and must be registered on your tachograph.

## 2 crew working.

The rules are the same except the working day can be up to 21 hours, the second driver must be on the vehicle within 1 hour of the start of the duty, if not, both drivers must work a maximum of 15 hours if they have not already used this twice in the current week. They must also finish the duty together.

It would be possible if there is less than 10 hours driving a 21-hour duty for 2 drivers to be present but only one to drive. 9 hours rest must be taken after the duty. The rules do not specify how many times you can take a 9-hour rest as 2 drivers, but the rule of a maximum 56 hours in one week or 90 in a fortnight will limit it.

## Split Rest

If you have a 3-hour rest during the day, then 9 hours later this will count as a full rest period.

## 12 Day Rule

This is an exception to the normal rules for drivers who are touring out of their own country. Drivers will be able to delay their weekly rest period until the end of day 12, but this rule cannot be applied to domestic trips, this must be 1 tour not back-to-back tours. A regular 45-hour rest must be taken prior to the journey beginning. In addition, at least one regular and one reduced weekly rest period – totalling at least 69 hours – should be taken back-to-back on the journey's completion.