

Are Tinted Windows Legal in Canada? What You Need to Know

Window tint laws in Canada vary between provinces. While all provinces allow you to tint your back-side windows and rear windshield, very few provincial governments allow tints in the front windshield and side mirrors at all.

This article covers what you need to know about window tint laws in Canada.

Key Takeaways

- Each province in Canada can set their own laws regarding tinted windows.
- Only factory-tinted windows are legal in Canada as they darken the window using pigments, not films that can affect how glass breaks upon collisions.
- The only provinces that allow front windshield tinting are British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Quebec and Yukon.

Are Tinted Windows Legal in Canada?

Yes, tinted windows are legal in Canada. However, as mentioned earlier, only a few provinces allow tints on the front windshield and side windows.

Moreover, it's worth noting that even when tinted windows are legal in a Canadian province or territory, they're still subject to specific guidelines for them to be considered legal. Some provincial governments only allow tints that are of a certain height, while others forbid windows whose VLT levels are too low.

Hence, it's necessary to keep up to date with your provincial government's policies about window tints before buying a new car or modifying your current one.

Are Factory Tinted Windows Legal?

Yes, factory-tinted windows are legal in Canada. In fact, they're the only type of window tints that are legal as they're tinted by adding pigments to the glass itself, not by applying a dark film to the window's exterior, as aftermarket tints do.

Wondering why aftermarket tints on windshields and front side windows are [illegal in Canada](#)?

Well, the most straightforward reason is none other than safety concerns.

According to an Alberta Transportation representative, "front side windows on a vehicle are designed to shatter into small pieces the size of a fingernail upon impact."

However, when covered by tinted films, glasses typically shatter into larger pieces, which makes them more likely to cause serious injuries in the event of a collision. Due to this, the government doesn't allow aftermarket tints on Canadian cars.

Canada Window Tint Laws By Province

