

GUIDANCE ON ROAD SIGNS AND BARRIERS

The minimum requirement for closing a road for street parties is a 'ROAD CLOSED SIGN' sign and, where advanced warning would be appropriate - a 'ROAD AHEAD CLOSED' sign. In conjunction with these signs you should erect clearly visible free standing pedestrian barriers or guard barriers. Both are available to buy, or hire, from a number of sources.

When buying a sign you usually have the choice of buying just the sign plate, which you can mount on the barrier, or buying the sign plate and a free standing fold-up steel frame to stand it in the road.

Some manufacturers also make flexible signs on lighter frames that can be rolled up for easier transport and storage.

If you hire signs they will likely come in steel free-standing frames.

What Type and Size of Signs Do I Need?

'ROAD CLOSED' and 'ROAD AHEAD CLOSED' must comply with the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 (diagram 7010.1) and be manufactured with a reflective surface to British Standard BS 8442.

Signs may be available in different sizes. To ensure signs are sufficiently conspicuous you should use a sign face with white capital letters 135 to 150 mm high. The font should be Transport Medium on a red background and the sign should have a white border, approximately 20mm wide.



Photos by FreeFoto.com



The minimum overall size for signs using 150mm high letters is :-

ROAD CLOSED	1035 mm x 575 mm
ROAD AHEAD CLOSED	1035 mm x 775 mm

However signs for temporary use are commonly manufactured to fit standard size frames and **it is recommended that you buy or hire a 1050 mm x 750mm sign.**

What Barriers Should I Use?



Pedestrian barrier

You must ensure that your road closure is conspicuous, day and night, for your own safety and that of other road users. You will also need something more than a sign to discourage people from driving into the street, except for essential access. You should therefore use at least one free standing pedestrian barrier (of the type often used for crowd control) or guard barriers of the type used at roadworks, similar to those pictured.

Your barriers must have some red and white reflective materials so they can be easily seen.



Guard Barrier

Do I Need Additional Lights?

Standards of street lighting will vary and if there is any doubt about whether your road closure can be seen at night you should also fix yellow flashing road lamps on the barriers (providing between 40 and 150 flashes per minute) which can be hired, or bought quite cheaply.

Two barriers will usually do a thorough job of closing the road.

If you want to allow vehicles to get in and out while you are setting up your party, consider using the barriers in a staggered arrangement so you do not have to move them.

Where Can I Hire Signs and Barriers?

Signs and barriers are available from tool and building equipment hire shops. Examples of local suppliers are :-

HSS Hire
137 Gosport Rd.
Fareham
Tel. 01329 822488

Brandon Tool Hire
Copnor Road
Portsmouth
Tel. 023 9266 2132

Where Can I Buy Signs?

If you are likely to use signs several times then it may be cheaper to buy them. The following are possible suppliers :-

Health & Safety Signs
Sandy
Bedfordshire

Tel 0208 133 6709

Email: sales@bcwofficeproducts.com
<http://www.health-safety-signs.uk.com/Red-Information-Signs.shtml>

Arco Limited
The Pompey Centre
Portsmouth
Tel. 023 9273 4995
<http://www.arco.co.uk/1/1/6388-temporary-road-sign-road-closed-1050-mm-x-750-mm-diagram-7010-1.html>

Manchester Safety Services
Heywood
Lancashire
Tel. 01706 364943

Roll up signs :-

http://www.manchestersafety.co.uk/index.php?action=store&ctg=5&show_ctg=502

Rigid signs :-

http://www.manchestersafety.co.uk/index.php?action=store&id_prd=5506&returnURL=&ctg=5&show_ctg=496