

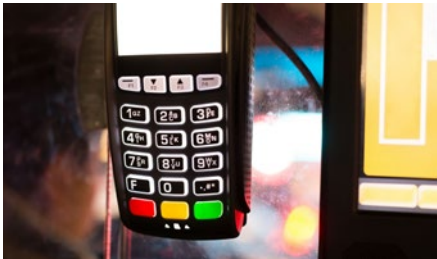


Coronavirus

EN

Protection against infection in the taxi business

Information for companies with driving personnel



There are not many other industries in which the regulations regarding the minimum distance from other people are as difficult to comply with as in the taxi business. Nevertheless, there are numerous measures that can be taken to reduce the risk of infection for drivers and passengers. In addition to comprehensive hygiene measures in the vehicle, the installation of suitable partitions can improve health protection during the Corona crisis.

As little personal contact as possible

- Limit the number of passengers in taxis. The passenger seat is off limits for taxi patrons during the Corona crisis. In addition, the rules of the relevant authorities limit the number of passengers that may be carried. Individual passengers should sit at the back right if possible.

Best Practice

In order to avoid conflicts with the passengers, one large taxi company indicates restrictions on the choice of seats and the number of passengers per vehicle when accepting transport orders. Another taxi control centre is responding to passenger requests for the taxi to be equipped with partitions.

- Arrange shift changes so that drivers do not have direct contact with each other. This prevents infection from spreading amongst employees.
- The communication between driver and passenger should be limited to the essentials. Long conversations should be avoided. When speaking, small droplets can be emitted by mouth which can carry the Coronavirus. During the Corona pandemic: speech is silver, silence is healthy.
- The journey is to be paid cashless wherever possible. The card terminal must be disinfected regularly.
- To avoid misunderstandings with passengers: Communicate your safety measures via a notice or leaflet in the vehicle.

Support infection protection of the driving personnel

- Drivers should wash their hands regularly. It is therefore advisable to include a hand disinfectant (at least partially virucidal) – or a water canister, hand soap, and disposable towels.
- Since drivers and passengers in taxis are normally unable to keep the minimum distance apart, they should at least wear medical face masks. This is compliant with section 23(4) of the StVO (prohibition of veiling) during the pandemic.
- For patient transport (e.g. for dialysis or chemotherapy), different regulations for the protection of patients apply depending on the federal state. In some cases, FFP2 masks are prescribed; instruction is necessary before their use.

Installation and use of partitions

Within a short period of time, suppliers from various industries, as well as inventors, have developed partition walls and sheets which separate the rear row of seats from the working area of the driver. This is recommended. Although the partitions do not fully prevent the transmission of the virus through aerosols (very fine liquid particles in the air), they do reduce the risk of droplet infection by protecting against spitting and sneezing.

There are currently no uniform statements from the authorities or testing organisations, but it is becoming apparent that fixed partitions are regarded as a registration-relevant change to the vehicle. The following should be noted:

- It must be clarified with the provider whether a general operating permit is available.
- The material must always be shock and splinter resistant. The partition wall shall be checked to see whether it affects the deployment of airbags.

An alternative to installing a rigid pane is to use a film or sheet as a partition. Better sealing can often be achieved this way. Furthermore, the passenger is not exposed to any additional danger during braking or in the event of a collision.

Cleaning contact surfaces in and on the vehicle

Vehicles that are used by several drivers must be cleaned as follows:

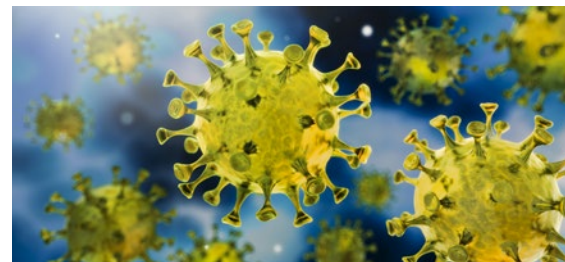
- Make sure that operating devices, handles, partitions (if applicable), and other surfaces are thoroughly cleaned with grease-dissolving cleaning agents. Disposable cloths soaked in detergent or soapy water are ideal for this purpose and should then be disposed of. Chemical disinfectants (at least partially virucidal) can be used as an alternative – however they do not promise any additional benefit.
- Partition walls or partition films should be carefully cleaned after each conveyance as described above.
- Ventilate the vehicle thoroughly at every opportunity and do not use the fan or air conditioning in recirculation mode.

If an employee falls ill

If an employee develops symptoms such as a fever, a cough or shortness of breath, they must leave the company premises immediately and stay at home. The affected person should then consult an attending physician as soon as possible, initially by telephone.

BG Verkehr
Ottenser Hauptstraße 54
22765 Hamburg

Tel.: +49 40 3980-0
Fax.: +49 49 3980-1999
Email: praevention@bg-verkehr.de



Quick question

Which recommendations for infection control should companies follow? The regulations of the federal states and those of the local authorities where applicable also apply to those insured with BG Verkehr. The SARS-CoV-2 occupational health and safety standard, the SARS-CoV-2 occupational health and safety rule and the SARS-CoV-2 occupational health and safety regulation of the BMAS as well as their industry-specific specifications by the BG Verkehr must also be observed. In everyday work, company doctors and occupational safety specialists are qualified contact persons.

Current information from BG Verkehr
Industry-specific regulations
and information:

www.bg-verkehr.de/coronavirus

Media from the DGUV (free of charge)
[Flyer: Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 – \(Suspected\) cases of illness in the company](#)

[Poster: Coronavirus – General protective measures](#)

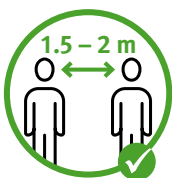
Further information

www.bmas.de

www.rki.de

www.infektionsschutz.de

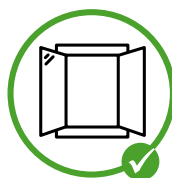
General protective measures



Keep your
distance!



Wear a
mask!



Ventilate
regularly!



Wash your hands
thoroughly!