

# Stop! From 1 April 2005, you have new rights...

**If the police stop you and ask you to account for yourself, they must give you a written form. The form must say why, when and where you were stopped. They have to do this even if they don't search you. If the police do not give you a form, you can ask for one. So when will you get a form?**

<b>If you are on the street...</b>	<b>Is this a Stop?</b>	<b>Do I get a form?</b>
You are asked what you are doing or where you are going	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
You are asked why you are in an area	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
You are asked to leave an area	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
You are asked what you are carrying	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
You are asked if you saw a crime or an incident	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
You are asked by an officer for directions to a particular place or you ask the officer for directions	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
Officers stop a fight outside a pub and ask how it started	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
Officers ask you what you were doing in/near that pub at a particular time	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>

<b>If you are in a car or vehicle...</b>	<b>Is this a Stop?</b>	<b>Do I get a form?</b>
You are warned about a traffic violation	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
You are advised about your driving style	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
You are asked if you saw a crime or other incident	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
You are asked to show your driving documents (licence, etc)	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
You are breathalysed	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
You are asked to show your driving documents and explain what you are doing in an area	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
You are asked where you are coming from or going to – and why	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>

**The above examples do not fully cover all of the law - they just give a general guide to your rights when you are stopped but remember even when you are not given a form you can still ask for one.**

**For more information on Stop and Search, please visit the Association of Police Authorities website at [www.apa.police.co.uk](http://www.apa.police.co.uk)**