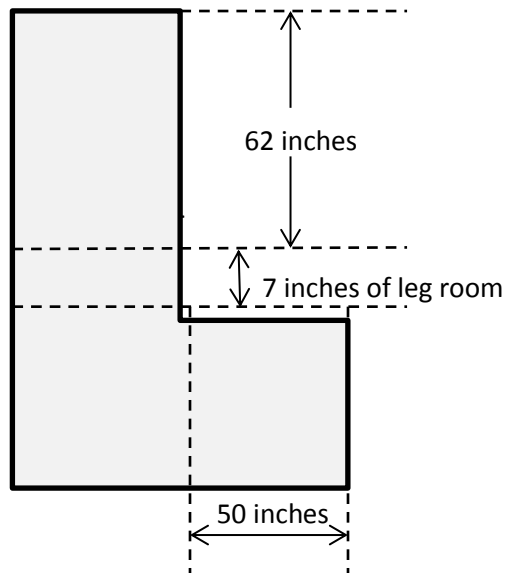




Seating Determination

MDOT uses the federal regulation CFR 571.10 Designating Seating Positions when determining the maximum seating capacity for a vehicle. MDOT determines the maximum seating capacity for each vehicle to ensure passenger safety is at the highest levels by meeting all state and federal safety requirements. Adoption of the federal standard allows MDOT to follow guidelines in place throughout the country. Each seating position is determined to be a minimum of 14 inches. The following diagram will show how the measurement is utilized when performing a Seating Verification Inspection.

$$(\text{Seat measurement in inches}) \div (14 \text{ inch seat regulation}) = \text{Seating Capacity}$$



When measuring seats, always use the whole number value and round down.

Example to the left is an "L" shaped bench seat:

$$62 \div 14 = 4.4 \text{ (4 seats)}$$

$$50 \div 14 = 3.5 \text{ (3 seats)}$$

The "L" shaped bench has 7 total seating positions.

If you have any questions regarding seating determination, please contact your Safety Inspector. This guidance document, the Vehicle Safety Inspector Area Map and contact information can be found at www.michigan.gov/busandlimo.

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