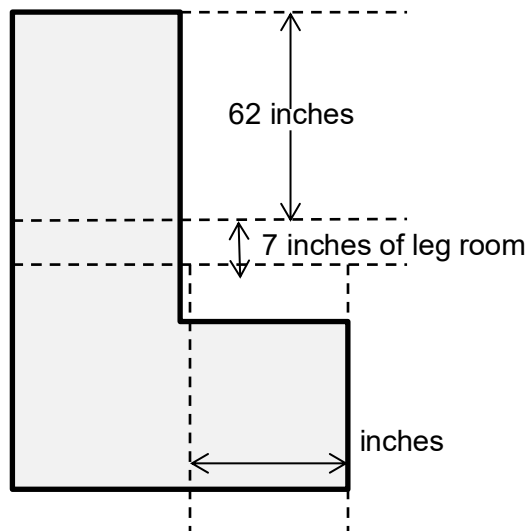




Seating Determination

MDOT follows the minimum federal measurement guideline contained within **CFR 571.10 Designating Seating Positions** when determining the maximum seating capacity for a vehicle. The maximum seating capacity for each vehicle is calculated 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.

(Seat measurement in inches) ÷ (14 inch seat regulation) = 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 Michigan.gov/BusandLimo.

If you require assistance accessing this information or require it in an alternative format, contact the Michigan Department of Transportation’s (MDOT) Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) coordinator at Michigan.gov/MDOT-ADA.

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