8. Registered designs

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This chapter discusses the law of registered designs. It explains the international treaty context for design law, and then considers the substantive law of registered designs in the UK and at an EU level, looking together at UK registered design protection and the Community registered design. Issues considered include: what designs may be validly registered, exclusions from protection, treatment of spare parts and component parts of complex products, challenging the validity of a registration, rights conferred by registration, and defences to infringement. The chapter also looks briefly at the interaction between registered design protection and other IP rights, in particular copyright.

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