



# Sale of Goods Act 1979

## 1979 CHAPTER 54

### PART VI

#### ACTIONS FOR BREACH OF THE CONTRACT

##### *Buyer's remedies*

#### **51 Damages for non-delivery.**

- (1) Where the seller wrongfully neglects or refuses to deliver the goods to the buyer, the buyer may maintain an action against the seller for damages for non-delivery.
- (2) The measure of damages is the estimated loss directly and naturally resulting, in the ordinary course of events, from the seller's breach of contract.
- (3) Where there is an available market for the goods in question the measure of damages is prima facie to be ascertained by the difference between the contract price and the market or current price of the goods at the time or times when they ought to have been delivered or (if no time was fixed) at the time of the refusal to deliver.
- [<sup>F1</sup>(4) This section does not apply to a contract to which Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the Consumer Rights Act 2015 applies (but see the provision made about such contracts in section 19 of that Act).]

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#### **Textual Amendments**

- F1** S. 51(4) inserted (1.10.2015) by [Consumer Rights Act 2015 \(c. 15\)](#), s. 100(5), [Sch. 1 para. 28](#); [S.I. 2015/1630](#), art. 3(g) (with art. 6(1))

#### **52 Specific performance.**

- (1) In any action for breach of contract to deliver specific or ascertained goods the court may, if it thinks fit, on the plaintiff's application, by its judgment or decree direct that

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*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Sale of Goods Act 1979, Cross Heading: Buyer's remedies. (See end of Document for details)*

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the contract shall be performed specifically, without giving the defendant the option of retaining the goods on payment of damages.

- (2) The plaintiff's application may be made at any time before judgment or decree.
  - (3) The judgment or decree may be unconditional, or on such terms and conditions as to damages, payment of the price and otherwise as seem just to the court.
  - (4) The provisions of this section shall be deemed to be supplementary to, and not in derogation of, the right of specific implement in Scotland.
- [<sup>F2</sup>(5) This section does not apply to a contract to which Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the Consumer Rights Act 2015 applies (but see the provision made about such contracts in section 19 of that Act).]

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**Textual Amendments**

**F2** S. 52(5) inserted (1.10.2015) by [Consumer Rights Act 2015 \(c. 15\)](#), s. 100(5), **Sch. 1 para. 29**; S.I. 2015/1630, art. 3(g) (with art. 6(1))

**53 Remedy for breach of warranty.**

- (1) Where there is a breach of warranty by the seller, or where the buyer elects (or is compelled) to treat any breach of a condition on the part of the seller as a breach of warranty, the buyer is not by reason only of such breach of warranty entitled to reject the goods; but he may—
    - (a) set up against the seller the breach of warranty in diminution or extinction of the price, or
    - (b) maintain an action against the seller for damages for the breach of warranty.
  - (2) The measure of damages for breach of warranty is the estimated loss directly and naturally resulting, in the ordinary course of events, from the breach of warranty.
  - (3) In the case of breach of warranty of quality such loss is prima facie the difference between the value of the goods at the time of delivery to the buyer and the value they would have had if they had fulfilled the warranty.
  - (4) The fact that the buyer has set up the breach of warranty in diminution or extinction of the price does not prevent him from maintaining an action for the same breach of warranty if he has suffered further damage.
- [<sup>F3</sup>(4A) This section does not apply to a contract to which Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the Consumer Rights Act 2015 applies (but see the provision made about such contracts in section 19 of that Act).]
- [<sup>F4</sup>(5) This section does not apply to Scotland.]

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**Textual Amendments**

**F3** S. 53(4A) inserted (1.10.2015) by [Consumer Rights Act 2015 \(c. 15\)](#), s. 100(5), **Sch. 1 para. 30**; S.I. 2015/1630, art. 3(g) (with art. 6(1))

**F4** S. 53(5) substituted (3.1.1995) by [1994 c. 35](#), ss. 7(1), 8(2), **Sch. 2 para. 5(7)** (with s. 8(3)).

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<sup>F5</sup>**[53A Measure of damages as respects Scotland.**

- (1) The measure of damages for the seller's breach of contract is the estimated loss directly and naturally resulting, in the ordinary course of events, from the breach.
- (2) Where the seller's breach consists of the delivery of goods which are not of the quality required by the contract and the buyer retains the goods, such loss as aforesaid is prima facie the difference between the value of the goods at the time of delivery to the buyer and the value they would have had if they had fulfilled the contract.

[ This section does not apply to a contract to which Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the Consumer <sup>F6</sup>(2A) Rights Act 2015 applies (but see the provision made about such contracts in section 19 of that Act).]

- (3) This section applies to Scotland only.]

**Textual Amendments**

**F5** S. 53A inserted (3.1.1995) by 1994 c. 35, ss. 5(3), 8(2) (with s. 8(3)).

**F6** S. 53A(2A) inserted (1.10.2015) by Consumer Rights Act 2015 (c. 15), s. 100(5), Sch. 1 para. 31; S.I. 2015/1630, art. 3(g) (with art. 6(1))

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Sale of Goods Act 1979, Cross  
Heading: Buyer's remedies.