

## > NEW CAR TAX RULES

The new car tax rules mean that the keeper named on a vehicle Registration Document/Certificate is legally responsible for taxing a vehicle until DVLA has been notified that it is off the road or has been sold, transferred, scrapped or exported.

The new rules are part of a Government programme to reform vehicle licensing and registration. Having more up-to-date records will help us to tackle vehicle crime and the problems of abandoned vehicles and uninsured motoring.

This leaflet explains how the new rules will affect:

- > YOUR TAX DISC
- > VEHICLES THAT ARE OFF THE ROAD
- > SELLING YOUR VEHICLE
- > YOUR VEHICLE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE.

### YOUR TAX DISC

Your tax disc is valid for 6 or 12 months; a renewal reminder form V11 (or V85/1 if it is a Heavy Goods Vehicle) will be sent to you about two weeks before your tax disc expires.

**You can keep your tax disc up to date by:**

- > filling in the relevant section of the renewal reminder form V11 and taking it to a licence-issuing Post Office® (V85/1s must be submitted to a DVLA Local Office); or
- > applying on form V10 at a licence-issuing Post Office® or, for HGVs, on form V85 at a DVLA Local Office. You will need to show your vehicle Registration Document/Certificate or the tear-off slip V5/2 – V5C/2 if within two months of date of purchase.

We don't need to see your vehicle on a public road to find out if the tax disc is up to date. Every month computer checks will be carried out to identify vehicles that do not have a valid tax disc. If you fail to renew your tax disc you will incur a penalty of up to £80. If you continue to drive without a valid tax disc, you could be fined a minimum of £1,000.

We will not send you a penalty letter provided that there is no gap between the expiry of the old tax disc and the commencement of the new one. However, if you use or keep an untaxed vehicle on a public road on-road enforcement action could be taken.

### VEHICLES THAT ARE OFF THE ROAD

If you don't use or keep your vehicle on a public road, you must make a Statutory Off-Road Notification (SORN) instead of renewing your tax disc. This also applies if you have recently purchased the vehicle and the previous keeper has declared SORN.

If you don't make or renew your SORN you will incur a penalty of up to £80. Before you start to use or keep your vehicle on a public road, you must get a valid tax disc.

A SORN is valid for 12 months; a renewal reminder form will be sent to you about two weeks before your SORN expires. Don't incur a penalty. Make sure that your SORN is up to date. SORN only applies to vehicles where a licence was in force on or after 31 January 1998.

**You can declare SORN by:**

- > filling in the relevant section of your renewal reminder form V11 and taking it to a licence-issuing Post Office® (V85/1s must be submitted to a DVLA Local Office);
- > calling 0870 240 0010, if you are the registered keeper. **(Note: Multiple or backdated SORN**

**applications cannot be accepted by phone and SORN cannot be completed before the 15th day of the month in which the disc expires.)**

- > filling in a SORN form V890 and sending it to DVLA. These forms are available from all DVLA Local Offices, licence-issuing Post Office® branches, [www.dvla.gov.uk/forms/frms\\_vehicles.htm](http://www.dvla.gov.uk/forms/frms_vehicles.htm) or by calling 0870 240 0010; or
- > filling in a V14 or V33 form if you are also applying for a refund and the vehicle is to remain in your possession.

On receipt of your SORN declaration we will send you a letter advising you that you are no longer liable for taxing the vehicle. This letter should be kept safe.

### SELLING YOUR VEHICLE

By law, you must tell us if you sell, transfer, scrap or export your vehicle. If you don't, *you will continue to be liable for taxing it* and will receive all correspondence relating to this and any other offences committed with the vehicle.

Tell us when you sell/transfer your vehicle and we will send you an acknowledgement letter, which proves you are no longer responsible for taxing it. You should keep this letter safe.

Don't be responsible for someone else's car tax. Make sure that your vehicle record is up to date.

**You can keep your record up to date by:**

- > filling in the relevant sections of the vehicle Registration Document/Certificate and returning it to DVLA, SA99 1BA.

- > **Are you up to date?**  
For more information call 0870 240 0010 or visit [www.dvla.gov.uk/newrules](http://www.dvla.gov.uk/newrules)

## YOUR NEW VEHICLE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE (V5C)

From January 2004 anyone applying for a Registration Document (V5) will be issued with a new vehicle Registration Certificate (V5C).

From June 2004 a new Certificate will automatically be sent to keepers shortly after they tax their vehicle or make a SORN declaration. By June 2005 all keepers of taxed/SORN'd vehicles will have been issued with a new style Registration Certificate.

From 1 July 2005 all existing Registration Documents will no longer be valid.

## WHY CHANGE?

The Registration Certificate has been developed to comply with a European Directive, which requires member states to introduce a common format for Registration Certificates. This will help with the identification of vehicles in international traffic and can be used for re-registration throughout the European Union.

## NOTIFYING CHANGES

It is your legal responsibility to keep the details of your vehicle Registration Document/Certificate up to date. If you move home or change your name, let us know. If you don't tell us, the information on your vehicle Registration Document/Certificate will be out of date. This may cause you problems when you come to sell or relicence your vehicle.

### You can update your details by:

- > filling in the relevant section of your vehicle Registration Document/Certificate and sending it to DVLA. We will then send you an updated version *free of charge*.

If your Registration Document/Certificate has been lost, stolen or destroyed you can apply for a replacement from DVLA. A fee of £19 was introduced for this service in March 2004.

### You can apply for a replacement from DVLA by:

- > filling in an application form V62. These forms are available from DVLA Local Offices, Post Office® branches or [www.dvla.gov.uk/forms/frms\\_vehicles.htm](http://www.dvla.gov.uk/forms/frms_vehicles.htm) (please note: it can take up to six weeks to process);
- or
- > calling 0870 240 0010 if you are the registered keeper and there are no changes to your personal or vehicle details. You should receive a replacement within three to five working days.

 **Are you up to date?**  
For more information call 0870 240 0010  
or visit [www.dvla.gov.uk/newrules](http://www.dvla.gov.uk/newrules)



INS163/2

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CAR TAX  
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ARE YOU UP TO DATE?



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03/04