

FACT SHEET

Antique, Classic Vehicles and Vintage Registration Plates

PURPOSE

This fact sheet outlines the policy for issuance of antique, classic and vintage registration plates.

DEFINITION OF ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC MOTOR VEHICLES AND VINTAGE REGISTRATION PLATES

Antique Motor Vehicle - A motor vehicle, but not a reproduction thereof, manufactured more than 25 years prior to the current year which has been **maintained in or restored to** a condition which is substantially in conformance with manufacturer specifications.

Classic Motor Vehicle - A motor vehicle, but not a reproduction thereof, manufactured at least 15 years prior to the current year which has been **maintained in or restored to** a condition which is substantially in conformity with manufacturer specifications and appearance.

Vintage Registration Plates - A vintage registration plate is a "period-issued" registration plate from 1906 to 1976 to be displayed on an antique or classic vehicle with the same corresponding model year. Vintage registration plates are not manufactured or issued by PennDOT. Applicants are required to provide the vintage registration plate they wish to display on their antique or classic vehicle.

USE OF ANTIQUE, CLASSIC AND VINTAGE REGISTRATION PLATES

The use of antique, classic and vintage registration plates is governed by Section 1340 of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, which states: "It is unlawful for any person to operate a motorcycle or vehicle with antique, classic, vintage, collectible or historic military vehicle registration plates for general daily transportation. Permitted use shall be limited to participation in club activities, exhibits, tours, parades, occasional transportation and similar uses." **Occasional transportation and similar uses are defined as no more than one day a week.**

Antique, Classic, and Vintage registration plates may not be displayed on a vehicle used to transport people or property.

No registration configuration will be duplicated. PennDOT recommends that applicants verify if the configuration of the vintage registration plate can be issued by checking the configuration on PennDOT's website. To check personalized registration plate availability, visit PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services website, www.pa.gov/dmv and select Vehicle Services, then Registration Plates and select [Personalized Registration Plates](#).

EXPIRATION OF ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC REGISTRATION PLATES

Antique, Classic, and Vintage registration plates (when displayed on an antique or classic vehicle) are permanent and are issued for the life of the vehicle while it is owned by the present owner. If the present owner sells the vehicle, the registration plate remains with the seller/owner and may be used on another qualified vehicle, provided the proper registration and title fees are paid. However, if ownership is transferred between spouses, or between parent and child, the original registration plate may be transferred with a title fee and a transfer fee.

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If the new owner wishes to use the same registration plate configuration as the seller and the previous owner no longer wishes to retain the registration plate configuration, the seller must write a letter of release indicating they are relinquishing the registration plate to PennDOT. The new owner may request to use the previous registration plate configuration by forwarding a copy of the letter to PennDOT, along with all appropriate documents and fees when applying for title and registration of the vehicle. PennDOT is able to reissue the previous registration plate configuration to the new owner; however, the new owner must pay the full registration fees in order to have the registration plate configuration reissued to them.

APPLICATION FOR ANTIQUE OR CLASSIC REGISTRATION PLATES

The following forms are necessary for the processing of antique and classic registration plates:

1. Pennsylvania Certificate of Title and Form MV-4ST, "Vehicle Sales and Use Tax Return/Application for Registration," or out-of-state title and Form MV-1, "Application for Certificate of Title," are required to be submitted when the vehicle is being transferred to a new owner and the new owner is making application for an antique or classic registration plate. When a vehicle is already properly titled in the owner's name, and the owner is making application for an antique or classic registration plate, only the vehicle's certificate of title is required to be submitted along with [Form MV-11](#).
2. [Form MV-11, "Application for Permanent, Antique or Classic Registration Plate."](#)
3. The appropriate sales tax, title and registration fees, four clearly distinguishable color photographs of the vehicle (front, rear and both sides) and a photo of the VIN or serial number as appropriate.

NOTE: Photographs should not be taken at an angle, must be taken in normal daylight, and must clearly show the vehicle and all exterior equipment (i.e., lights, rear wheel shields, fender coverage), windows must be rolled up and convertible top (if applicable) must be up.

NOTE: If the proof of ownership is a Pennsylvania Certificate of Salvage or out-of-state certificate of salvage, [Form MV-426B, "Application for Reconstructed, Specially Constructed, Collectible, Modified, Flood, Recovered Theft Vehicles and Street Rods,"](#) must be completed.

Antique and classic registration plates may be personalized for an additional fee. To check personalized registration plate availability, visit PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services website, www.pa.gov/dmv and select Vehicle Services, then Registration Plates and select [Personalized Registration Plates](#).

Make check or money order payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and mail all forms and fees to PennDOT at the address on the form. PennDOT forms are available at most motor vehicle dealerships, messenger services and authorized agent offices. [Form MV-11](#) and [MV-426B](#) are also available on our website at www.pa.gov/dmv.

NOTE: For a current listing of motor vehicle fees, refer to [Form MV-70S, "Bureau of Motor Vehicles Schedule of Fees."](#)

APPLICATION FOR VINTAGE REGISTRATION PLATES

A. The following items are necessary when making application for vintage registration plates for vehicles that currently display antique or classic registration:

1. One clearly distinguishable color photo of the front side of the vintage registration plate. Photographs should not be taken at an angle, must be taken in normal daylight and must clearly show the registration plate.
2. [Form MV-11V, "Application to Display a Vintage Registration Plate."](#)

NOTE: For a current listing of motor vehicle fees, refer to [Form MV-70S, "Bureau of Motor Vehicles Schedule of Fees."](#)

B. Application for antique and classic registration in addition to applying to display a vintage registration plate:

1. If you are purchasing the vehicle and wish to immediately brand the vehicle as an antique or classic vehicle and obtain registration, you will need:
 - a. The Pennsylvania Certificate of Title and Form MV-4ST, "Vehicles Sales and Use Tax Return/Application for Registration," or an out-of-state title and Form MV-1, "Application for Certificate of Title." A title fee is required.
 - b. [Form MV-11](#).
 - c. The appropriate sales tax, title and registration fees, four clearly distinguishable color photographs of the vehicle (front, rear and both sides) and a photo of the VIN or serial number as appropriate.
 - d. [Form MV-11V, "Application to Display a Vintage Registration Plate."](#)
 - e. One clearly distinguishable color photo of the front side of the vintage registration plate. Photographs should not be taken at an angle, must be taken in normal daylight and must clearly show the registration plate.
 - f. The fee for antique or classic registration is in addition to the application fee to display a vintage registration plate.
2. If the vehicle is currently titled in your name and you now wish to brand the vehicle as an antique or classic vehicle and display a vintage registration plate, you will need:
 - a. The Pennsylvania Certificate of Title and [Form MV-11, "Application for Permanent, Antique, Classic or Collectible Registration Plate."](#) A title fee is required.
 - b. [Form MV-11V, "Application to Display a Vintage Registration Plate."](#)
 - c. The appropriate sales tax, title and registration fees, four clearly distinguishable color photographs of the vehicle (front, rear and both sides) and a photo of the VIN or serial number as appropriate.
 - a. One clearly distinguishable color photo of the front side of the vintage registration plate. Photographs should not be taken at an angle, must be taken in normal daylight and must clearly show the registration plate.
 - b. The fee for antique or classic registration is in addition to the application fee to display a vintage registration plate.

NOTE: If the new owner wishes to use the same registration plate configuration as the seller and the previous owner no longer wishes to retain the registration plate configuration, the seller must write a letter of release indicating they are relinquishing the registration plate to PennDOT.

The new owner may request to use the previous registration plate configuration by forwarding a copy of the letter to PennDOT, along with all appropriate documents and fees when applying for title and registration of the vehicle. PennDOT is able to reissue the previous registration plate configuration to the new owner; however, the new owner must pay the full registration fees in order to have the registration plate configuration reissued to them.

CHANGE FROM CLASSIC TO ANTIQUE

When a registered classic vehicle becomes of age to qualify as an antique vehicle, the owner may choose to apply for an antique title/registration plate. If the owner wishes to change the registration, the title must be changed from classic to antique. [Form MV-11](#) must be completed. There is a title fee for this change. In addition, an antique registration fee is required.

INSPECTION

Classic vehicles are subject to an annual vehicle safety inspection. Antique vehicles operated exclusively between sunrise and sunset are exempt from the normal lighting requirements of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code but must have their original lighting equipment. Antique vehicles are not subject to the annual vehicle safety inspection. Antique and classic vehicles are not subject to emissions inspection.

Please Note: Authorized agents are under contract to PennDOT and may charge a market driven service (delivery) fee; these are in addition to any PennDOT statutory fees for temporary, or in some cases, permanent motor vehicle registration plates and cards or other related products and services offered by the agent. The agent's service (delivery) fees are market driven and vary by agent. To compare service (delivery) fees, you are encouraged to contact the authorized agents in your area for the applicable service (delivery) fees charged.