



Driver and Vehicle
Licensing Agency

INF85

Protect your Off Road Vehicle

Motorcycles, Quadricycles and
Construction/Plant Machinery

For more information go to: www.direct.gov.uk/motoring



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

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An executive agency of the
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Transport



Like all vehicles, off road vehicles are at risk from theft. But if they are stolen they are more difficult to trace because they are not registered on the DVLA database.

This means that the police are unable to put the details of stolen vehicles on their database ready to be retrieved quickly when a vehicle (or engine/chassis/frame/part) is recovered. As a result it may not always be possible to return them to their rightful owners.

DVLA can help!

A scheme to register off road motorcycles was introduced in 1994 to improve detection rates in the event of theft. This scheme was extended in 1996 to all mechanically propelled off road vehicles (mainly construction/plant machinery). DVLA can register your off road vehicle so that its details will be placed on the DVLA database and Police National Computer.

Will I have to pay Vehicle Excise Duty (VED)?

No – and you will not be issued with a licence.

Will I have to pay the Vehicle Registration fee?

No – this is a voluntary scheme and is thereby exempt.

Will I need insurance and a vehicle test certificate (MoT or GVC)?

No – not to register your vehicle purely for off road use.

What registration mark will I get?

All vehicles, including plant machinery, registered for off-road use will be allocated with a Q prefix registration mark.

What do I do?

Go to your DVLA local office. You should take documentation showing the VIN and engine number and proof of ownership with you (you may be required to present your vehicle for inspection). You must also take with you documentation confirming your name and address (please refer to INF148 available for download from **www.direct.gov.uk/motoring** or from DVLA local offices).

The address of your nearest local office can be found:

- On the website at **www.direct.gov.uk/motoring**
- In our booklet V100 available from all Post Office® branches
- By calling 08702 430444, you will be asked to provide your postcode
- In The Phone Book “classified” section under Government Offices or in the main index under “DVLA”.

DVLA local offices are open 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am to 5.00pm on the second Wednesday of each month.

You will be asked to fill in an application form V55/5 giving details of the vehicle, including VIN and engine number and to sign the attached declaration to the effect that your vehicle will not be used on public roads.

You can do this at the counter and there will be no charge. A registration mark will be assigned. Provided the machine is not on a public road you do not have to display a number plate – unless you want to. Details of your vehicle will then be entered on the database and a Registration Certificate will be sent to you in about 4 weeks.

Change of keeper

If you buy a vehicle that is registered in this way, you should inform DVLA of your keepership in the normal way i.e. completing the changes section on the Vehicle Registration Document/Certificate.





Declaration – Using a vehicle Off Road

This declaration should be completed and submitted together with a V55/5 application form when registering a vehicle for Off Road use.

I declare that vehicle

(frame/chassis/VIN no.)

will be used exclusively off road.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Important Note:

If you need to use your vehicle on the public road you **must** license it at your nearest DVLA local office.

Will I need to make a Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN) annually?

No – for DVLA purposes the vehicle is recorded as not licensed. Only vehicles entering a licensed tax class on or after 31st January 1998 are required to make a SORN.

What do I do if I decide that I want to use my vehicle on the road?

If you need to use your vehicle on the public road you will need to license it at your nearest DVLA local office. You will be required to provide evidence of European Community Whole Vehicle Type Approval (ECWVTA) unless your vehicle is exempt from Type Approval requirements.

Current exemptions include:

- Slow vehicles, not designed to exceed 6km/h
- Vehicles intended for pedestrian control
- Vehicles intended for use by the physically handicapped
- Vehicles intended for use in competitions, both on and off the road i.e. trial or enduro bikes.

For the vast majority of vehicles, proof will take the form of a Certificate of Conformity (CoC's). If a CoC is not presented, the other form of acceptable proof is an approval certificate issued under the Single Vehicle Approval Scheme (SVA)/Motorcycle Single Vehicle Approval Scheme (MSVA).

The SVA/MSVA scheme seeks to establish that vehicles comply with UK design and safety standards or equivalent standards. More information on the SVA/MSVA scheme is available on the website

www.direct.gov.uk/motoring

In addition to Type Approval, all mechanically propelled vehicles used on a public road, are subject to stringent construction and use requirements and must comply with the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986. It is the keeper's responsibility to ensure that the vehicle meets the Construction and Use Regulations in place for road use.

Please note:

When you license your vehicle for road use you will be required to pay the first registration fee.

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