



Buying a vehicle?

From 1 October 2014 the tax
is no longer transferable
so you must tax it before
you use it.

Frequently Asked Questions

Commercial

1. What will change for motor traders after the tax disc is abolished?

Motor traders will no longer be able to purchase vehicles with a tax disc in force. From 1st October 2014, a tax disc is no longer transferable when a vehicle is sold. Motor traders may wish to use trade plates, provided that the vehicle is used within the conditions for use of trade plates. Alternatively, if the vehicle is to be registered in the name of the motor trade, then new vehicle tax will need to be obtained.

2. Will the use of trade plates change for motor traders and vehicle testers?

From 1st October 2014, it will no longer be a requirement for a trade licence holder to display a trade licence. Motor traders and vehicle testers will still need to apply and pay for a new trade licence at the time of renewal, but there will no longer be a paper trade licence for display within a trade plate. The display and conditions of use of trade plates for motor traders and vehicle testers will not change in October 2014.

3. Will there be any change for motor traders to notify sale and transfer of vehicles to DVLA?

There will be no change. The person or business registered as the keeper must notify DVLA when they sell or transfer a vehicle.

4. How will refunds be issued to the keepers who transfer vehicles to the motor trade?

Refunds will continue to be made to registered keepers, when DVLA receives notification of a change on the Vehicle Registration Certificate (V5C) this includes notification that the vehicle has been destroyed (COD/NOD). Refunds will also continue to be made when a keeper makes a Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN).

5. How will refunds be issued to the motor traders whose vehicles are registered to the motor business?

Refunds will continue to be made to the motor trade business registered with DVLA, when a notification of change is received on the Vehicle Registration Certificate (V5C). Refunds will also continue to be made when a motor business that is registered as a keeper makes a Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN).

6. What if a tax disc is lost before October? Will a duplicate disc still be required to be displayed?

A duplicate tax disc will need to be obtained and displayed up until 30 September 2014.

7. Are Renewal Reminders to Tax (V11s and V85/1s) still being sent by DVLA?

DVLA will continue to issue Tax Reminders. Customers still need to apply for vehicle tax at the appropriate time.

8. Is there a period of grace to tax a vehicle that has just been purchased?

DVLA always advise customers that before they purchase a vehicle they should ask to see the Vehicle Registration Certificate (V5C). Any person buying a vehicle should insist on the New Keeper Supplement (V5C/2) which allows the buyer to obtain new vehicle tax. This is currently the case and will continue after October 2014.

There is no period of grace when the tax disc is abolished. The buyer will always need to obtain new vehicle tax immediately upon point of purchase, using the V5C/2. From 1st October, customers can also tax online or by phone 24hours a day. Alternatively, the buyer can visit a Post Office to get vehicle tax.

9. What must the seller do?

The seller must notify DVLA that the sale/transfer of the vehicle has taken place. A refund payment for any full months of vehicle tax outstanding will be sent to the seller upon notification of the sale from the seller.

10. Is it possible that the refund is sent to the wrong person?

The refund will always be paid to the person on the DVLA vehicle register. In the case where a vehicle is sold, the refund will be paid to the seller once DVLA receives notification that a vehicle has been sold.

11. I currently get a disabled tax disc, how will the changes affect me?

The changes will not affect the way in which you get your vehicle tax. You will still receive a V11 tax reminder and will still be required to use this online or at a Post Office to declare that you are eligible for exemption from paying vehicle tax in the disabled tax class.

A check still needs to be carried out on your eligibility for disabled tax even though no tax disc will be issued.

12. How can I check if a vehicle is exempt from tax e.g. disabled?

From 1 October 2014, you will be able to check the vehicle tax class and status of any vehicle online at www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-tax. You just need to provide the vehicle number plate and the make of the vehicle. If the Vehicle Registration Certificate V5C or the DWP eligibility certificate is available then this can also be provided as proof of exemption to tax.

13. If a motor trader purchases a car after 1st October 2014 - can they tax it, without becoming the registered keeper?

DVLA expect vehicles disposed into the motor trade to be untaxed and used on trade plates whilst in the temporary possession of the trader. If the trader wishes to tax

vehicles for personal use, then vehicles should be registered and taxed accordingly. Vehicles in the trade should only be taxed at the point they are sold to a new keeper and the new keeper details notified to DVLA on the V5C, as per current process.

14. If a car is "in trade" before 1st October 2014 and the current tax disc expires after 1st October, what will happen?

If a vehicle was sold into Trade before October with months left on the disc and then the vehicle is sold on by the trader after October, any full months left on the tax would be refunded to the previous keeper (ie the person who sold it into trade) and the buyer would need to tax it.

If a trader taxes a vehicle when it is in his possession and becomes the registered keeper of the vehicle they will therefore qualify for a refund if the vehicle is then sold on with the new buyer needing to tax in the normal way.

15. Can ATFs continue to request refunds on behalf of keeper?

ATF's will no longer need to request a refund on behalf of the keeper as DVLA will automatically issue a refund to the registered keeper on DVLA records at the time they are notified of the COD/NOD .