



## How we identify a vehicle as historic

You may be able to tax your vehicle in the historic vehicle tax class if it was built before 1 January 1978 and is one of the qualifying vehicles listed below.

### Qualifying vehicles

**Private or light goods vehicles** – this includes buses used for voluntary, community or other non-profit-making purposes.

**Motorcycles and tricycles.**

**Private heavy goods vehicle (HGV)** – this does not include vehicles designed for, or adapted for, transporting goods on a public road for business purposes, including HGVs used for driver training or testing purposes.

**Special vehicles** – this includes mobile cranes and pumps, road rollers, works trucks and digging machines (except showmen's goods and haulage vehicles).

**Haulage vehicles** – not used for haulage purposes.

**Special concessionary** – including agricultural machines, mowing machines, snowploughs, gritting vehicles, electric vehicles and steam vehicles.

### You cannot tax your vehicle in the historic tax class if:

- the vehicle is used for hire or reward
- the vehicle is used commercially in connection with a trade or business

**Note: you do not have to pay vehicle tax if you have a historic vehicle, but you must still tax and insure it every year. By law all drivers must be covered by motor insurance when they use a motor vehicle on the road or in any other public place.**

## Taxing your vehicle in the historic vehicle tax class

You can do this at a Post Office® branch that deals with vehicle tax.

### You will need:

- **A vehicle registration certificate (V5C)** – that clearly shows the vehicle was made, or first registered, before 1 January 1978. If you do not have a V5C, or if you think the age shown is incorrect, you need to produce an extract from the manufacturer or factory record, or from the appropriate 'Glasses Check Book'. Dating certificates from a vehicle enthusiasts' club are not acceptable to change the date of manufacture for an already registered vehicle.  
(If the V5C indicates that the vehicle was registered from 1 January 1978 up to and including 7 January 1978, we will let you register it as a historic vehicle, based on the assumption that the vehicle would have been made in the previous year).
- **An appropriate test certificate (for example, an MoT certificate, if the vehicle needs one by law).**
- **Vehicles registered with a Northern Ireland address need a certificate of insurance or cover note (downloaded copies are acceptable, photocopies are not) valid on the date the vehicle tax comes into force.**
- **A filled-in 'Application for vehicle tax' (V10), which you can get from [www.gov.uk/dvlaforms](http://www.gov.uk/dvlaforms) and Post Office branches that deal with vehicle tax.**

## When your vehicle tax runs out

About two weeks before your tax runs out, DVLA will send you a 'Reminder to get vehicle tax or make a Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN)' (V11). The notes on the V11 explain what you need to do.

## Further information

There is more information on how to tax your vehicle on the website at [www.gov.uk/vehicle-tax](http://www.gov.uk/vehicle-tax)  
You can contact us by visiting [www.govuk/contact-the-dvla](http://www.govuk/contact-the-dvla)

