



How we identify a vehicle as historic

A 40 year rolling exemption for historic vehicles has been introduced. You may be able to tax your vehicle in the historic vehicle tax class from 1 April if it was built before 1 January 40 years ago and is one of the qualifying vehicles listed below. For example a vehicle registered February 1981 will be eligible to tax as an historic vehicle from 1 April 2022.

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.

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 40 years ago. If you do not have a V5C, or if you think the age shown is incorrect, you need an extract from the manufacturer or factory record, or from the appropriate 'Glass's Check Book' this must be supported by a covering letter from the relevant vehicle owner's or enthusiast club. Do not contact Glass's directly as they do not provide this service. 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 up to and including 7 January 40 years ago, 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 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 'Vehicle tax reminder' (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 www.gov.uk/vehicle-tax

You can contact us by visiting www.gov.uk/contact-the-dvla