

# Application for a first trade licence, additional licences or change of business name



Please read the important information and the guidance notes over the page before filling in all sections of this form. Use black ink and capital letters.

Section 1	Application details				
Important information	(Put X in the box that applies)				
Send a copy (not the original) of your Motor Trade Insurance <b>Certificate</b> to show the policy covers you for motor trade purposes. If you do not have a Motor Trade Insurance Certificate, you'll need	I am applying for:  A first trade licence Additional trade licences Change of business name  Trade Licence Holder number (if you have been issued one)  How many sets of trade plates do you want?				
to say why and give your Companies House registration number. You can only use trade plates on vehicles that: - are safe to drive ('roadworthy') - are insured - have a valid MOT, or are exempt from	Type of business (see notes 1 and 2 in the guidance notes):  Motor trader Motor dealer Vehicle tester Explain the nature of your business				
If a vehicle is unroadworthy it must be transported.  You cannot use a trade plate on a vehicle registered in your name.	Explain how you'll use the trade plates				
Section 2	Applicant's details				
Important information	Business name				
Make sure the name on the Motor Trade Insurance Certificate matches the name on	Business address				
this application form  or it will be returned	Dusiness address				
to you.	Postcode				
	Your name				
Official use only  Date received at DVLA:	Email address				
	Business phone number  Enter X in the box if you're happy to receive updates from Royal Mail about the delivery of your trade plates (see note 9 in the guidance notes)				
	Mobile phone number				



Section 2	Applicant's details (continued)					
If you are changing	Have you ever held trade plates at your current place of business?  Yes No					
your business name, you need to return any existing trade plates with this form.	If yes, please provide all previous details, that is, names and addresses.  Previous trading names and addresses					
If your trade licences are still valid, you must complete a VTL308 – you can get a refund for each full calendar month left on the licences once DVLA receives your application.						
	Do you already hold a valid trade licence for the businesses listed above? Yes No Have you ever held trade plates for any other business? Yes No Yes Yes Volume No Yes Volume No					
	numbers and the trade plate numbers you hold or have held.					
Trade Licence Holder numbers  Trade plate numbers  Please continue on a separate shee						
Section 3	Trade licence use					
Do not send us your application more than 10 days before you want the licences to start.	Are the trade licences for use on:  All types of vehicles? You'll receive 2 plates (1 front and 1 rear)  All types of vehicles and bicycle plates? You'll receive 3 plates (1 front, 1 rear and 1 bicycle)  Bicycle plates only? You'll receive 1 plate (1 bicycle)  Enter the month you want the licences to start (see note 5 in the guidance notes):  From  (See note 3 in the guidance notes, on display of trade plates)					
Section 4	Payment					
	I enclose the fee of (see note 5 in the guidance notes on rates of duty or go to www.gov.uk/trade-licence-plates/apply).					
You must:  enclose a cheque or postal order made payable to 'DVLA Swansea' – altered or damaged cheques cannot be accepted  enclose a copy of your Motor Trade Insurance Certificate that shows the motor	Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to 'DVLA Swansea'.  Cheque or Postal Order Number					
	Declaration:  This declaration must be signed by the trade licence holder, director or business partner. Making a false declaration is an offence and can lead to prosecution.  I declare that the information given on this application form is correct and I will notify DVLA in the event of this information changing. I also confirm that I have read the important points to note, the attached guidance notes and all trade licences will be used in accordance with the specific limitations of use as detailed.					
trade policy covers you for motor trade purposes (do not send the original)	Signature  Date  Date					
make sure the name on the motor						
trade insurance certificate matches the name on this application	If you are signing on behalf of a partnership, limited company or other legal entity, please state in what capacity					
form						

# **Guidance notes**

#### 1. Issue of trade licences

#### Who is eligible?

You can apply for trade licence plates if you're a motor dealer, motor trader or vehicle tester. This means your business does one or more of the following:

- · sells vehicles
- · manufactures or repairs vehicles
- · tests other people's vehicles on public roads

If you collect or deliver vehicles, you'll also be eligible as long as either:

- this is the only thing your business does
- · you also manufacture or repair vehicles

## 2. Rules for using trade plates

You can only use the plates for the purpose you write on your application form. For example, if you say they'll be used for customers to test drive vehicles for sale, they cannot be used for other purposes.

You can use a trade plate for:

- vehicle testing, trial or the test or trial of its accessories or equipment. In either case in the construction, modification, repair or after completion
- going to or from a public weighbridge to check its weight, its registration or to be inspected by a person acting on behalf of the Secretary of State at any place
- a vehicle test or trial for the benefit of a likely buyer.
   At the time of a potential purchase you can go to any place for a test or trial and return after the test or trial
- its test or trial for the benefit of a person interested in promoting publicity for a vehicle. The trade plate can be used by the person to travel to any place for the purpose of such test or trial, or for returning after the test or trial
- delivering it to the place where the buyer intends to keep it
- demonstrating its operation or the operation of its accessories or equipment when it is being handed over to the buyer
- delivering a vehicle from one part of the licence holder's premises to another part of their premises. Or for delivering it from their premises to the premises of another manufacturer, repairer, or vehicle dealership. Or for removing it from the premises of another manufacturer or repairer, dealer in vehicles direct to their own premises
- going to or from a workshop where a body or a special type of equipment or accessory is to be or has been fitted, or has been painted, repaired or valeted (this does not apply to a drive-through car wash, or hand car wash business that is open to the public)
- going from the premises of a manufacturer, repairer, or vehicle dealership, to a place where it is to be transported by train, ship, or aircraft. Or for going to the premises of a manufacturer, repairer, or dealer from a place where it has been transported
- going to or from any garage, auction room or other place where vehicles are usually stored or offered for sale
- going to or from a place where it is to be or has been inspected or tested
- going to a place where it is to be broken up or otherwise dismantled
- collecting vehicles under repossession

**A motor trader**: trade plates can be used for vehicles in the temporary possession of a business for testing, trialling, demonstrating, delivering, repossessing or dismantling.

#### A motor trader who is a manufacturer:

a manufacturer of vehicles may use trade plates on vehicles registered to themselves if kept only for research and development purposes.

A vehicle tester: trade plates can be used for vehicles submitted to them for testing (including the vehicles trailer, its accessories or equipment).

### 3. Display of trade plates

When you display trade plates, you must:

- put them on both the front and back of the vehicle, or just the back for motorcycles
- make them visible and easily readable, from 20 metres
- put them on the outside of the vehicle
- not cover the existing number plates, unless it's a motorcycle

## 4. Offences and penalties

It is an offence to:

- make a false declaration on the application form, or make a false declaration on any supporting material you used to make the application
- display trade plates if a current trade licence has expired
- display trade plates on a vehicle registered to you (unless you are a vehicle manufacturer and the vehicle is used on trade plates for development purposes)
- display trade plates that have been altered, defaced or damaged
- display trade plates on parked vehicles
- display anything on a vehicle that could be mistaken for a trade plate
- · display trade plates that were not issued from DVLA
- display trade plates for use on vehicles for any purpose other than specified under the section for permitted uses
- display trade plates on vehicles carrying passengers for hire, reward, commercial or personal basis
- display trade plates for use on vehicles for the general conveyance of goods or burden. Exceptions to specified loads is provided within the regulations
- separate a set of trade plates for use on more than one vehicle
- allow trade plates to be used by another person

There is a maximum fine of £5,000 for:

- making a false or misleading declaration, or providing false or misleading evidence in an application
- fraudulently altering or using trade plates
- allowing trade plates to be used by another person

There is a maximum fine of £1,000 or 5 times the rate of duty chargeable, whichever is the greater for displaying trade plates for a purpose not permitted.

#### 5. Rates of duty

You can apply for a:

- 6 or 12 month trade licence in January
- 6 month trade licence in July

New traders who apply for a trade licence at any time other than January and July would need to obtain a trade licence for a period of 7, 8, 9, 10, or 11 months for the licence to end in December or June.

For example, a customer making an application in March would need a licence to cover a 10 month period to end in December.

A different rate, than shown in the table, may apply if rates of duty change in the Chancellor's Annual Budget.

Month you apply	When the licence expires	How long it's valid for	Rate of duty for all vehicles	Rate for all bicycles and tricycles
January (6 month licence)	June	6 months	£94.05	£66.55
January (12 month licence)	December	12 months	£171.00	£121.00
February	December	11 months	£171.00	£121.00
March	December	10 months	£156.75	£110.90
April	December	9 months	£141.05	£99.80
May	December	8 months	£125.40	£88.75
June	December	7 months	£109.70	£77.65
July	December	6 months	£94.05	£66.55
August	June	11 months	£171.00	£121.00
September	June	10 months	£156.75	£110.90
October	June	9 months	£141.05	£99.80
November	June	8 months	£125.40	£88.75
December	June	7 months	£109.70	£77.65

#### 6. Refunds

If you do not want to renew your trade licence, send your trade plates back to DVLA (at any time) with:

- form VTL308 (from www.gov.uk/trade-licence-plates/ cancel) if you're cancelling your licence before it expires
- a letter explaining that you're not renewing if your licence has expired

You'll get a refund for each full calendar month left on the trade licence once DVLA receives your application. Your application cannot be backdated.

#### 7. Replacement

If your trade plates are lost, stolen, damaged or destroyed, you must apply for a replacement using the VTL310 application, available from www.gov.uk/trade-licence-plates

### 8. Change your business name or address

If you only want to change your business address, complete form VTL310. You can keep using your existing trade plates.

If you change your business name you need to apply for a new trade licence with your new details using form VTL301. You need to return your trade plates with this form. You can get a refund on any remaining months of your old licence using form VTL308.

If you want to change your business name and address at the same time, you'll have to send in forms VTL301 and VTL308. Include your new address details in form VTL301.

### 9. Data protection

We'll send the name and address details, you provide on this form, to Royal Mail company. If you've given your phone number they'll call you when arranging to send your trade plates. If you do not want them to ring you please do not put an X in the box to say you're happy to receive telephone updates on your delivery from Royal Mail.

DVLA handles your personal data in accordance with road vehicle law and data protection laws. The law allows us to release your data to the police and other enforcement bodies. We also provide data to other parties where the law allows it. For further information about how we process your data, your rights and who to contact, see our privacy notice at www.gov.uk/dvla/privacy-policy

### After you apply

If your application is successful, you will be sent a confirmation letter and your trade plates within 4 weeks of applying. For security reasons, they will be sent separately. Please allow 4 weeks before you contact us.

Contact DVLA by:

• telephone 0300 300 1495

Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm

# Keep these notes available for anyone who uses trade licence plates.

This is a brief guide. For more information, please refer to the:

- Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994 (VERA)
- Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing)
   Regulations 2002 (RV(R&L) (Regs) (S1 2002 No. 2742)

You can get these from the Stationery Office Publications Centre website: www.legislation.gov.uk