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What is the SIV?

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The vehicle registration system (SIV) is the device that assigns a vehicle registration number, also known as a vehicle registration number *SIV* (of the form AB-123-CD). The vehicle keeps this number until it is destroyed, even if it changes ownership. The number is indicated on the gray card and the license plates.

How is the SIV number determined?

General case

The SIV number is composed of alphanumeric characters on the model AB-123-CD:



Mopeds

Mopeds registered before 1 July 2015

In the case of a moped registered before 1 July 2015, the number shall retain its particular format. It consists of 1 to 2 letters, followed by 2 to 3 digits, followed by 1 letter, with a space between the blocks of letters and the block of digits.

Example :

A 11 A

Mopeds registered from 1 July 2015

In the case of a moped newly registered as from 1 July 2015, it shall obtain the same format as the other SIV vehicles. It consists of 2 letters, followed by 3 digits, followed by 2 letters, with blocks of numbers and letters separated by dashes.

Example :

AA-111-AA

The SIV number is assigned chronologically:

- on 1st registration of a new vehicle
- or if the gray card of a vehicle with an old registration (type 123 AB 01, *FNIF*). For example, if you sell your vehicle or move out or have lost your card.

Conversion of an old registration (type 123 AB 01, says *FNIF*) in number *SIV* shall not affect the validity of the technical control. The minutes of the technical inspection shall be authentic.

FYI

Some letters are not used to avoid confusion with numbers. You will therefore not find



I

or



o

.. Similarly, you will not find



u

to avoid confusion with the



v

..

Can you spontaneously get a SIV number when you have an old number?

If you have an old number said *FNIF* (Type 123 AB 01), you get a SIV number in the following situations:

- change address ([https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F12118?](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F12118?lang=en)
You [lang=en](#))
- duplicate gray card ([https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F1726?](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F1726?lang=en)
You need to get [lang=en](#)) following loss or theft or damage
- You just bought a registered vehicle with a number *FNIF*..

If you are not in one of these situations and you want to obtain a SIV number, you must approach a professional..

Conversion of an old registration (type 123 AB 01, says *FNIF*) in number *SIV* shall not affect the validity of the technical control. The minutes of the technical inspection shall be authentic.

Can a vehicle change its SIV registration?

A vehicle registered in the SIV has a lifetime number and therefore cannot be changed.

change of domicile ([https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F12118?](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F12118?lang=en)
If you move, you have to make the steps of [lang=en](#)) but if you already
have a SIV number, you do not have to change the plates (even if you change department).

If your vehicle has an old registration (type 123 AB 01) and you change your address, you will get a registration number *SIV* (model AB-123-CD). You will need to change your plates to match the SIV number you received.

Conversion of an old registration (type 123 AB 01, says *FNIF*) in number *SIV* shall not affect the validity of the technical control. The minutes of the technical inspection shall be authentic.

Please note

It is however possible to change the SIV registration in case
usurpation of your plates ([https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F18679?](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F18679?lang=en)
[lang=en](#)) (also called *double*).

Statute and miscellaneous references

- Route code: Articles R322-1 to R322-14 (https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006074228/LEGISCTA000006177098)
Issuance of Certificate of Registration
- Order of 9 February 2009 on the procedure for the registration of vehicles
(<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/id/JORFTEXT000020237165>)

FAQ

- Can we choose the address that will appear on his gray card? ([https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F16536?](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F16536?lang=en)
[lang=en](#))

- Can an automotive professional handle a gray card application? (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F20324?lang=en>)

Additional topics

- License plates (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F20319?lang=en>)
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