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## License plates

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All motor vehicles must have license plates (except for public works vehicles). These plates shall be approved. They must also be visibly attached to the vehicle.

### Features

The license plate must be made by a professional (for example, a garage or a plate manufacturer). The plate shall be clearly and permanently placed.

It bears the number that is written on the gray card (now called *certificate of registration*) or on the Provisional Certificate of Registration (ICC).

The plate must conform to an approved model. The approval number shall be entered therein.

The plate must comply with the rules of size and layout of the constituent elements (height and spacing of letters and numbers, in particular the shape of dashes).

The registration number can be arranged on 1 or 2 lines.

The plate must remain in good condition and the registration number must be legible. Otherwise, the owner must have them redone and can be punished if he does not.

#### SIV plate "AB-123-CD"

The plate begins with the European symbol with the letter « F » on blue background. A territorial identifier is positioned symmetrically to these elements.

This identifier consists of an official logo of a region and the number of one of the departments of that region.

You do not have the right to change your plate or add an element to it, especially in place of the territorial identifier.

If your plate is damaged or you want to change it voluntarily, you must contact a professional to do it again.

You will be able to change the territorial identifier. If your vehicle has 2 plates, the identifiers must be the same on each plate.



**FYI** : the choice of territorial identifier is free, you do not have to indicate your department of residence.

#### "123 AB 45" FNI plate

The plate shall bear the European symbol with the letter « F » and type number « 123 AB 45 » said « FNIF »).

If your plate is damaged or you want to change it deliberately, you should contact a professional to do it again.

She won't territorial identifier, like the original.

### Which plate for which vehicle?

With the exception of a public works vehicle, no motor vehicle may be driven without:

- a license plate for a 2-wheel, 3-wheel, quadricycle or trailer,
- 2 license plates for other vehicles.

#### Car or commercial vehicle

A car must have two plates, one at the front and the other at the back.

These 2 plates must be identical, including the territorial identifier.

For vehicles registered with the SIV (type registration « AB-123-CD »), the number is reproduced on each plate in non-reflective black characters on a reflective white background.

2 or 3 wheels or quadricycle

A 2-wheel, 3-wheel or a quadricycle with a motor shall have a single registration plate, arranged in an obvious and unmovable manner **back**..

The plate of a 2-wheel drive less than 50 cm <sup>1</sup> does not include the territorial identifier. On the other hand, the European symbol and the letter « F » are present.

The plate must have black characters on a white background.

 **Please note** : you do not have to redraw your gray card if you have a « *ancient* » registration (type « 123-AB-45 »), but you must have your plate redone by a professional.

Trailer

PTAC greater than 500 kg

If the trailer has an authorized laden weight exceeding 500 kg, it must be registered.

Thus, it must have a number plate with its own registration number (different from that of the vehicle drawing it).

A trailer only needs a plate at the back.

PTAC less than 500 kg

The trailer shall be equipped with a registration plate which reproduces the number of the vehicle which draws it. The plate may be removable in this case.

A trailer only needs a plate at the back.

 **Warning** : the trailer coupled to a 2-wheel drive does not need a plate if it leaves visible the plate of the vehicle which draws it. If this plate is not visible, the trailer shall have a plate with the registration of the 2 wheels.

Collector vehicle

The vehicle may have a plate corresponding to the model type (e.g. car or 2 wheels).

However, the placard may also, to reflect the historical character of the vehicle, contain characters in white on a black background.

 **Please note** : the license plate does not have to have a territorial identifier.

Agricultural or forestry vehicle

A motor farm or forestry vehicle attached to a farm or forestry operation, an agricultural work undertaking or a cooperative for the use of agricultural equipment may have only one registration plate, arranged in an obvious and unmovable manner **back**..

The plate must have black characters on a white background.

## Sanctions

If you are traveling with a vehicle that does not have a license plate or if it does not comply, you may be fined up to €750..

## Statute and miscellaneous references

- Route code: Articles R317-8 to R317-14  (<http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idArticle=LEGIARTI000020241991&idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006177090&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006074228>)  
*Plates and inscriptions*
- Order of 9 February 2009 laying down the characteristics and method of affixing registration plates of vehicles  (<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/id/JORFTEXT000020237128>)
- Order of 9 February 2009 on the procedure for the registration of vehicles  (<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/id/JORFTEXT000020237165>)

## For more information, please contact

- Region Logos  (<https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Nouvelles-regions-chartes-graphiques-des-plaques-d-immatriculation-de-vehicules>)  
*Ministry of the Interior*