What qualifies as an antique vehicle?

A passenger vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer, or motorcycle with a model year that is more than 25 years old before January 1 of the current calendar year is considered an antique.

License plate options for antique vehicles

If you drive an antique vehicle, you have the choice between an antique license plate or a vintage license plate.

Antique License Plates



- Issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for vehicles with a model year 25 years or older before January 1 of the current calendar year
- Limited use of the vehicle
- Cannot be transferred to another vehicle
- Must be displayed on the front and rear of vehicle unless the vehicle was manufactured for one license plate only

Vintage License Plates



- An original Virginia license plate provided by the resident and issued before either 1973 (vehicles, trailers) or 1976 (motorcycles)
- Passenger vehicles and trailers manufactured in or after 1973 are not eligible to use vintage plates
- Motorcycles manufactured in or after 1976 are not eligible to use vintage plates
- Must match the year of the vehicle they are accompanying
- DMV must inspect and approve the physical condition of the vintage plates
- Can be used on vehicles used as collector's items and vehicles used for everyday driving
- Can transfer vintage license plates to another general transportation vehicle if they match the vehicle's model year
- Must be displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle
- If two requests are made for the same vintage year license plate, DMV will only accept the first application

Using your antique vehicle for everyday driving

You must do the following to have unlimited driving privileges in your antique vehicle:

- Purchase standard plates from DMV or provide vintage license plates. Antique license plates cannot be used on vehicles used for everyday driving
- Register your antique vehicle for general transportation purposes

You are subject to the same registration requirements as non-antique vehicles, which means you must:

- Renew your annual, bi-annual, or threeyear registration and pay applicable registration fees
- Display month and year decals on your vintage license plates
- Obtain an annual safety inspection sticker for your vehicle
- Maintain insurance on the vehicle.

Using your antique vehicle for limited occasions

You must follow these guidelines when driving your antique vehicle for limited occasions:

- Complete the Vehicle Registration Application (VSA 14) or the License Plate Application (VSA 10)
- Complete the Antique Vehicle Applicant Certification (VSA 10B) to certify you own or have regular use of another passenger vehicle, motorcycle, or autocycle without antique license plates for daily use
- Pay a one-time \$50 registration fee
- Register your vehicle with antique license plates or permanent vintage license plates

- Maintain insurance on the vehicle
- Limit vehicle use to:
 - Participation in antique car club activities, exhibits, tours, parades, and other similar events
 - Driving to and from above events
 - Carrying or transporting passengers, personal effects, or other antique motor vehicles being transported for show purposes
 - Testing the vehicle's operation, obtaining repairs, or maintenance
 - Driving the vehicle or trailer to a potential buyer or delivering the vehicle to a new owner
 - Occasional pleasure driving not to exceed 250 miles from your residence
 - Cannot be used for daily transportation. This includes, but is not limited to, driving to and from work

Campers and trailers

The rules for antique vehicles also apply to campers and trailers.

A camper or trailer using an antique plate can be used for occasional camping and hauling but cannot travel more than 250 miles from your residence.

Violations of antique vehicle rules

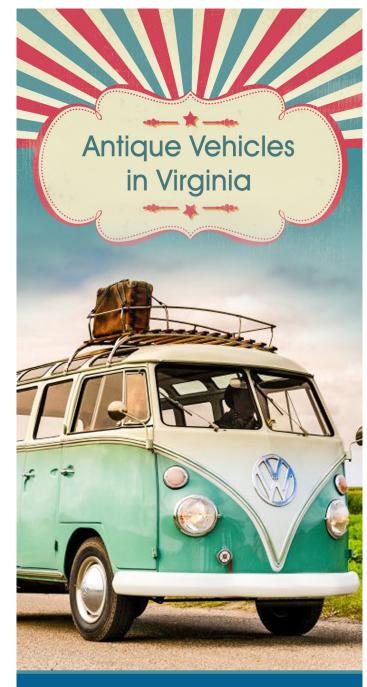
Violation of the law may result in a class 4 misdemeanor and the revocation of your antique or permanent vintage license plates for five years from the date of conviction.

Note: An antique vehicle registered for limited use does not require an annual safety inspection; however, you must certify that the vehicle is capable of being safely operated on the highways of the Commonwealth.



Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles Post Office Box 27412 Richmond, Virginia 23269-0001

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A guide to registering and driving your vehicle

