

TITLING, REGISTRATION AND OTHER MATTERS REGARDING COLLECTOR VEHICLES

I. TITLING CRS 42-12-102

A. NOT ROADWORTHY

1. If the vehicle does NOT have a title, and is not roadworthy, then a rebuilders title can be issued if:
 - a) The vehicle is at least 25 years old, and is, at a minimum, a rolling chassis.
 - b) You obtain a CERTIFIED VIN INSPECTION. Visit the Colorado State Patrol VIN Inspection website to learn whom to call, where to go, what to pay.
 - c) An application is submitted to DMV containing a statement, regarding how the vehicle and ownership of it were acquired, signed under penalty of perjury in the second degree.
2. The rebuilders title may be converted to a standard certificate of title when the vehicle is made roadworthy, if the applicant:
 - a) Obtains another certified VIN inspection
 - b) Furnishes a bond that must be in an amount fixed by the DMV Director, but that is not less than twice the reasonable value of the vehicle prior to its being rebuilt.

B. OPTION: Do not seek a rebuilders title; make it roadworthy and then proceed to obtain a title as described in I. D. below.

C. The vehicle DOES have a title, but is not roadworthy.

1. Proceed to make it roadworthy

D. ROADWORTHY

1. Obtain and present the following documents to the County Clerk in which the vehicle will be registered so you may acquire a title for it:
 - a) Notarized bill of sale. Note that such bill of sale is good for 24 months only.
 - b) Certified VIN inspection. See I. A. 1. b) above.
 - c) A Colorado title search. This must be done at a Colorado State DMV office. If done at headquarters in Denver at 18th and Pierce, it takes but a short time (15 to 20 minutes). If the vehicle were purchased out of state, a title search in that state must be made in addition to the title search in Colorado. The out-of-state search can be handled by mail if the County Clerk involved will do it.
 - d. Sworn statement under penalty of perjury regarding all facts related to the acquisition of the vehicle.

II. PROCEDURES FOR TAKING A VEHICLE WHICH IS AT LEAST 25 YEARS OLD "OUT OF USE" FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESTORATION, AND TO AVOID LATE REGISTRATION FEES:

A. CONDITION 1: Purchased in state, and have a notarized bill of sale, but no title.

1. Obtain a VIN inspection (see I..A. 1. b) above).
2. Do a title search (see above).
3. Prepare a sworn statement regarding the acquisition of the vehicle (see above).
4. You need not secure bond on the vehicle if it is 25 years old or older.
5. Obtain the title.
6. Obtain a Colorado Owners Tax (COT) Form in your County. Send the completed form along with a photocopy of your license plate to Denver DMV. Send also a copy of your title, and the first of the annual \$4.00 fees. Doing this keeps you from having to pay the late registration fee when you eventually register the vehicle. (see CRS 42-12-102)
ADVICE: Get a Horseless carriage plate instead, if the vehicle is at least 50 years old.
Also, keep the vehicle out of sight, so it is not an eyesore while it is being restored.
7. A COT is not needed for a parts car. (see CRS 42-12-101(3) and 42-12-102)

B. CONDITION 2: Vehicle was purchased out of state, but you have a valid title for it.

1. Obtain VIN **verification** from any of the places listed at "Department of Revenue - VIN Verifications - Division of Motor Vehicles". NOTE: **a VIN verification is not the same as a Certified VIN Inspection.** When other circumstances as described above require the latter, please visit the Colorado State Patrol VIN inspection web page.
2. Transfer the title to Colorado, at the motor vehicle records department for the county in which the vehicle will be registered, within 60 days.

3. Proceed as in II.A.6. above. There is no penalty for processing a title from out of state if the vehicle has not been registered.
- C. CONDITION 3: The vehicle is already registered in Colorado, but you wish to take it out of service for restoration.
1. Allow the present registration to expire.
 2. Proceed as in II.A.6. above

III. REGISTRATION CRS 42-12-102

A. HORSELESS CARRIAGE 42-12-301(5)(c)

1. Determine where in Colorado you may obtain this type plate. For example, it may be obtained at DMV headquarters at 18th & Pierce in Lakewood. If you live at a substantial distance from Denver, ask DMV personnel to do it for you by mail as a courtesy. Present the current Colorado title or registration for the vehicle to the DMV to obtain the plate. Currently it may be obtained for vehicles that are 50 or more years old. All Horseless Carriage plates expire on the same date, so the plate you receive may expire in fewer than five years, which is the "normal" life of the plate.
2. The vehicle need not be tested for emissions in order for the plate to be issued.
3. Place the single plate on the rear of the vehicle.
4. If the vehicle is sold or transferred, the special plate remains with the vehicle.
5. Vehicles bearing the Horseless Carriage plate have several restrictions about where and when on streets and highways they may be driven. Statutes 42-12-302 (1) (e) (2), and 42-12-301 (5) provide that they may be driven:
 - a) To all meetings and assemblies where such vehicles and their ownership is of primary interest.
 - b) For special occasions such as parades or demonstrations.
 - c) When the vehicle will not constitute a traffic hazard.
 - d) To, from and during local, state, or national tours held for the exhibition and enjoyment of vehicles.

B. COLLECTOR PLATES

1. They may be obtained for an automobile, truck or truck-tractor manufactured in 1975 or earlier. The plates are issued to cover a period of five years from date of registration.
2. Taxes and fees paid to obtain the plates are five times the annual taxes and fees that would be imposed for a single year, except that the amount of the road and bridge fee is imposed for one year only of the five - year registration period.
3. If the vehicle is registered in one of the counties that require vehicle emission testing, it need be tested one time only, prior to obtaining the plate. Renewal of the registration at the end of each five-year period thereafter does not require re-testing for emissions. Emission equipment originally installed on the vehicle at the time of manufacture must be retained on the vehicle.
4. If the vehicle is sold or transferred, and is to be re-registered in a county requiring emission testing, it must be re-tested.
5. Prior to September 1, 2009, applicants were able to obtain collector plates for years 1976 and later, so long as the vehicle was 25 years old or older. Thus, some vehicles currently bear collector plates even though the vehicle was manufactured after 1975. If such vehicles are sold or transferred, they no longer are eligible for collector plates.
6. The plates are placed on the front and rear of the vehicle, and applicants may obtain them as personalized plates, such as "ILUVETS", if desired.

C. YEAR-OF-MANUFACTURE PLATES 42-12-302

1. These plates, also referred to as "Original" plates, may be approved for use after obtaining a Horseless Carriage Plate, Collector, or Standard plates for the vehicle.
2. They must be:
 - a) Original, legible, and embossed with the year that matches the year of the vehicle on which it/they will be placed.
 - b) No more than 7 characters (letters, numbers) in length.
 - c) Thirty or more years old or older, as must be the vehicle involved.
 - d) Placed on the rear, and may be placed on the front of the vehicle, if desired.
3. How to apply:
 - a) Submit a completed form DR2818 "Authorization for use of YOM License

Plate" along with:

- (1) A photocopy of the actual plate, prepared by DMV personnel at the locale where you apply, if not at 18th and Pierce in Denver.
 - (2) A copy of the current registration.
 - (3) Proof of insurance
4. The vehicle does not have to be tested for emissions to "register" the YOM plates, if:
 - a) You reside and register in a county that does not require emission testing.
 - b) You have either Collector, or Horseless Carriage registration already, the former of which requires a one-time emission test, while the latter does not.
 - c) You have standard plates and do emission testing regularly.
 5. There is no cost for "registering" YOM plates, and there is no fee thereafter.
 6. Note that the numbers on the "registration" you will receive do not tie back to the title, and that the VIN is not on that document either. Therefore you must carry a copy of the registration (Collector, Horseless Carriage, or standard, whichever applies to the vehicle), and a copy of the Form DR2818. Carry the H/C, Collector, or standard plate also.
 7. CAUTION: DOR uses the NUMBER of the YOM plate only, and does not make note of the YEAR of the YOM plate. Duplication between years is possible, so it is advisable to purchase **both** YOM plates to reduce, but not eliminate, the possibility of duplicate applications. Once again, they must be the same year as the year of the vehicle.
 8. Driving restrictions, as are described for Horseless Carriage plates in III.A.5. above, apply to vehicles on which YOM plates are placed. Adherence to these is encouraged for safety reasons.
 9. In the final analysis, be prepared to be stopped, as not all jurisdictions are fully aware that YOM plates may be used on our vehicles.

IV. STREET ROD VEHICLE

- A. DEFINITION - CRS 42-12-101 (14) Street rods are defined as those vehicles that are of body design or manufacture in 1948 or earlier, or are from reproduction parts that resemble 1948 or earlier models that have been modified for safe road use. Chassis modifications may include those for powertrain, suspension, brakes, or other. Body modifications may be of steel or fiberglass, and other modifications may be made for safety or comfort.
- B. STREET ROD VIN INSPECTIONS: CRS 42-12-201 **See I.A.1. b) above**
 1. If a serial number exists, it will be accepted as the VIN by the inspector. 42-12-201
 2. The Colorado Department of Revenue (DOR) will assign a VIN if any of the following conditions exists:
 - a) There is no VIN or serial number on the vehicle, or it has been removed, changed, or obliterated. CRS 42-12-202.
 - b) If frame or body numbers do not match. CRS 42-12-202
 - c) If the street rod is constructed from salvage parts, reproduction parts, or other vehicle parts.
 3. Once the VIN has been specified by DOR, the inspector must list it on the Certified VIN inspection form, and a VIN plate must be installed in a position specified by DOR - usually the top, left frame rail just ahead of the firewall. The DOR will issue a title using the assigned VIN.
- C. STREET ROD LICENSE PLATE, MOUNTED ON THE REAR OF THE VEHICLE
 1. Issued to a street rod only, such plate is considered to be a personalized plate, printed with a unique name and "Street Rod" on it. Several unique names must be submitted to DOR for their preference, along with an extra \$35.00, when the application is sent/presented to DOR.
 2. The plate is renewed each year. Regular fees, and road and bridge fees are involved.
 3. If the plate is transferred to another vehicle, an additional \$12.00 fee is charged.
 4. If the vehicle is disposed of, the unique name may be kept for future use by payment of a \$25.00 annual fee.

V. KIT CARS CRS 42-1-101(45.5)

- A. DEFINITION: "Kit Vehicle" refers to a passenger-type motor vehicle that is assembled - other than by a licensed manufacturer - from a manufactured kit that includes a prefabricated body and chassis, and is accompanied by a manufacturer's statement of origin (MSO). Colorado is an MSO state.
- B. The kits are:
 1. Sold by a licensed dealer who provides the MSO.
 2. Usually with bodies, made of fiberglass, that resemble collector vehicles.

3. Titled with the year shown on the MSO accompanying the kit from which the vehicle was assembled. CRS 42-6-1070(1) (a).
4. Excluded from emission testing. CRS 42-4-304(18).

VI. KIT CAR "REBUILT VEHICLE"

- A. DEFINITION : "Rebuilt Vehicle" means a vehicle that was assembled from parts from two or more commercially manufactured vehicles, or a vehicle that has been altered in such a manner that it is not readily recognizable as a commercially manufactured vehicle of a given year. The definition includes kit car. CRS 42-12-101 (12). Such vehicles are excluded from emission testing per CRS 42-4-304 (18), and the year that is placed on the title is one that is determined by the Titling and Registration Division of the Colorado Department of Motor Vehicles.

VII. COLORADO'S SEAT BELT AND CHILD RESTRAINT LAW

A. Seat Belt Laws

1. Seat belts are mandatory for the driver and all front-seat passengers.
2. Exceptions to this rule are:
 - a) The use of seat belts was made mandatory by federal law in the year 1968. Therefore, seat belts are not required while operating a vehicle manufactured before 1968.
 - b) Passengers with a physical or psychological disability are exempt from wearing seat belts. A medical statement explaining the disability and the reason why a seat belt is inappropriate **must accompany the passenger so affected**.
3. Not buckling up seat belts, apart from 2.a) and b) above, is considered a **SECONDARY VIOLATION**. That is, you can be cited only if you have been stopped for another reason, such as running a red light, or speeding.

B. Colorado Revised Statute 42-4-236, at www.CarSeatsColorado.com, provides that:

1. Infants must ride in the back seat in a rear-facing car seat until they are at least 1 year old, and weigh at least 20 lbs.
2. Children 1-4 years old must ride in a car seat.
3. Children 4-8 years old must ride in a child restraint. Typically this is a booster seat.
4. Children 8-16 years old must use a seat belt.

VIII. AUTO INSURANCE

A. There are two types of stated insurance policies on automobiles - **Stated Value** versus **Stated Amount** - that apply to the value of the vehicle in the event of its total loss:

1. One is a **stated amount** policy in which the premium is based on an amount stated by the insured. Losses, however, are still based on the actual cash value (ACV) of the property at the time of the loss, **but not to exceed the stated amount**.
2. The other is a **stated value** policy, which is a true valued type of policy where both parties agree, in advance, as to the value of the property. In the event of total loss, the company will pay the full face value of the property.
3. Advice: Obtain insurance from one of the few companies that write stated value policies. Some of these are: Central Mutual, Chubb, Midwestern Indemnity, Grundy, Hagerty, Chrome, USAA and Zurich - American.

- B. Another type of insurance, available from Viking Insurance, covers the driver, not each vehicle, no matter how many vehicles you have/drive. It is known as **BROAD FORM**, and is acquired to cover **LIABILITY** only, while you are driving **ANY** car, including a rental. BROAD FORM is much cheaper than carrying full bodily damage coverage on one or more vehicles, so determine for yourself, based upon the value of your vehicles, whether you need to carry more than liability on each of them.

IX. BLUE DOT TAIL LIGHTS CRS 42-12-204

- A. DEFINITION : These are red tail lamps with a blue dot insert no larger than 1" in diameter installed.
- B. They may be used for stop lamps, rear turn indicators, rear hazard lamps and rear reflectors.

X. HOW TO LOOSEN SEIZED BOLTS, NUTS.

Heat the bolt or nut until it is cherry red, and let it cool **COMPLETELY**.

Then apply a 50-50 mixture of automatic transmission fluid and acetone. Let it set for a few minutes, then remove the bolt or nut.