

RMV Policies for Use of Year of Manufacture Plates

1. The vehicle owner must complete an "Application for an Antique Motor Vehicle Plate or Year of Manufacture Registration Plate" form and sign it in the presence of a Notary.
2. The plate must be physically presented to the Registrar or designee for inspection and approval.
 - (i) The plate can contain no more than six (6) characters.
 - (ii) The plate must be in good repair and in **original condition**. Its letters, numbers and markings must be clearly legible. Any indication that the plate has been repainted or otherwise altered will cause the Registrar to reject use of the plate.
 - (iii) The plate must be sufficiently distinctive in appearance so as not to be confused with currently issued plates. If the Registrar has already approved the use of a plate as a *Year of Manufacture* plate, which contains a specific combination of letters and numbers (or letters or numbers alone), that same combination on a different *Year of Manufacture* plate is not sufficiently distinctive and will not be approved as another *Year of Manufacture* plate.
 - (iv) A **Year of Manufacture** plate may be approved by the Registrar for use on an antique motor car of a different type than that for which the registration plate was originally issued. For example, a truck plate may be approved for use on an antique automobile and an automobile plate may be approved for use on an antique truck. (A motorcycle plate can only be used on a motorcycle, however.)
 - (v) The Registrar may approve of the display of only one (1) *Year of Manufacture* plate (if that is all that is available) even though the RMV issued two (2) plates per vehicle in the year the plate was originally issued.
 - (vi) A **Year of Manufacture** plate must be displayed pursuant to Chapter 90, Section 6 of the General Laws but the registration decal for the current registration period need not be attached to the plate. If it is not attached to the plate it must be carried in the antique vehicle at all times and presented at the request of a Police Officer.
 - (vii) A plate displaying the word "Antique" CANNOT be used as a "Year of Manufacture Plate."

Note: If a Year of Manufacture plate is ever suspended or revoked, the Registrar may require the plate be turned in to the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

Year of Manufacture Reference List



Definitions

Only **motor vehicles** meeting the definition of an "Antique motor car" may display an **Antique** registration plate. At the discretion of the Registrar, a **Year of Manufacture** registration plate may be issued for display on an "antique motor car" in place of an **Antique** registration plate.

An "antique motor car" is **any motor vehicle over twenty-five years old** which is maintained solely for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades, and other functions of public interest. This includes test drives to prepare for such functions and transportation to and from repair facilities, and not used primarily for the transportation of passengers or goods over any way. A **motorcycle** is eligible for an **Antique** registration plate.

A "**Year of Manufacture Plate**" is a registration plate (in the possession of the Applicant) originally issued by the Commonwealth in the exact year of manufacture of the antique motor car to which it is proposed to be attached. If no registration plate(s) was issued in a particular year, a registration plate originally issued in a prior year may be approved by the Registrar for use as a Year of Manufacturer Plate on the "antique motor car" to which it is proposed to be attached. Year of Manufacture Vanity Plates or Year of Manufacture Antique Plates are not available.

- ◆ Alphanumerics were not used on passenger plates until 1949
- ◆ Only one plate is needed (if that is all that is available)
- ◆ Truck plates had a "B" prefix from 1911
- ◆ Plates issued in 1903 - 1915 were *porcelain enamel over* steel
- ◆ Plates issued in 1903 - 1907, were the same and UNDATED; only lettering was inscribed at the top "Mass Automobile Register"
- ◆ Plates issued in 1916 - 1919, were FLAT steel, had no embossed numbers, and no raised border
- ◆ If no plate was issued in a particular year, a plate from the **previous** year can be used, but **not** a plate from a following year
- ◆ Some plates issued in 1942 have WHITE alphanumerics on a GREEN background
- ◆ 1966 was the last year that Massachusetts dated license plates
- ◆ Undated plates (1967 and up) do not need a registration sticker indicating the Year of Manufacture of the vehicle or the year of original issuance of the plate
- ◆ When a Year of Manufacture registration is voluntarily cancelled, the plate(s) do not have to be surrendered to the RMV

Facts

Year of Manufacture Reference List

Year	Plate Issued	Background	Alphanumerics
1903	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1904	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1905	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1906	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1907	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1908	Y	White	Dark Blue Numbers
1909	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1910	Y	White	Dark Blue Numbers
1911	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1912	Y	White	Dark Blue Numbers
1913	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1914	Y	White	Dark Blue Numbers
1915	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1916	Y	White	Dark Blue Numbers
1917	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1918	Y	White	Dark Blue Numbers
1919	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1920	Y	White	Dark Blue Numbers
1921	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1922	Y	White	Dark Blue Numbers
1923	Y	Navy Blue	White Numbers
1924	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1925	Y	Black	White Alphanumerics
1926	Y	Blue	White Alphanumerics
1927	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1928	Y	Green	White Alphanumerics
1929	Y	Blue	White Alphanumerics
1930	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1931	Y	Green	White Alphanumerics
1932	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1933	Y	Green	White Alphanumerics
1934	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1935	Y	Green	White Alphanumerics
1936	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1937	Y	Green	White Alphanumerics
1938	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1939	Y	Green	White Alphanumerics
1940	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1941	Y	Green	White Alphanumerics

Year of Manufacture Reference List

Year	Plate Issued	Background	Alphanumerics
1942	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1943	N		
1944	N		
1945	Y	Blue	White Alphanumerics
1946	Y	Black	White Alphanumerics
1947	Y	Green	White Alphanumerics
1948	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1949	Y	Black	White Alphanumerics
1950	N		
1951	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1952	N		
1953	Y	Black	White Alphanumerics
1954	N		
1955	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1956	N		
1957	Y	Black	White Alphanumerics
1958	N		
1959	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1960	N		
1961	Y	Green	White Alphanumerics
1962	N		
1963	Y	Black	White Alphanumerics
1964	Y	Cranberry	White Alphanumerics
1965	N		
1966	Y	Green	White Alphanumerics
1967	Y	White	Blue Alphanumerics
1968	N		
1969	N		
1970	Y	White	Blue Alphanumerics
1971	Y	White	Blue Alphanumerics
1972	Y	White	Blue or Red Alphanumerics
1973	Y	White	Blue or Red Alphanumerics
1974	Y	White	Red Alphanumerics
1975	Y	White	Red Alphanumerics
1976	Y	White	Red Alphanumerics
1977	Y	White	Red Alphanumerics
1978	Y	White	Red Alphanumerics

Vehicles from 1979 or later are not currently eligible for Year of Manufacture Plates.