



Frequently Asked Questions

Auxiliary Plate

What is an auxiliary plate?

It is the responsibility of the driver of a vehicle to ensure that the rear number plate issued for the vehicle is visible and legible. To assist the driver in this regard an auxiliary plate can be purchased. An auxiliary plate has the same characters as the number plate on the vehicle and is to be fitted to a bicycle or wheelchair carrier when one is attached to the rear of a vehicle.

How can I order an auxiliary plate?

You must have a DoTDirect online services account to apply for an auxiliary plate. From your DoTDirect account you may purchase an auxiliary plate for vehicles licensed in your name (some exclusions apply).

How much does an auxiliary plate cost?

Visit the Plate fees listed on the Department of Transport (DoT) website for the most up to date information.

How long will it take to get my auxiliary plate?

Once you have applied and paid for an auxiliary plate, it may take up to four (4) weeks for your plate to be ready for collection. We will send you an email when your plate is ready to be collected.

Where do I collect it from?

When you apply you will need to nominate a Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) centre, DoT regional office or authorised agent for the collection of your auxiliary plate. The vehicle must be currently licensed at the time of collection.

What do I have to do to collect my auxiliary plate?

You must take an acceptable proof of identification document (for example your driver's licence) with you when you collect your plate.

If another person is collecting the plate on your behalf, they must have acceptable identification and evidence of your consent. If the plate is not collected within three (3) months of the date of the collection email, the plate will be destroyed and you will have to apply for a new auxiliary plate.

What colours can I choose from?

There are no colour options available. An auxiliary plate is provided as an aluminium plate with a white background and blue coloured characters only.

What size is the auxiliary plate?

The auxiliary plate dimensions are 253 mm x 99 mm – the size of a standard motorcycle number plate.



What vehicle types can use an auxiliary plate?

Most vehicles are eligible to display an auxiliary plate where the primary number plate affixed to the vehicle is obscured. An auxiliary plate cannot be used for a taxi, small charter vehicle, omnibus or an off road vehicle.

Where do I attach my plate?

When a bicycle rack, wheelchair carrier or other device is fitted to the towbar of the vehicle and it or the load obscures the visibility of the rear number plate, an auxiliary plate should be securely affixed in an upright position parallel to the vehicle axles, no higher than the vehicle roof line so that it is clearly visible to the rear. Auxiliary plates are manufactured with mounting holes and slots pre-drilled to assist with options to affix the plate to the carrier or load.

What happens if I lose my auxiliary plate or it is stolen or damaged?

Where an auxiliary plate is lost, stolen or damaged but the existing vehicle number plates are intact you can apply and pay for a new auxiliary plate through your DoT Direct online account.

If the existing vehicle number plates have been lost, stolen or damaged then standard replacement processes apply. Refer to Replace lost/stolen or damaged number plates information on the DoT website.

What do I do with my auxiliary plate when I am not displaying it on my vehicle?

We suggest you keep your auxiliary plate in a safe and secure location when not in use.

What do I do with my auxiliary plate if I sell my vehicle?

You must pass on an auxiliary plate to the new vehicle owner if the vehicle number plates are being transferred with the vehicle. If the new owner does not want the auxiliary plate you must return this to DoT. The auxiliary plate remains the property of DoT.

I am buying a vehicle and the seller has an auxiliary plate. Is the seller required to give me the auxiliary plate?

The seller should pass the auxiliary plate on to you if the vehicle plates are being transferred with the vehicle. If you do not require an auxiliary plate please return this to the DoT.

Can I sell my auxiliary plate?

No, an auxiliary plate remains the property of the DoT. An auxiliary plate cannot be sold, it is to be passed onto the new vehicle owner upon selling the vehicle, or included in the transfer of optional number plates.

Visit the Sell or Transfer plates on the DoT website for further information.

If I no longer need my auxiliary plate, what do I do with it?

If you no longer require the auxiliary plate, please return it to a DVS centre, DoT regional office or authorised agent for destruction.