

WASHINGTON

Definitions

Horseless Carriage. A vehicle that is more than forty years old and owned and operated as a collector vehicle. Horseless carriage vehicle may be driven to and from auto shows, circuses, parades, displays, special excursions, and antique car club meetings, but may not be used for regular transportation in the manner of a fully licensed vehicle.

Collector. The owner of one or more vehicles described in RCW 46.18.220(1) who collects, purchases, acquires, trades, or disposes of the vehicle or parts of it, for his or her personal use, in order to preserve, restore, and maintain the vehicle for hobby or historical purposes.

Collector Vehicle. Any motor vehicle that is more than thirty years old. Vehicles registered as collector vehicles may be driven to and from auto shows, circuses, parades, displays, special excursions, and antique car club meetings, but may not be used for regular transportation in the manner of a fully licensed vehicle.

Kit Vehicle. A passenger car or light truck assembled from a manufactured kit, and is either (1) a complete kit consisting of a prefabricated body and chassis used to construct a new vehicle, or (2) a kit consisting of a prefabricated body to be mounted on an existing vehicle chassis and drive train, commonly referred to as a donor vehicle.

Parts Car. A motor vehicle that is owned by a collector to furnish parts for restoration or maintenance of a vehicle described in RCW 46.18.220(1), thus enabling a collector to preserve, restore, and maintain such a vehicle.

Street Rod Vehicle. A motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, that meets the following conditions:

(1) (a) The vehicle was manufactured before 1949, (b) the vehicle has been assembled or reconstructed using major component parts of a motor vehicle manufactured before 1949, or (c) the vehicle was assembled or manufactured after 1949, to resemble a vehicle manufactured before 1949; and

(2) (a) The vehicle has been modified in its body style or design through the use of nonoriginal or reproduction components, such as frame, engine, drive train, suspension, or brakes in a manner that does not adversely affect its safe performance as a motor vehicle or render it unlawful for highway use, or (b) the body has been constructed from nonoriginal materials or has been altered dimensionally or in shape and appearance from the original manufactured body.

Titling, Registration

Horseless carriage plates

Vehicle requirements

Overview

1. Plate requirements.
2. Vehicle requirements.
3. Find out the initial cost for plates.
4. Submit your application and payment.
5. If you use restored WA license plates
6. Update your Good-to-Go! account.



1. Plates requirements

- You must be a WA state vehicle owner, to get these plates.
- They can only be used on the vehicle they were purchased for.
- The plates are displayed on the rear of the vehicle. If you provide a set of restored plates, they may be displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle.
- You don't need to display month/year tabs on the plates.

2. Vehicle requirements

Vehicles with these plates:

- Must have a current registration.
- Must be more than 40 years old.
- Be capable of operating on the highway.
- Be owned and operated as collector vehicles.
- **May** be driven:
 - To and from auto shows, circuses, parades, displays, special excursions, and antique car club meetings.
 - For testing purposes.
 - For the pleasure of others without compensation.
- **May not** be used for:
 - Regular transportation in the manner of a fully licensed vehicle.
 - Commercial purposes or to carry a load.

Note: *These plates are not available for trailers.*

3. Find out the initial cost for plates

Vehicle type	Fee
Passenger/truck	\$56.75
Motorcycle	\$50.75

4. Submit your application and payment

Contact a [vehicle licensing office](#) to find out the total cost of your plates.

Submit a [Specialty License Plate Application](#) and payment to:

Special Plate Unit

Department of Licensing

PO Box 9043

Olympia, WA 98507-8500

5. If you use restored WA license plates

You can use restored plates on your antique vehicle instead of getting a Horseless Carriage plate through us. Restored license plates must be from the same year that the vehicle was manufactured. The plates must be restored to their original design. You can't use reproductions. For more information, see [Restored license plates](#).

6. Update your Good To Go! account

If you have an account, update it with your new plates:

- Online: www.wsdot.wa.gov/goodtogo/
- By phone: 866.936.8246

Related information

Collector vehicle plates

Vehicle requirements

To use collector plates, vehicles **must** be:

- more than 30 years old.
- capable of operating on the highway.
- owned and operated as collector vehicles.



Collector vehicles **may** be driven:

- to and from auto shows, circuses, parades, displays, special excursions, and antique car club meetings.
- for testing purposes.
- for the pleasure of others without compensation.

Collector vehicles **may not** be used for:

- commercial purposes or to carry a load.
- regular transportation in the manner of a fully licensed vehicle.

License plate requirements

Collector license plates:

- may be assigned to currently registered passenger vehicles, motorcycles, or trucks.
- are good for the life of vehicle.
- are not required to display month/year tab.
- are not renewed annually.
- must be displayed on the rear of the vehicle. (You must provide your restored or current license plates. If you provide a set, the collector vehicle plates may be displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle).

Option to use restored license plates

You may use a restored license plate on your collector vehicle instead of a collector vehicle license plate. A restored license plate is a Washington-issued license plate that was designed for use in the year of the vehicle's manufacture. The license plate must be restored to a condition that allows it to be identified with its year of issue. A reproduction of the original cannot be used as a restored license plate.

How to apply

1. Complete a Special License Plate Application.
2. Contact your local licensing office to determine the exact cost of your license plates, including all licensing fees.
3. If you want to use restored license plates, provide your restored license plate (or plates) for the vehicle.
4. Take the completed application and plates plus all appropriate fees to a vehicle licensing office.

5. OR

6. Mail them to:

Vehicle Licensing

Department of Licensing

PO Box 9909

Olympia, WA 98507-8500

How to renew

You are not required to renew your collector vehicle license plates.

From Washington Administrative Code:

WAC 308-56A-020 Application for certificate of ownership required. When is an application for certificate of ownership required? In addition to the requirements set forth in chapter 46.12 and 46.16 RCW an application for certificate of ownership is required when:

(1) There is a change of vehicle ownership on a Washington certificate of ownership due to:

(a) Sale;

(b) Gift-donation;

(c) Inheritance;

(d) Trade;

(e) Addition or deletion of a registered owner;

(f) Proprietorship, partnership or individuals forming a corporation, whether or not the business name is changing;

(g) Proprietorship, partnership or individuals purchasing a corporation which will no longer be operated as a corporation, whether or not the business name is changed;

(h) Court order;

(i) Transferring vehicle to or from a trust;

(j) Repossession; or

(k) Adding/removing a lease on a vehicle.

(2) Applying for registration of a vehicle which has most recently been titled and/or registered in another jurisdiction and only registration is being established in Washington. If the vehicle will remain titled in another jurisdiction, no Washington certificate of ownership will be issued.

(3) There is a name change of the registered owner, whether individual(s) or a business entity.

(4) Adding a lien holder.

(5) The vehicle is assembled, homemade, has had a glider kit installed or is a **street rod**.

(6) The motorcycle engine has been replaced.

(7) The vehicle identification number needs to be corrected.

(8) The vehicle has been reported as salvage or wrecked by an insurer, owner, or wrecker and new certificate of ownership is requested. Title procedures are in WAC 308-56A-460.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 04-08-080, § 308-56A-020, filed 4/6/04, effective 5/7/04; 03-05-081, § 308-56A-020, filed 2/19/03, effective 3/22/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110 and 46.12.101. 00-20-065, § 308-56A-020, filed 10/3/00, effective 11/3/00; 98-12-099, § 308-56A-020, filed 6/3/98, effective 7/4/98; Order MV 208, § 308-56A-020, filed 7/31/74.]

WAC 308-56A-150 Certificate of vehicle inspection. (1) **When is a certificate of vehicle inspection required?** A certificate of vehicle inspection, completed by the Washington state patrol or other authorized inspector, must accompany the application for certificate of ownership and include the applicable statutory inspection fee whenever the applicant's vehicle is:

- (a) Reported destroyed since the last certificate of ownership was issued and ownership was not retained by the registered owner;
- (b) A **homemade, assembled, or rebuilt vehicle** not previously titled as such;
- (c) One on which the identification number needs verification as requested by the department, county auditor, or authorized agent;
- (d) A **kit vehicle** not previously titled as such (if no vehicle identification number (VIN) or model year previously assigned);
- (e) A **street rod** not previously titled as such;
- (f) A glider kit not previously titled as such;
- (g) Subject to ownership in doubt described in WAC [308-56A-210](#);
- (h) One which the Washington crime information center (WACIC) or National Crime Information Center (NCIC) indicates may be stolen;
- (i) One for which the WACIC/NCIC has failed to respond to the stolen vehicle search required by chapter [46.12](#) RCW; or
- (j) Inspections are not required for snowmobiles or mobile homes.

(2) **Is there a fee charged for a VIN inspection?** Yes, the amount of the fee is established in RCW 46.12.040. The fee is not due when:

- (a) The out-of-state fee authorized by chapter 46.12 RCW has been collected on the same application; or
- (b) The Washington state patrol or department of licensing has determined that the fee is not due.

(3) **Who is authorized to perform a vehicle inspection?** Vehicle inspections may be performed by:

- (a) The Washington state patrol;
- (b) Other entities or individuals designated by the director if the vehicle is located in another state or country and the requirement for inspection by the Washington state patrol will cause undue hardship.

(4) **How long is a vehicle certificate of inspection valid?** The vehicle certificate of inspection is valid for the following periods of time after the inspection date:

- (a) Sixty days for vehicles:
 - (i) Reported destroyed;
 - (ii) **Homemade, assembled, rebuilt, street rods, kit vehicles** and glider kits;
 - (iii) If the identification number needs verification, has been removed, defaced, altered, destroyed, illegible or missing;
 - (iv) With no Washington record or no manufacture certificate/statement of origin (MCO/MSO) except those described in WAC 308-56A-210;

(v) Referred for inspection for any reason not listed.

(b) Three hundred sixty-five days for a licensed vehicle dealer.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 08-03-104, § 308-56A-150, filed 1/22/08, effective 2/22/08; 06-22-025, § 308-56A-150, filed 10/25/06, effective 11/25/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.16.125, 46.16.225, 46.16.276, 46.16.060, 46.16.600, 43.17.060. 04-08-002, § 308-56A-150, filed 3/24/04, effective 4/24/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.12.040, 46.16.216. 03-12-006, § 308-56A-150, filed 5/22/03, effective 6/22/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 03-05-081, § 308-56A-150, filed 2/19/03, effective 3/22/03; 01-20-010, § 308-56A-150, filed 9/20/01, effective 10/21/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.12.040 and 46.16.216. 99-21-098, § 308-56A-150, filed 10/20/99, effective 11/20/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 97-07-014, § 308-56A-150, filed 3/11/97, effective 4/11/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.12.040 and 46.16.216. 91-04-024, § 308-56A-150, filed 1/29/91, effective 3/1/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 85-06-011 (Order TL/RG 11), § 308-56A-150, filed 2/22/85; Order MV 208, § 308-56A-150, filed 7/31/74.]

WAC 308-56A-160 Model year -- How determined. (1) **How is a model year assigned to a vehicle?** The model year for a vehicle is the model year assigned by the manufacturer. If an original manufacturer has not assigned a model year, or your vehicle is **rebuilt, homemade, a street rod, or assembled vehicle**, the following criteria will be used to establish the model year:

(a) When possible, the model year will be determined from the vehicle identification number (VIN). When the VIN does not identify the production date, corresponding production records of the original manufacturer must be used.

(b) The model year for a homemade vehicle will be the year of inspection for the purpose of making an application for certificate of ownership.

(c) The model year for assembled vehicles will be determined at the time of inspection based on the date of manufacture of the vehicle that the newly assembled vehicle most closely resembles.

(2) **Are there standards for assigning model years that manufacturers must follow?** Manufacturers must adopt standards for assigning model years based on the date of manufacture as outlined in 46 CFR. Manufacturers must designate the model year on the manufacturer's certificate of origin (MCO), manufacturer's statement of origin (MSO) or similar documents.

(3) **How are model years assigned to vehicles that are incomplete?** Manufacturers of chassis or incomplete vehicles sold to manufacturers who issue separate MCOs/MSOs need not assign model year to the chassis or incomplete vehicle. The final stage manufacturer of these vehicles must assign the model year as provided in subsection (2) of this section. In the event a model year is assigned by both the incomplete vehicle manufacturer and the completing manufacturer, the completing manufacturer assigned model year will be used on the certificates of ownership and registration.

(4) For purposes of this section the following terms will have the meanings indicated:

(a) "Manufacture" means to produce or assemble vehicles or vehicle equipment in the customs territory of the United States or to import.

(b) "Manufacturer" means:

(i) A person engaged in the business of manufacturing vehicle or vehicle equipment, including predecessor or successor of the person to the extent provided under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Transportation in 49 CFR; and

(ii) If more than one person is the manufacturer of a vehicle, the person specified under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Transportation in 49 CFR.

(c) "Incomplete vehicle" means an assemblage consisting of, as a minimum:

(i) Frame and chassis structure;

(ii) Power train;

(iii) Steering system;

(iv) Suspension system; and

(v) Braking system.

To the extent that those systems are to be part of the completed vehicle that requires further manufacturing operation; other than the additions of readily attachable components, such as mirrors or tire and rim assemblies, or minor finishing operations such as painting, to become a completed vehicle.

(d) "Model" means a name that a manufacturer applies to a family of vehicles of the same type, make, line, series, and body type.

(e) "**Assembled** and **homemade vehicles**" have the meaning provided in WAC 308-56A-455.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 10-02-034, § 308-56A-160, filed 12/30/09, effective 1/30/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.12.040, 46.16.216. 03-12-006, § 308-56A-160, filed 5/22/03, effective 6/22/03; 99-12-031, § 308-56A-160, filed 5/25/99, effective 6/25/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 97-07-014, § 308-56A-160, filed 3/11/97, effective 4/11/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 1993 c 488 and chapter 46.12 RCW. 94-17-044, § 308-56A-160, filed 8/10/94, effective 9/10/94. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 93-14-084, § 308-56A-160, filed 6/30/93, effective 7/31/93.]

- **WAC 308-56A-530 Vehicles brands and comments.** (1) **What is a brand?** For the purposes of this section a brand is a notation on the certificate of ownership or vehicle registration certificate that records a special circumstance or condition involving a vehicle.
- **(2) What brands are assigned to vehicles by the department?** Brands used by the department include, but are not limited to:
 - (a) Former exempt, as defined in [RCW 46.16A.170](#);
 - (b) Former for hire, as defined in [RCW 46.72.010](#);
 - (c) Former taxicab, as described in [RCW 46.72.010](#);
 - (d) Rebuilt as required in [RCW 46.12.540](#), when a vehicle reported destroyed under [RCW 46.12.600](#) or [46.80.090](#) and [WAC 308-56A-460](#) meets the definition of salvage vehicle in [RCW 46.04.514](#);
- (e) Street rod as formerly defined in repealed section [RCW 46.04.571](#);
 - (f) Nonconformity uncorrected or safety defect uncorrected as defined in [RCW 19.118.021 \(14\)](#) and (19);
 - (g) Nonconformity corrected or safety defect corrected as defined in [RCW 19.118.021 \(14\)](#) and (19);
 - (h) Returned to manufacturer;
 - (i) Odometer - Not actual;
 - (j) Odometer - Exceeds mechanical limits;
 - (k) Repaired - Wrecker/insurance bill of sale;
 - (l) Contaminated - Vehicles described in chapter 64.44 RCW;
 - (m) Decontaminated - Vehicles described in chapter 64.44 RCW.
- **(3) What brands are carried forward from the other states/jurisdictions by the department?**
 - (a) Brands for states/jurisdictions participating in the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS) program (known as "Standard Brands,") are maintained in the brands list by NMVTIS and include, but are not limited to:
 - (i) Rebuilt;
 - (ii) Junk;
 - (iii) Destroyed;
 - (iv) Salvage - Damaged;
 - (v) Salvage - Retention;
 - (vi) Salvage - Stolen;
 - (vii) Salvage - Other;
 - (viii) Flood damage;
 - (ix) Hail damage;
 - (x) Saltwater damage;
 - (xi) Totaled.
 - (b) Brands from states/jurisdictions not participating in NMVTIS that do not appear on the brands list maintained by NMVTIS (known as "unique brands") will be carried forward on Washington certificates of ownership and registration certificates exactly (or abbreviated if too long) as they appear on the foreign title.

More than one brand may appear on the vehicle registration or certificate of ownership.

- **(4) Will a brand be applied to destroyed vehicles that have been sold on an out-of-state wrecker or insurance bill of sale, then repaired, and inspected?** Yes. Vehicles not reported to DOL as destroyed and then sold using an insurance or wrecker bill of sale in lieu of a certificate of ownership/title, then brought into Washington from another jurisdiction that is not subject to reporting under [RCW 46.12.600](#) repaired, and inspected will be branded. The brand will appear as "repaired-wrecker/insurance bill of sale."

The jurisdiction code will be identified as "WA."

- **(5) Why is a brand used?** A brand is used in the circumstances above for consumer protection. The brand is used to inform any subsequent owners of the current or former condition or use of the vehicle.
- **(6) Will the department remove a brand?** Brands stay on vehicle records indefinitely. The department will only remove a brand if the brand was applied to a Washington certificate of ownership in error; or
 - (a) If a former rental brand was applied prior to the effective date of this rule, it will remain on the certificate of ownership and/or vehicle registration unless applied in error.

- **(b)** If a nonstandard brand was applied prior to the effective date of this rule, it will remain on the certificate of ownership and/or vehicle registration unless applied in error.
- **(7) Where are brands located on the documents?** Brands are located in the brands section of the certificate of ownership and vehicle registration. Brands will display beginning with Washington issued brands, followed by unique brands, then standard brands. If applicable, "WA REBUILT" will show as a banner across the certificate of ownership.
- **(8) What is a comment?** For the purposes of this section a comment is an indication on the certificate of ownership, vehicle title/registration application or vehicle registration certificate that relates to tax liability, type of ownership, title transaction type.
- **(9) What comments could the department print on certificates of ownership?**
 - **(a)** Comments relating to the ownership that include: Bonded, leased, JTWROS.
 - **(b)** Comments relating to tax liability that include: Use tax waived - Gift, value code, value year.
 - **(c)** Comments relating to the type of title transaction, which include duplicate, and reprint.
 - **(d)** Miscellaneous comments that include: Not eligible for road use.
- **(10) What comments could the department print on vehicle registration certificates?**

Comments printed on vehicle registration certificates may include, but are not limited to:

 - **(a)** "CVSEF PAID" or "commercial vehicle safety enforcement fee paid";
 - **(b)** "Because scale weight exceeds gross weight, D.O.T. permit also required";
 - **(c)** "Commercial vehicle safety enforcement fee not paid";
 - **(d)** "Display tab on back license plate" only - front plate is still required;
 - **(e)** "*Check vehicle data base record for actual expiration date";
 - **(f)** "Replica";
 - **(g)** "Proof of FHVUT verified";
 - **(h)** "No title issued" or "no title issued - ownership in doubt";
 - **(i)** "Excise exempt NRM";
 - **(j)** "Excise exempt Native American";
 - **(k)** "Excise exempt van pool";
 - **(l)** "Excise exempt rideshare";
 - **(m)** "Registration only";
 - **(n)** "Prorated gross weight to be more than 16,000";
 - **(o)** "Additional owners on record";
 - (p) "Not eligible for road use";
 - **(q)** "Perm plt";
 - **(r)** "Use tax waived: Gift";
 - **(s)** "Permanent fleet vehicle";
 - **(t)** "*Perm";
 - **(u)** "Color";
 - **(v)** Comments relating to the ownership; bonded, leased, JTWROS, registration only;
 - **(w)** Tax liability DAV, Native American, NRM, value code/year, use tax option, rideshare, POW, tax code 95, double transfer;
 - **(x)** Title transaction type duplicate, reprint, NTI, dual registration, corrected title data, corrected registration;
 - **(y)** Miscellaneous gift, ride, previous plate VIN flag, farm vehicle restrictions, Federal Drug Program (Title 49 C.F.R. Part 382) vehicle color, odometer code, RETURN TO MFG, not eligible for road use (NEFRU), custom vehicle and street rod.
- **(11) What comments would the department carry forward from other jurisdictions?** The department does not carry forward comments assigned by other jurisdictions.
- **(12) Why are comments used?** Comments are used for consumer protection, to inform any subsequent owners and vehicle licensing personnel of the current tax liability, type of ownership, or title transaction type or other pertinent information.
- **(13) Will the department remove a comment?** The department will remove a comment if:
 - **(a)** The comment was applied in error; or
 - **(b)** The comment no longer applies.

WAC 308-56A-455 Assembled and homemade vehicles. (1) **What constitutes an assembled vehicle?** An **assembled vehicle** is a vehicle that:

(a) Has had the complete body or frame replaced with the body or frame from another commercially manufactured vehicle; or

(b) Had the body or frame cut in two and replaced with a major portion of the body or frame from another vehicle; or

(c) Has had a major modification so that the VIN no longer properly describes the vehicle; or

(d) Is a motorcycle on which the frame and engine are of different make or model years. An assembled vehicle is made from parts produced by recognized manufacturers for commercially produced vehicles, and can be recognized as one produced by a particular manufacturer. Assembled vehicles do not include glider kits, **custom built, replica, kit vehicles**, or trucks installed with a different bed.

(2) **How is the model year determined for an assembled vehicle?** The Washington state patrol will determine the model year of an assembled vehicle upon inspection of the vehicle.

(3) **What constitutes a homemade vehicle?** A **homemade** vehicle is one that cannot visually be identified as produced by a particular manufacturer and is made primarily from fabricated parts. The make will be identified as **homemade**.

(4) **How is the model year determined for a homemade vehicle?** The Washington state patrol will determine the model year of a **homemade** vehicle upon inspection of the vehicle.

(5) **What documents must I submit with my application for a certificate of ownership for an assembled or homemade vehicle?** You must submit the following documents with your application for certificate of ownership:

(a) The certificate of ownership or bills of sale for each vehicle or major component part used in the assembly or construction of the vehicle. The bills of sale must be notarized unless the seller is a licensed business. The bill(s) of sale must include:

(i) The names and addresses of the seller and purchaser;

(ii) A description of the part being sold, including the make, model and identification or serial number;

(iii) The date of sale;

(iv) The purchase price of the part; and

(v) The stock number if from a Washington licensed wrecker;

(b) A Washington state patrol inspection or inspection from other personnel authorized by the director verifying the vehicle identification number, make, model, and year; and

(c) A completed declaration of value form.

You may be required to apply for ownership in doubt as described in WAC 308-56A-210 if you do not have all the required documentation.

(6) **What is required if I must remove, destroy or conceal a vehicle identification number plate on a vehicle or major component part to be used on my assembled or homemade vehicle?** The vehicle or major component part containing the VIN plate must be presented to the Washington state patrol with the VIN plate intact. The WSP will remove the VIN plate and mark the vehicle or major component part so it can be identified when the assembled or **homemade** vehicle is ready for inspection.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 04-08-080, § 308-56A-455, filed 4/6/04, effective 5/7/04; 03-10-097, § 308-56A-455, filed 5/7/03, effective 6/7/03; 00-04-046, § 308-56A-455, filed 1/27/00, effective 2/27/00; 92-15-024, § 308-56A-455, filed 7/6/92, effective 8/6/92; Order MV 208, § 308-56A-455, filed 7/31/74.]

WAC 308-66-225 Remanufactured vehicles in whole or in part. What is the nature of remanufacturing? (1) If the remanufacturing process of the vehicle will involve the removal, destruction, or concealment of any identification number, the parts shall be inspected by an authorized member of the Washington state patrol prior to the removal, destruction, or concealment of the number.

(2) At no time shall a vehicle that falls within the purview of WAC 308-56A-455 (**assembled** or **homemade**) or 308-56A-460 (total loss rebuilt) be considered remanufactured by a manufacturer.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.70.160. 04-16-090, § 308-66-225, filed 8/3/04, effective 9/3/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.70.160 and 1986 c 199 § 1. 87-01-016 (Order DLR 115), § 308-66-225, filed 12/9/86.]

WAC 308-96A-073 Antique vehicle -- Horseless carriage license plate. (1) **What is a horseless carriage license plate?** A **horseless carriage** license plate is a single license plate issued to a qualified motor vehicle owned by a collector as defined in RCW 46.04.125. It must be displayed on the rear of the vehicle for which it was issued.

(2) **What vehicles qualify for a horseless carriage license plate?** Any motor vehicle which is:

- (a) At least forty years old; and
- (b) Capable of being operated upon the highway; and
- (c) Currently registered in Washington; and
- (d) Operated primarily as a collector vehicle under RCW 46.16.307.

(3) **May I transfer my horseless carriage license plate to another antique vehicle?** No. **Horseless carriage** license plates are not transferrable to any other motor vehicle.

(4) **What additional fees are required to obtain a horseless carriage license plate?** In addition to all other license fees required by law, the applicant must pay a fee of thirty-five dollars for a **horseless carriage** license plate.

(5) **Are horseless carriage license plates subject to periodic replacement?** No, the **horseless carriage** license plates are exempt from the vehicle license plate replacement schedule and are valid for the life of the vehicle.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.16.305 and 46.01.110. 09-06-030, § 308-96A-073, filed 2/24/09, effective 3/27/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.16.335, 46.12.070, 46.16.276. 02-16-071, § 308-96A-073, filed 8/6/02, effective 9/6/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.16.335, 46.16.276. 01-10-069, § 308-96A-073, filed 4/30/01, effective 5/31/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110 and 46.16.335. 98-09-024, § 308-96A-073, filed 4/8/98, effective 5/9/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 97-07-014, § 308-96A-073, filed 3/11/97, effective 4/11/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110 and 46.12.070 [46.16.335]. 91-04-025, § 308-96A-073, filed 1/29/91, effective 3/1/91.]

WAC 308-96A-021 Replacement plates -- Requirements. (1) How do I obtain replacement plate(s) for my current Washington plate(s)?

You obtain replacement plate(s) by applying:

(a) Either in person; or

(b) By mail, to a Washington vehicle licensing office; or

(c) On-line through the department of licensing web page in conjunction with your registration renewal and seven-year replacement requirement.

(2) When do I need to replace my plate(s)?

You need to replace your plate(s) if:

(a) Your plate(s) are lost, destroyed, or mutilated. For an additional fee, you may replace them with the same number/letter combination as long as the plate meets a current approved license plate configuration and background; or

(b) Your plate(s) are stolen. You may not request the same number/letter combination (see the note at the end of this section); or

(c) The primary use of your vehicle has changed requiring new plate(s) designated for the new use of the vehicle. Example: A passenger car used to transport commodities, merchandise, produce, freight or animals for commercial purposes may be licensed as a commercial use truck; or

(d) Your vehicle license plates have reached the replacement cycle date established by this section by authority in RCW 46.16.233. For an additional fee, you may request the same number/letter combination as long as the plate meets a current approved license plate configuration and background.

(3) Who can apply for replacement plate(s)?

One of the registered owners must apply for replacement plate(s).

(4) What documentation do I need to apply for replacement plate(s)?

(a) If your plate(s) are lost, stolen (see note at end of this section), destroyed, or mutilated, you need to submit an affidavit of loss or letter of request describing the vehicle by Washington license plate or vehicle identification number. The affidavit of loss or letter of request must be signed by at least one of the registered owners. The registered owner's signature must be either notarized by a notary public or certified by an authorized employee of a Washington vehicle licensing office. A replacement plate fee will be charged. For an additional fee, the same number/letter combination may be requested as long as the plate meets a current approved license plate configuration and background.

(b) If the primary use of your vehicle has changed requiring new plate(s) designated for the new use of the vehicle, the department will replace the plate(s) without the affidavit of loss or letter of request. A new plate fee will be charged.

(5) What if the department issued incorrect plate(s) for my vehicle?

When incorrect plate(s) have been issued due to departmental error, the department will replace the plate(s) without the affidavit of loss or letter of request. No replacement plate fee will be charged in this case.

(6) What is the replacement cycle date for my license plate? The replacement cycle date for your license plate is seven years from the date the license plate(s) were issued. Notification will be included on the renewal notice when it is necessary to replace the license plates for a vehicle.

(7) **When I am required to replace special license plate(s) on a currently registered vehicle, will I receive the same license plate number/letter combination?** Yes, for an additional fee, if you are replacing license plates on a currently registered vehicle, your license plates will be replaced with the same number/letter combination as shown on the vehicle computer record as long as the plate meets a current approved license plate configuration and background.

(8) **What license plates are required to be replaced?** Vehicles that have license plates seven years or older that include:

- (a) Standard issue;
- (b) Collegiate;
- (c) HAM/MARS;
- (d) Personalized;
- (e) Ride share;
- (f) Disabled person;
- (g) Disabled veterans;
- (h) Pearl Harbor survivors;
- (i) Purple heart;
- (j) Stadium;
- (k) Square dancer;
- (l) Honorary Consular;
- (m) Former prisoner of war;
- (n) Commercial plates issued to vehicles with a declared gross weight 26,000 pounds or under;
- (o) Special plate series created after January 1, 2003.

(9) **What license plates are exempt from the replacement requirements?**

- (a) Prorated vehicles over 16,000 pounds licensed under chapter 46.87 RCW;
- (b) Commercial vehicles with declared gross weight over 26,000 pounds under RCW 46.16.233;
- (c) **Collector vehicle, horseless carriage vehicle and restored plates;**
- (d) Plates issued to government agencies with exempt use class; and
- (e) Medal of Honor license plates.

Note: If the license plate has been reported as stolen or if the department record indicates the vehicle has been stolen, the same number/letter combination will not be issued.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.16.135, 46.16.225, 46.16.490, 46.16.276. 04-08-079, § 308-96A-021, filed 4/6/04, effective 5/7/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 03-05-080, § 308-96A-021, filed 2/19/03, effective 3/22/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.16.135, 46.46.16.225 [46.16.225], 46.16.490 and 46.16.276. 98-19-075, § 308-96A-021, filed 9/21/98, effective 10/22/98.

Statutory Authority: RCW 46.16.600, 46.16.276 and 46.01.110. 87-12-023 (Order TL/RG-34), § 308-96A-021, filed 5/28/87.]

WAC 308-96A-065 Personalized license plates. (1) **What is a personalized license plate?** Personalized license plates are plates reflecting the registered owner's chosen format or designation and are limited to those described in RCW 46.16.560, 46.16.570 and 46.16.580.

(2) **Are there any restrictions on the use of letters and numbers on personalized license plates?** Personalized license plates may be issued with one to seven characters. Motorcycles and motorcycle trailers can have up to six characters. The letters "I" and "O" and the numbers "1" (one) and "0" (zero) may not be issued as single-digit plates.

(3) **When may the department deny an application for or cancel personalized plates?**

(a) The department may deny an application for personalized license plates or cancel personalized license plates previously issued if it determines the plate configuration to be:

- (i) Offensive to good taste and decency;
- (ii) Potentially misleading;
- (iii) Vulgar, profane or sexually suggestive in nature;
- (iv) A racial, ethnic, lifestyle or gender slur;
- (v) Related to alcohol or to illegal activities or substances;
- (vi) Blasphemous;
- (vii) Derogatory;
- (viii) Slanderous;
- (ix) A duplication of license plate or decal numbers provided in chapter 46.09, 46.10 or 46.16 RCW; or
- (x) The personalized message appears to replicate the standard configuration for a special license plate; or
- (xi) Contrary to the department's mission to promote highway safety.

(b) If the personalized license plates are canceled due to one or more reasons specified in subsection (3) of this section, the vehicle owner may:

- (i) Apply for a refund for the fee paid under RCW 46.16.585 and 46.16.606 for such license plates; or
- (ii) Instead of a refund, apply for and upon approval be issued personalized license plates with a different configuration without payment of additional personalized license plate fees.

(c) The department may cancel personalized license plates if they are:

- (i) Not renewed by the owner within forty-five days of the vehicle expiration; or
- (ii) Removed from a vehicle and not transferred to a replacement vehicle within thirty days; or
- (iii) Transferred to a new owner who does not make proper application for the plates within twenty-five days.

(4) **What special plates cannot be personalized?**

- (a) Medal of honor;
- (b) **Horseless carriage;**

- (c) **Restored**;
- (d) **Collector vehicle**;
- (e) Ham and Mars license plates;
- (f) Former prisoner of war;
- (g) Pearl Harbor survivor;
- (h) Disabled veteran;
- (i) Exempt license plates.

(5) If my registration for personalized license plates has elapsed, how do I get them reinstated or reissued?

(a) If you are an owner of a personalized license plate and do not renew it within forty-five days, you must reapply and pay the original personalized license plate fee in order to reinstate the plate.

(b) If you purchase a vehicle with a personalized plate and do not transfer the ownership of the personalized plate within twenty-five days, you forfeit ownership of the plate. The department will make that personalized plate available to the first applicant for that plate configuration.

(c) If you are the owner of a personalized license plate who does not transfer the plate as described in (b) of this subsection, you must reapply and pay the original personalized license plate fee in order to reinstate the plate.

(6) Can I transfer my personalized license plate? Yes, if you are the owner(s) of a vehicle with personalized license plates and sell, trade or otherwise transfer ownership of the vehicle, you may transfer the plates to another vehicle within thirty days; (the personalized license plates may be transferred at any vehicle licensing office or through a vehicle dealer if the owner wishes to transfer a plate to a dealer-purchased vehicle) or transfer the plates to a new owner. If the plates are transferred to a new owner, the current owner must provide the new owner with a notarized/certified release of interest for the plates. The new owner must make application to the department within twenty-five days, including payment of the original personalized license plate fee.

(7) How do I dispose of my personalized vehicle license plates?

(a) You may turn the plates in to the department with a notarized release of interest from the owner(s) relinquishing the right to that personalized license plate configuration; or

(b) If your vehicle has personalized license plates and is sold to a wrecker or you accept a total loss claim from your insurance company and you choose not to retain the salvage, you must either transfer the plates to another vehicle within thirty days or turn the plates in to the department with a notarized release of interest from all registered owner(s) relinquishing the right to that personalized license plate.

(8) Will I ever have to replace my personalized vehicle license plate? Yes, the personalized license plates are subject to the seven-year vehicle license plate replacement schedule.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 07-20-110, § 308-96A-065, filed 10/3/07, effective 11/3/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.16.335, 46.16.276. 01-10-069, § 308-96A-065, filed 4/30/01, effective 5/31/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110 and 46.16.335. 98-09-024, § 308-96A-065, filed 4/8/98, effective 5/9/98; 91-15-006, § 308-96A-065, filed 7/8/91, effective 8/8/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.16.276 and 46.16.600. 88-12-043 (Order TL/RG 41), § 308-96A-065, filed 5/27/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.16.600, 46.16.276 and 46.01.110. 87-12-023 (Order TL/RG-34), § 308-96A-065, filed 5/28/87. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110 and 46.16.600. 84-21-130 (Order TL/RG-9), § 308-96A-065, filed 10/24/84; Order MV-328, § 308-96A-065, filed 7/24/75.]

WAC 308-96A-074 Collector vehicle and restored license plates. (1) **What is a collector vehicle license plate?** For the purposes of this section a collector vehicle license plate is a special license plate indicating "**Collector Vehicle**." The smaller size collector vehicle license plate is available for motorcycles. **Collector vehicle** owners must conform to the rules under RCW 46.16.307.

(2) **What vehicles qualify for a collector vehicle license plate?** Any motor vehicle which is:

- (a) More than thirty years old; and
- (b) Capable of being operated upon the highway; and
- (c) Currently registered in Washington; and
- (d) Operated primarily as a collector vehicle.

(3) **How is a collector vehicle license plate to be displayed?** The **collector vehicle license plate** must be displayed on the rear of the vehicle for which it was issued. The collector vehicle license plate is not transferable to any other motor vehicle, but may stay with that vehicle upon transfer of ownership.

(4) **What additional fees are required to obtain a collector vehicle license plate?** In addition to all other license fees required by law, the applicant must pay an additional license fee of thirty-five dollars for this collector vehicle license plate.

(5) **Are collector vehicle license plate(s) required to be replaced under RCW 46.16.233?** No, the **collector vehicle license plates** are exempt from the periodic vehicle license plate replacement schedule.

(6) **What is a "restored license plate"?** A **restored license plate** is a Washington state issued license plate designated for general use in the year of the vehicle's manufacture. The restored license plate may not be a specialized license plate. The restored license plate may be used instead of a **collector vehicle** license plate or **horseless carriage license plate**. The license plate must be restored to such a condition that it may be identified with its year of issue. Reproductions of the original are not acceptable for use as a restored license plate.

(7) **How is a restored license plate to be displayed?** The owner must display a single plate on the rear of the vehicle. If the vehicle owner has two identical license plates, the second license plate may be displayed on the front of the vehicle or on another vehicle.

(8) **If I sell my vehicle may I keep my restored license plate?** Yes. The restored plate(s) may be reassigned to another qualifying vehicle.

(9) **May I replace my restored license plate with another restored license plate?** Yes, however, your vehicle record must be updated to reflect the new plate number before it is displayed on the vehicle.

(10) **What additional fees are required to have a restored license plate assigned to my vehicle?** In addition to all other title and license fees required by law, you must pay an additional license fee of thirty-five dollars for the **restored plate** to be assigned to your vehicle. At the time a restored plate is assigned to a vehicle, the department will require the certificate of ownership be submitted if that vehicle does not already have a "title purpose only" number.

(11) **Will I be able to apply for a refund of fees I have paid if I decide to change my restored use plate to a regular issue plate?** No. There is no provision in the law to issue a refund should you decide to change to a regular issue plate.

(12) **May I apply the fees I paid for my restored plate towards the purchase of regular issued plates?** No. Full fees must be paid for the new plates.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.16.135, 46.16.225, 46.16.490, 46.16.276. 04-08-079, § 308-96A-074, filed 4/6/04, effective 5/7/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.16.335, 46.12.070. 03-05-082, § 308-96A-074, filed 2/19/03, effective 3/22/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.16.335, 46.12.070, 46.16.276. 02-16-071, § 308-96A-074, filed 8/6/02, effective 9/6/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 46.16.335, 46.16.276. 01-10-069, § 308-96A-074, filed 4/30/01, effective 5/31/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110 and 46.16.335. 98-09-024, § 308-96A-074, filed 4/8/98, effective 5/9/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 97-07-014, § 308-96A-074, filed 3/11/97, effective 4/11/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110 and 46.12.070 [46.16.335]. 91-04-025, § 308-96A-074, filed 1/29/91, effective 3/1/91.]

WAC 308-96A-099 Use class descriptions. (1) Why does the department assign use classes to vehicles?

The department assigns use classes to:

- (a) Charge the proper license fees and taxes for vehicles;
- (b) Assign special brands on subsequent owner's certificate of ownership;
- (c) Apply certain restrictions on the use of the vehicles, which prints on the vehicle registrations;
- (d) Assign the proper license plates, tabs or decals.

(2) Under what authority does the department assign use classes to vehicles?

The department assigns use classes under the authority of RCW 46.16.040.

(3) What use classes does the department assign and when do they apply?

The use classes the department assigns are described below:

ABBREVIATION	TRANSLATION	DESCRIPTION
CAB	TAXI CAB	Motor vehicle used for carrying passengers between two points for compensation for an on-demand trip rather than a scheduled route. A vehicle with this use class may not carry any luggage or commodities that do not belong to a passenger being carried at the same time. In other words, the vehicle cannot just carry cargo between two points.
C/G	CONVERTER GEAR	Vehicle is an axle that is used to convert a semi-trailer to a full trailer. Converter gear is titled but not licensed.
CMB	COMBINATION	Vehicle is either (1) a power unit with a declared gross weight of 42,000 pounds or more and tows a trailer; or (2) a trailing unit with permanent plates. The trailer may be towed only by a power unit with a CMB, or FCB use class.
CMP	CAMPER	Is a slide-in pickup camper (not a canopy) as defined in RCW46.04.085. Even if the owner has chosen to permanently attach the camper to the pickup, the units need to be titled and licensed separately.
COM	COMMERCIAL	Motor vehicle either (1) a power unit that does not pull a trailer or that pulls a trailer but the declared gross weight for the truck and trailer does not exceed 40,000 pounds; or (2) a trailing unit that is titled in a business name (including the name of a farm). A commercial trailer may be towed by a vehicle with PAS, TRK, COM, CMB, FAR or FCB use classes. If the trailer is being towed by a vehicle with FAR or FCB use class, the use of the trailer (items carried, etc.,) must meet the farm use class requirements.
CYC	MOTORCYCLE	Is a motorcycle, motor driven cycle or scooter. A moped does not qualify to be licensed as a

		motorcycle as defined in RCW 46.04.330 and 46.04.332.
EX	EXEMPT	Can be any type of vehicle, which is owned by a city, county or state government agency or federally recognized Indian tribe located in the state of Washington. This includes school buses, which are owned or leased by school districts. If the school district contracts a company to provide total bus service, such as the bus, the driver and the maintenance, and the vehicle is registered in the name of the school district as registered owner, the vehicle qualifies for exempt license plates.
FAR	FARM	Motor vehicle is a truck (or tractor) used to transport the farmer's own farm, orchard or dairy products as defined in RCW 46.16.090, or aquatic products as defined in RCW 15.85.020, from point of production to market or warehouse. The vehicle may also be used to transport the farmer's own farm supplies.
FCB	FARM COMBINATION	Motor vehicle is (1) a power unit (not a trailer) with a declared gross weight of 42,000 pounds or more and towing a trailer; and (2) meets the criteria of FAR use class above.
FED	FEDERAL	Vehicle is owned by the federal government of the United States. Like exempt vehicles, this could be any type of vehicle. This does not include vehicles displaying license plates issued by the federal government.
FEX	FARM EXEMPT	Any motor vehicle used exclusively in agricultural pursuits on farms as defined in RCW 46.16.010(3) and 46.04.181.
FIX	FIXED LOAD	Motor vehicle as defined in RCW 46.16.070(1). These vehicles have a unique use class because they are exempt from the law requiring vehicles with a scale weight of more than six thousand pounds to have a declared gross weight of at least 150 percent of the scale weight. The basic license fee is based on the declared gross weight for these vehicles and should be equal to the scale weight, or the next higher gross weight increment. If the scale weight exceeds the maximum legal limit for that vehicle, the declared gross weight needs to be equal to or just lower than the legal limit. Fixed load vehicles' maximum legal limit may actually be less than their scale weight. An oversize permit is required in addition to the registration in these cases.
F/H	FOR HIRE	Motor vehicle is used to transport people and/or commodities for compensation as defined in RCW 46.72.010. A for hire permit from business and professions division (BPD) is required.
H/C	HORSELESS CARRIAGE	Motor vehicle 40 years old or older licensed with restricted use as defined in RCW 46.16.307.
H/D	HOUSE DOLLY	Vehicle constructed and used exclusively to move buildings or homes.
LOG	LOGGING	Vehicle is a truck or trailer used exclusively for

		hauling logs.
MEP	MEDIUM SPEED ELECTRIC PASSENGER VEHICLE	Medium speed electric vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.295.
MET	MEDIUM SPEED ELECTRIC TRUCK-TYPE VEHICLE	Medium speed electric vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.295 and 46.04.653. These vehicles are equipped with a truck-type bed.
MH	MOTOR HOME	Motorized vehicle designed for human habitation and defined in RCW 46.04.305
MOB	MOBILE HOME	A mobile or manufactured home as defined in RCW 46.04.302 is titled but generally not registered. This use class does not include park model trailers.
NEP	NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC PASSENGER VEHICLE	Neighborhood electric vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.357.
NET	NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC TRUCK-TYPE VEHICLE	Neighborhood electric vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.357 and 46.04.653. These vehicles are equipped with a truck-type bed.
ORV	OFF-ROAD VEHICLE	Vehicle is used off-road as defined in RCW 46.09.020. A vehicle licensed only as an ORV may not be operated on public roadways, including ocean beaches, unless authorized under RCW 46.09.180.
PAS	PASSENGER	Motor vehicle used to transport passengers as defined in RCW 46.04.382. Typically passenger cars, utility or multipurpose vehicles, passenger vans, and private buses are licensed as passenger vehicles.
PED	MOPED	Motor vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.304 and subject to the restrictions in RCW 46.61.710.
RES	RESTORED	Motor vehicles over 30 years old licensed with restricted use as defined in RCW 46.16.307. Vehicles with this use class may display license plates described in WAC 308-96A-074.
SCH	SCHOOL	Motor vehicle owned and operated by a private school meeting the accreditation requirements of RCW 28A.195.010. The vehicle is used to transport children to and from school or in connection with school activities.
SNO	SNOWMOBILE	Vehicle is a snowmobile as defined in RCW 46.10.010(2).
SNX	EXEMPT SNOWMOBILE	Vehicle is a snowmobile as defined in RCW 46.10.010(2) and owned by a city, county or state agency.
STA	STAGE	Motor vehicle used as an auto stage as defined in RCW 46.04.050.
TLR	TRAILER	Vehicle is a personal use trailer as defined in RCW 46.04.620. Trailers used by businesses or others for commercial purposes do not qualify for this use class.
TOW	TOW	Motor vehicle as defined in RCW 46.16.079 and 46.55.010(8). If the vehicle carries other vehicles, it does not qualify for the

		TOW use class and must be licensed as COM.
TRK	TRUCK	Motor vehicle is a personal use truck, with a declared gross weight of twelve thousand pounds or less. Trucks used for business or commercial purposes do not qualify for the TRK use class.
TVL	TRAVEL TRAILER	Vehicle is a travel trailer as defined in RCW 46.04.623, which includes park models and camp/tent trailers.

(4) Do all powered three-wheeled vehicles need to be licensed as motorcycles?

Yes, a three-wheeled vehicle needs to be licensed as a motorcycle for street use as defined in RCW 46.04.330 or 46.04.332.

(5) What license plates and use class will be assigned to my for hire vehicle?

The license plates and use class assigned to your for hire vehicle depends upon how you use your vehicle. All for hire vehicles transport passengers and commodities for compensation. For hire vehicles include cabulances, limousines, taxi cabs, and buses hauling passengers for compensation in addition to transporting school children. There are two use classes and license plate combinations assigned to for hire vehicles:

(a) CAB use class vehicles are assigned passenger license plates. These vehicles are used exclusively for transporting passengers and their possessions; and

(b) F/H use class vehicles are assigned truck license plates. These vehicles not only transport passengers for compensation, but also transport commodities, without passengers, for compensation.

(6) When may truck license plates be assigned to my passenger vehicle?

Truck license plates may be assigned to your passenger vehicle whenever the vehicle is used to transport commodities, produce, freight or animals for commercial purposes. The use class would be COM instead of PAS. This would require a title application, a scale weight slip and a certified/notarized statement of use describing how the vehicle will be used commercially.

(7) What use classes and license plates will be assigned to school buses?

(a) EX use class and county exempt license plates will be assigned to a school bus owned or leased by an exempt agency (school district);

(b) SCH use class and passenger license plates will be assigned to a school bus owned or leased by an accredited private school;

(c) F/H use class and truck license plates will be assigned to school buses used for transporting passengers for compensation and not used exclusively for transporting school children to and from school or school related activities;

(d) (PAS) passenger; or

(e) (COM) commercial.

(8) May I license my motorcycle or any other motor vehicle for both road and off road use?

Yes, you may license your motorcycle or any other motor vehicle for both uses as long as the vehicle qualifies for road use. You will receive two registration certificates showing the vehicle is licensed for both uses. However, the certificate of ownership will show the use class associated with the road use.

(9) May I license my truck, truck tractor or tractor as a motor home?

Yes, you may license your truck, truck tractor or tractor as a motor home if:

(a) The vehicle has been permanently altered to meet the definition of a motor home in RCW 46.04.305; and

(b) You certify the vehicle qualifies as M/H and will be used exclusively as a motor home for personal use and not for commercial use.

(10) Is my truck, truck tractor or tractor which I use exclusively for towing my travel trailer licensed differently than any other like truck?

No. Your truck, truck tractor or tractor used exclusively for towing your travel trailer must be licensed in accordance with RCW 46.16.070. Depending on scale weight the use class will be TRK or COM.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110. 10-19-062, § 308-96A-099, filed 9/14/10, effective 10/15/10; 07-22-091, § 308-96A-099, filed 11/6/07, effective 12/7/07; 01-12-099, § 308-96A-099, filed 6/6/01, effective 7/7/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 46.16.276, 43.17.060, 46.16.600 and 46.01.110. 99-06-029, § 308-96A-099, filed 2/24/99, effective 3/27/99.]

WAC 308-59-510 Vehicle fee -- Transportation benefit district -- Exemptions. The following vehicles are exempt from transportation benefit district vehicle fees imposed under chapter 82.80 RCW:

- (1) Vehicles with tax code 95 (vehicles taxed as personal property, such as mobile homes);
- (2) Vehicles with the following use classes:
 - (a) C/G (converter gear);
 - (b) CMB (combination nonpowered);
 - (c) CMP (campers);
 - (d) COM (commercial nonpowered);
 - (e) EX (exempt);
 - (f) FAR (farm);
 - (g) FCB (farm combination);
 - (h) FED (federally owned);
 - (i) FEX (farm exempt);
 - (j) H/C (horseless carriage);
 - (k) H/D (house moving dolly);
 - (l) LOG (if nonpowered and used exclusively for hauling logs under RCW 46.16.085);
 - (m) MOB (mobile home);
 - (n) PED (moped);
 - (o) ORV (off road vehicle);
- (p) RES (restored and collector vehicles);
- (q) SCH (private school);
- (r) SNO (snowmobile);
- (s) SNX (exempt snowmobile);
- (t) TLR (personal use single axle and less than two thousand pounds scale weight); or
- (u) TOW (tow trucks);
- (3) Vehicles registered under WAC 308-96A-050, (nonresident members of the armed forces);
- (4) Vehicles registered under WAC 308-96A-400, (Indian tribes and tribal members);
- (5) Vehicles registered under WAC 308-96A-046, (disabled American veterans or former prisoner of war);
- (6) Vehicles registered under WAC 308-96A-180, (rental cars);
- (7) Passenger motor vehicles registered under WAC 308-96A-175 and 308-96A-176, (ride-sharing and transportation needs ride-sharing vehicles);
- (8) Vehicles registered under WAC 308-96A-062, (Transfer or destruction of honorary consul special license plates); and
- (9) Vehicles registered under RCW 46.16.305, (Medal of Honor recipients).

WAC 308-56A-210 Ownership in doubt -- Bonded title or three-year registration without title.

(1) **What is ownership in doubt?** Ownership in doubt is when a vehicle owner(s) is unable to obtain satisfactory evidence of ownership or releases of interest as described in WAC 308-56A-265.

(2) **What options are available in an ownership in doubt situation?** When in an ownership in doubt situation, the owner may:

(a) Apply for three-year registration without title; or

(b) Apply for a **bonded title** described in RCW 46.12.151; or

(c) Petition any district or superior court of any county of this state to receive a judgment awarding ownership of the vehicle. This is required if ownership of the vehicle is contested after the applicant makes application for ownership in doubt and before the three-year ownership in doubt period has lapsed.

(3) **What documents are required when applying for a bonded title or three-year registration without title?** Required documents when applying for a **bonded title** or three-year registration include:

(a) The originals or copies of letters sent by registered or certified mail to the registered and legal owners of record, including the return receipt. The letters must include information regarding the applicant's claim to ownership and a request for the released certificate of ownership (title) or a notarized or certified release of interest.

(i) Registered and legal owner information will be released under WAC 308-56A-090 for applications needing that information.

(ii) If there is no Washington record, (a) of this subsection does not apply.

(iii) If the owners of record do not respond before submitting their application, the applicant must wait fifteen days from acknowledged receipt of the letter.

(iv) If the letter is returned unclaimed, the applicant must submit the letter, unopened, with the application.

(b) A **bonded title** or a three-year registration without title affidavit completed by the applicant and signed by all persons to be shown as a registered owner.

(c) Washington state patrol inspection, unless the vehicle is specifically exempt under subsection (4) of this section. For vehicles exempt from the Washington state patrol inspection under subsection (4) of this section, the following documents are also required:

(i) A **bonded title** or three-year registration without title affidavit for vehicles exempt from the Washington state patrol inspection completed and signed by a person to be shown as a registered owner; and

(ii) A legible etching or photograph of the VIN as proof of the VIN.

(d) Application for certificate of ownership (title).

(e) A bond as described in RCW 46.12.151, if the applicant is applying for a **bonded title**.

(f) Other documents that may be required by law or rule.

(4) **Are there exemptions from the Washington state patrol inspection?** Yes.

(a) Certain vehicles are exempt from the Washington state patrol inspection if:

(i) There is a Washington record; or

(ii) There is no Washington record, but the vehicle owner has a title or registration certificate issued by Washington or another jurisdiction.

(b) Vehicles exempt from the Washington state patrol inspection include:

(i) Mopeds;

(ii) Trailers with a scale weight less than two thousand pounds;

(iii) Not eligible for road use (NEFRU) vehicles as defined in WAC 308-56A-500 when the model year is ten years old or older;

(iv) Travel trailers and park model trailers when the model year is ten years old and older;

(v) Campers when the model year is ten years old and older;

(vi) Manufactured and mobile homes are exempt at all times.

(5) **When is a bond required?** A bond is required in ownership in doubt situations when:

(a) The applicant is a Washington state licensed vehicle dealer; or

(b) The Washington record shows there is an existing lien.

(6) **How is a vehicle value determined for filing a bond?** Vehicle value may be determined from one of the following sources:

(a) The department's automated valuing system; or

(b) A published appraisal guide; or

(c) Appraisal from a licensed vehicle dealer or appraisal company. The appraisal must be on company letterhead and have the business card attached; or

(d) Insured amount; or

(e) Consideration or payment plus estimated repairs by a bona fide mechanic; or

(f) Other valuing sources approved by the department.

(7) **May I transfer ownership on a vehicle with a bonded title or three-year registration without title?** Yes.

(a) Owners releasing interest in a vehicle with a **bonded title** or three-year registration without title must provide a release of interest described in WAC 308-56A-265;

(b) The new owners must submit an application for title as described in this chapter and complete the time remaining on the current ownership in doubt period.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 46.01.110, 07-13-082, § 308-56A-210, filed 6/19/07, effective 7/20/07; 06-22-025, § 308-56A-210, filed 10/25/06, effective 11/25/06; 03-05-081, § 308-56A-210, filed 2/19/03, effective 3/22/03; 99-01-014, § 308-56A-210, filed 12/7/98, effective 1/7/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 42.17.250(1), 46.01.110, 46.12.151 and 46.12.380 . 96-03-047, § 308-56A-210, filed 1/11/96, effective 2/11/96; Order MV 208, § 308-56A-210, filed 7/31/74.]

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*** STATUTES CURRENT THROUGH THE 2016 REGULAR AND 1ST SPECIAL SESSIONS. ***
*** ANNOTATIONS CURRENT THROUGH MAY 24, 2016. ***
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.04. DEFINITIONS

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.04.199 (2016)

§ **46.04.199**. Horseless carriage license plate. (Effective July 1, 2011.)

"**Horseless carriage** license plate" is a special license plate that may be assigned to a vehicle that is more than forty years old.

HISTORY: [2016 c 161 § 120](#).

NOTES: EDITOR'S NOTES.

Pursuant to [2010 c 161 § 1238](#), this section is effective July 1, 2011, and has been temporarily assigned and given a temporary heading by the publisher, pending permanent assignment by the Reviser; until then, please refer to it by its session law citation, [2010 c 161 § 120](#).

USER NOTE: For more generally applicable notes, see notes under the first section of this heading, part, article, chapter or title.

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*** STATUTES CURRENT THROUGH THE 2016 REGULAR AND 1ST SPECIAL SESSIONS. ***
*** ANNOTATIONS CURRENT THROUGH MAY 24, 2016. ***

TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES

CHAPTER 46.97. VEHICLE AND VESSEL TITLE AND REGISTRATION STATUTES -- REORGANIZATION

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.18.255 (2016)

§ 46.18.255. **Horseless carriage** license plates. (Effective July 1, 2011.)

(1) A registered owner may apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a **horseless carriage** license plate for a motor vehicle that is at least forty years old. The motor vehicle must be operated primarily as a collector vehicle and be in good running order. The applicant for the **horseless carriage** license plate shall:

(a) Purchase a registration for the motor vehicle as required under chapters 46.16 and 46.17 RCW; and

(b) Pay the special license plate fee established under section 521(1)(i) of this act, in addition to any other fees or taxes required by law.

(2) **Horseless carriage** license plates:

(a) Are valid for the life of the motor vehicle;

(b) Are not required to be renewed;

(c) Are not transferrable to any other motor vehicle; and

(d) Must be displayed on the rear of the motor vehicle.

HISTORY: 2010 c 161 § 623.

Notes:

*Reviser's note: Although directed to be recodified within chapter 46.16 RCW pursuant to chapter 161, Laws of 2010, a majority of chapter 46.16 RCW was recodified under chapter 46.16A RCW pursuant to RCW 1.08.015 (2)(k) and (3).

Effective date -- Intent -- Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session -- 2010 c 161: See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

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*** STATUTES CURRENT THROUGH THE 2016 REGULAR AND 1ST SPECIAL SESSIONS. ***
*** ANNOTATIONS CURRENT THROUGH MAY 24, 2016. ***
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.16. VEHICLE LICENSES

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.16A.200 (2016)

§ 46.16A.200. License Plates. (Effective July 1, 2011.)

(1) **Design.** All license plates may be obtained by the director from the metal working plant of a state correctional facility or from any source in accordance with existing state of Washington purchasing procedures. License plates:

- (a) May vary in background, color, and design;
- (b) Must be legible and clearly identifiable as a Washington state license plate;
- (c) Must designate the name of the state of Washington without abbreviation;
- (d) Must be treated with fully reflectorized materials designed to increase visibility and legibility at night;
- (e) Must be of a size and color and show the registration period as determined by the director; and
- (f) May display a symbol or artwork approved by the special license plate review board and the legislature.

(2) **Exceptions to reflectorized materials.** License plates issued before January 1, 1968, are not required to be treated with reflectorized materials.

(3) **Dealer license plates.** License plates issued to a dealer must contain an indication that the license plates have been issued to a vehicle dealer.

(4)(a) **Furnished.** The director shall furnish to all persons making satisfactory application for a vehicle registration:

- (i) Two identical license plates each containing the license plate number; or
- (ii) One license plate if the vehicle is a trailer, semitrailer, camper, moped, collector vehicle, **horseless carriage**, or motorcycle.

(b) The director may adopt types of license plates to be used as long as the license plates are legible.

(5)(a) **Display.** License plates must be:

- (i) Attached conspicuously at the front and rear of each vehicle if two license plates have been issued;
- (ii) Attached to the rear of the vehicle if one license plate has been issued;
- (iii) Kept clean and be able to be plainly seen and read at all times; and
- (iv) Attached in a horizontal position at a distance of not more than four feet from the ground.

(b) The Washington state patrol may grant exceptions to this subsection if the body construction of the vehicle makes compliance with this section impossible.

(6) **Change of license classification.** A person who has altered a vehicle that makes the current license plate or plates invalid for the vehicle's use shall:

(a) Surrender the current license plate or plates to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director;

(b) Apply for a new license plate or plates; and

(c) Pay a change of classification fee required under RCW 46.17.310.

(7) **Unlawful acts.** It is unlawful to:

(a) Display a license plate or plates on the front or rear of any vehicle that were not issued by the director for the vehicle;

(b) Display a license plate or plates on any vehicle that have been changed, altered, or disfigured, or have become illegible;

(c) Use holders, frames, or other materials that change, alter, or make a license plate or plates illegible. License plate frames may be used on license plates only if the frames do not obscure license tabs or identifying letters or numbers on the plates and the license plates can be plainly seen and read at all times;

(d) Operate a vehicle unless a valid license plate or plates are attached as required under this section;

(e) Transfer a license plate or plates issued under this chapter between two or more vehicles without first making application to transfer the license plates. A violation of this subsection (7)(e) is a traffic infraction subject to a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars. Any law enforcement agency that determines that a license plate or plates have been transferred between two or more vehicles shall confiscate the license plate or plates and return them to the department for nullification along with full details of the reasons for confiscation. Each vehicle identified in the transfer will be issued a new license plate or plates upon application by the owner or owners and the payment of full fees and taxes; or

(f) Fail, neglect, or refuse to endorse the registration certificate and deliver the license plate or plates to the purchaser or transferee of the vehicle, except as authorized under this section.

(8) **Transfer.** (a) Standard issue license plates follow the vehicle when ownership of the vehicle changes unless the registered owner wishes to retain the license plates and transfer them to a replacement vehicle of the same use. A registered owner wishing to keep standard issue license plates shall pay the license plate transfer fee required under RCW 46.17.200(1)(c) when applying for license plate transfer.

(b) Special license plates may be treated in the same manner as described in (a) of this subsection unless otherwise limited by law.

(c) License plates issued to the state or any county, city, town, school district, or other political subdivision entitled to exemption as provided by law may be treated in the same manner as described in (a) of this subsection.

(9) **Replacement.** (a) An owner or the owner's authorized representative shall apply for a replacement license plate or plates if the current license plate or plates assigned to the vehicle have been lost, defaced, or destroyed, or if one or both plates have become so illegible or are in such a condition as to be difficult to distinguish. An owner or the owner's authorized representative may apply for a replacement license plate or plates at any time the owner chooses.

(b) The application for a replacement license plate or plates must:

(i) Be on a form furnished or approved by the director; and

(ii) Be accompanied by the fee required under RCW 46.17.200(1)(a).

(c) The department shall not require the payment of any fee to replace a license plate or plates for vehicles owned, rented, or leased by foreign countries or international bodies to which the United States government is a signatory by treaty.

(10)(a) **Periodic replacement.** License plates must be replaced periodically to ensure maximum legibility and reflectivity. The department shall:

(i) Use empirical studies documenting the longevity of the reflective materials used to make license plates;

(ii) Determine how frequently license plates must be replaced; and

(iii) Offer to owners the option of retaining the current license plate number when obtaining replacement license plates for the fee required in RCW 46.17.200(1)(b).

(b) Commercial motor vehicles with a gross weight in excess of twenty-six thousand pounds are exempt from periodic license plate replacement.

(11) **Periodic replacement -- Exceptions.** The following license plates are not required to be periodically replaced as required in subsection (10) of this section:

(a) **Horseless carriage** license plates issued under RCW 46.18.255 before January 1, 1987;

(b) Congressional Medal of Honor license plates issued under RCW 46.18.230;

(c) License plates for commercial motor vehicles with a gross weight greater than twenty-six thousand pounds.

(12) **Rules.** The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

(13) **Tabs or emblems.** The director may issue tabs or emblems to be attached to license plates or elsewhere on the vehicle to signify initial registration and renewals. Renewals become effective when tabs or emblems have been issued and properly displayed on license plates.

[2016 c 161 § 422.]

NOTES:

Effective date -- Intent -- Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2016 and other amendments made during the 2016 legislative session -- 2016 c 161: See notes following RCW46.04.013.

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*** STATUTES CURRENT THROUGH THE 2010 REGULAR AND 1ST SPECIAL SESSIONS. ***
*** ANNOTATIONS CURRENT THROUGH MAY 24, 2010. ***

TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.17. VEHICLE WEIGHT FEES

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.17.220 (2016)

- § 46.17.220. Special license plate fees. (Effective July 1, 2011.)

(1) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon application for a vehicle registration in chapter 46.16A RCW, the holder of a special license plate shall pay the appropriate special license plate fee as listed in this section.

-

PLATE TYPE	INITIAL FEE	RENEWAL FEE	DISTRIBUTED UNDER
(a) 4-H	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(b) Amateur radio license	\$5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
(c) Armed forces	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(d) Baseball stadium	\$40.00	\$30.00	Subsection (2) of this section
(e) Breast cancer awareness	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(f) Collector vehicle	\$35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(g) Collegiate	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.430
(h) Endangered wildlife	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(i) Gonzaga University alumni association	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420

(j) Helping kids speak	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(k) Horseless carriage	\$35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(l) Keep kids safe	\$45.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(m) Law enforcement memorial	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(n) Military affiliate radio system	\$5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
(o) Music matters	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(p) Professional firefighters and paramedics	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(q) Ride share	\$25.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(r) Seattle Seahawks	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(s) Seattle Sounders FC	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(t) Seattle University	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(u) Share the road	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(v) Ski & ride Washington	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(w) Square dancer	\$40.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
(x) State flower	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(y) Volunteer firefighters	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420

(z) Washington lighthouses	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(aa) Washington state parks	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(bb) Washington tennis	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(cc) Washington's national parks	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(dd) Washington's wildlife collection	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(ee) We love our pets	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(ff) Wild on Washington	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.425

- **(2)** After deducting administration and collection expenses for the sale of baseball stadium license plates, the remaining proceeds must be distributed to a county for the purpose of paying the principal and interest payments on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium, as defined in [RCW 82.14.0485](#), including reasonably necessary preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under [RCW 82.14.360](#). After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds to the state general fund.

[2016 c 161 § 521.]

NOTES:

***Reviser's note:** Although directed to be recodified within chapter [46.16](#) RCW pursuant to chapter 161, Laws of 2016, a majority of chapter [46.16](#) RCW was recodified under chapter [46.16A](#) RCW pursuant to RCW [1.08.015](#) (2)(k) and (3).

Effective date -- Intent -- Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2016 and other amendments made during the 2016 legislative session -- 2016 c 161: See notes following RCW [46.04.013](#).

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*** STATUTES CURRENT THROUGH THE 2016 REGULAR AND 1ST SPECIAL SESSIONS. ***
*** ANNOTATIONS CURRENT THROUGH MAY 24, 2016. ***

TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES

CHAPTER 46.97. VEHICLE AND VESSEL TITLE AND REGISTRATION STATUTES -- REORGANIZATION

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.18.277 (2016)

- § 46.18.277. Personalized special license plates. (Effective July 1, 2011.)
 - (1) A registered owner may purchase personalized license plates with a special license plate background for any vehicle required to display one or two vehicle license plates, excluding:
 - (a) Amateur radio license plates;
 - (b) Collector vehicle license plates;
 - (c) Disabled American veteran license plates;
 - (d) Former prisoner of war license plates;
 - (e) Horseless carriage license plates;
 - (f) Medal of Honor license plates;
 - (g) Military affiliate radio system license plates;
 - (h) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates;
 - (i) Restored license plates; and
 - (j) Vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW.
 - (2) Personalized special license plates issued under this section must:
 - (a) Consist of numbers or letters or any combination of numbers or letters;
 - (b) Not exceed seven characters; and
 - (c) Not contain less than one character.
 - (3) The department may not issue or may refuse to issue personalized special license plates that:
 - (a) Duplicate or conflict with existing or projected vehicle license plate series or other numbering systems for records kept by the department; or
 - (b) May carry connotations offensive to good taste and decency or which would be misleading.
 - (4) Personalized special license plates must be issued only to the registered owner of the vehicle on which they are to be displayed. The registered owner must:
 - (a) Pay both the personalized license plate fee required under [RCW 46.17.210](#) and the special license plate fee required under the applicable special license plate provision, in addition to any other fee or taxes due. License plate fees must be distributed as provided in chapter 46.68 RCW;
 - (b) Renew personalized special license plates annually, regardless of whether or not the vehicle on which the personalized special license plates are displayed will be driven on the public highways;
 - (c) Surrender personalized special license plates that have not been renewed to the department. The failure to surrender expired personalized special license plates is a traffic infraction; and
 - (d) Immediately report to the department when personalized special license plates have been transferred to another vehicle or another owner.
 - (5) The department may establish rules as necessary to carry out this section including, but not limited to, identifying the maximum number of positions on personalized special license plates for motorcycles.

HISTORY: 2016 c 161 § 627.

NOTES: EDITOR'S NOTES.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
*** STATUTES CURRENT THROUGH THE 2016 REGULAR AND SPECIAL SESSIONS SECTIONS ***
*** EFFECTIVE THROUGH, 2016 ***
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.04. DEFINITIONS

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.04.125 (2016)

§ 46.04.125. Collector (Effective July 1, 2011.)

"Collector" means the owner of one or more vehicles described in RCW [46.18.220](#)(1) who collects, purchases, acquires, trades, or disposes of the vehicle or parts of it, for his or her personal use, in order to preserve, restore, and maintain the vehicle for hobby or historical purposes.

HISTORY: 2016 c 161 § 108; 1996 c 225 § 2.

NOTES:

Effective date -- Intent -- Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2016 and other amendments made during the 2016 legislative session -- 2016 c 161: See notes following RCW[46.04.013](#).

Finding -- 1996 c 225: "The legislature finds and declares that constructive leisure pursuits by Washington citizens is most important. This act is intended to encourage responsible participation in the hobby of collecting, preserving, restoring, and maintaining motor vehicles of historic and special interest, which hobby contributes to the enjoyment of the citizens and the preservation of Washington's automotive memorabilia." [1996 c 225 § 1.]

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON

TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.04. DEFINITIONS

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.04.126

§ 46.04.126. **Collector vehicle**

“Collector vehicle” means any motor vehicle or travel trailer that is at least thirty years old.

HISTORY: [2009 c 142 § 2](#).

NOTES: EDITOR'S NOTES.

Pursuant to [Wa. Const., Art. II, § 41](#), this section took effect July 26, 2009.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.04. DEFINITIONS

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.04.1261 (2016)

§ 46.04.1261. **Collector vehicle** license plate (Effective July 1, 2011.)

"**Collector vehicle** license plate" means a special license plate that may be assigned to a vehicle that is more than thirty years old.

HISTORY: 2016 c 161 § 109.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.18. SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.18.220 (2016)

§ 46.18.220. **Collector vehicle** license plates (Effective July 1, 2011.)

(1) A registered owner may apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a collector vehicle license plate for a motor vehicle or travel trailer that is at least thirty years old. The motor vehicle must be operated primarily as a collector vehicle and be in good running order. The applicant for the collector vehicle license plate shall:

(a) Purchase a registration for the motor vehicle or travel trailer as required under chapters 46.16A and 46.17 RCW; and

(b) Pay the special license plate fee established under RCW 46.17.220(1)(f), in addition to any other fees or taxes required by law.

(2) A person applying for a collector vehicle license plate may:

(a) Receive a collector vehicle license plate assigned by the department; or

(b) Provide an actual Washington state issued license plate designated for general use in the year of the vehicle's manufacture.

(3) Collector vehicle license plates:

(a) Are valid for the life of the motor vehicle or travel trailer;

(b) Are not required to be renewed; and

(c) Must be displayed on the rear of the motor vehicle or travel trailer.

(4) A collector vehicle registered under this section may only be used for participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and occasional pleasure driving.

(5) Collector vehicle license plates under subsection (2)(b) of this section may be transferred from one vehicle to another vehicle described in subsection (1) of this section upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director.

(6) Any person who knowingly provides a false or facsimile license plate under subsection (2)(b) of this section is subject to a traffic infraction and fine in an amount equal to the monetary penalty for a violation of RCW 46.16A.200(7)(b). Additionally, the person must pay for the cost of a collector vehicle license plate as listed in RCW 46.17.220(1)(f), unless already paid.

HISTORY: 2016 c 161 § 617.

Notes:

*Reviser's note: Although directed to be recodified within chapter 46.16 RCW pursuant to chapter 161, Laws of 2016, a majority of chapter 46.16 RCW was recodified under chapter 46.16A RCW pursuant to RCW 1.08.015 (2)(k) and (3).

Effective date -- Intent -- Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2016 and other amendments made during the 2016 legislative session -- 2016 c 161: See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.04. DEFINITIONS

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.04.3815 (2016)

§ 46.04.3815. Parts car
[Repealed.]

Repealed by 2011 c 114 § 10, effective October 1, 2011.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.04. DEFINITIONS

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.04.571 (2016)

§ 46.04.571. **Street rod** vehicle

[Repealed.]

Repealed by 2011 c 114 § 10, effective October 1, 2011.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.12. CERTIFICATES OF OWNERSHIP AND REGISTRATION

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.12.420 (2016)

RCW 46.12.710 Street rod vehicles. (Effective July 1, 2011.)

- Transferred

Notes

Editor's Notes.

[2016 c 161 § 1212](#), effective July 1, 2011, recodified [RCW 46.12.420](#) to [RCW 46.12.710](#).

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*** STATUTES CURRENT THROUGH THE 2016 REGULAR AND SPECIAL SESSIONS SECTIONS ***
*** EFFECTIVE THROUGH APRIL 30, 2016 ***
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.04. DEFINITIONS

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.04.251 (2016)

§ 46.04.251. **Kit vehicle**

"**Kit vehicle**" means a passenger **car** or light **truck assembled** from a manufactured kit, and is either (1) a complete kit consisting of a prefabricated body and chassis used to construct a new **vehicle**, or (2) a **kit** consisting of a prefabricated body to be mounted on an existing vehicle chassis and drive train, commonly referred to as a donor vehicle.

HISTORY: [1996 c 225 § 5](#).

NOTES: FINDING -- [1996 C 225](#): See note following [RCW 46.04.125](#).

TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.519 (2016)

§ 46.37.519. **Kit vehicles**

(1) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "**Kit vehicle**" means a passenger **car** or light **truck assembled** from a manufactured kit, and is either (i) a kit consisting of a prefabricated body and chassis used to construct a complete **vehicle**, or (ii) a **kit** consisting of a prefabricated body to be mounted on an existing vehicle chassis and drive train, commonly referred to as a donor **vehicle**. "**Kit vehicle**" does not include a **vehicle that has been assembled** by a manufacturer.

(b) "Major component part" includes at least each of the following vehicle parts: (i) Engines and short blocks; (ii) frame; (iii) transmission or transfer case; (iv) cab; (v) door; (vi) front or rear differential; (vii) front or rear clip; (viii) quarter panel; (ix) truck bed or box; (x) seat; (xi) hood; (xii) bumper; (xiii) fender; and (xiv) airbag.

(2) A **kit vehicle** must, prior to inspection, contain the following components:

(a) Brakes on all wheels. The service brakes, upon application, must be capable of stopping the vehicle within a twelve-foot lane and (i) developing an average tire to road retardation force of not less than 52.8 percent of the gross vehicle weight, (ii) decelerating the vehicle at a rate of not less than seventeen feet per second, or (iii) stopping the vehicle within a distance of twenty-five feet from a speed of twenty miles per hour. Tests must be made on a level, dry, concrete or asphalt surface free from loose material;

(b) Brake hoses that comply with [49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.106](#);

(c) Brake fluids that comply with [49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.119](#);

(d) A parking brake that must operate on at least two wheels on the same axle, and when applied, must be capable of holding the vehicle on any grade on which the vehicle is operated. The parking brake must be separately actuated so that failure of any part of the service brake actuation system will not diminish the vehicle's parking brake holding capability;

(e) Lighting equipment that complies with [49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.108](#);

(f) Pneumatic tires that comply with [49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.109](#);

(g) Glazing material that complies with [49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.205](#). The driver must be provided with a windshield and side windows or opening that allows an outward horizontal vision capability, ninety degrees each side of a vertical plane passing through the fore and aft centerline of the vehicle. This range of vision must not be interrupted by window framing not exceeding four inches in width at each side location;

(h) Seat belt assemblies that comply with [49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.209](#);

(i) Defroster and defogging devices capable of defogging and defrosting the windshield area, except **vehicles** or exact **replicas of vehicles** manufactured prior to January 1938 are exempt from this requirement;

(j) Door latches that firmly and automatically secure the door when pushed closed and that allow each door to be opened both from the inside and outside, if the vehicle is enclosed with side doors leading directly into a compartment that contains one or more seating accommodations;

(k) A floor plan that is capable of supporting the weight of the number of occupants that the vehicle is designed to carry;

(l) If an enclosed **kit vehicle** powered by an internal combustion engine, a passenger compartment that must be constructed to prevent the entry of exhaust fumes into the passenger compartment;

(m) Fenders that must be installed on all wheels and cover the entire tread width that comes in contact with the road surface. Coverage of the tire tread circumference must be from at least fifteen degrees in front and to at least seventy-five degrees to the rear of the vertical centerline at each wheel measured from the center of the wheel rotation. The tire must not come in contact with the body, fender, chassis, or suspension of the **vehicle**. **Kit vehicles** that are more than forty years old and are owned and operated primarily as collector's vehicles are exempt from this fender requirement if the vehicle is used and driven during fair weather on well-maintained, hard-surfaced roads;

(n) A speedometer that is calibrated to indicate miles per hour, and may also indicate kilometers per hour;

(o) Mirrors as outlined in [RCW 46.37.400](#). Mirror mountings must provide for mirror adjustment by tilting both horizontally and vertically;

(p) An accelerator control system that, in accordance with [49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.124](#), contains a double spring that returns engine throttle to an idle position when the driver removes the actuating force from the accelerator control. The geometry of the throttle linkage must be designed so that the throttle will not lock in an open position. A vehicle equipped with cruise control is exempt when the cruise control is actuated;

(q) A fuel system that, in accordance with [49 C.F.R. Secs. 571.301](#) and [571.302](#), is securely fastened to the vehicle so as not to interfere with the vehicle's operation. The components, such as tank, tubing, hoses, and pump, must be of leak proof design and be securely attached with fasteners designed for that purpose. All fuel system vent lines must extend outside of the passenger compartment and be positioned as not to be in contact with the high temperature surfaces or moving components. If the vehicle is fueled using alternative measures, it must be installed in accordance with any applicable standards set by the United States department of transportation;

(r) A steering wheel as outlined in [RCW 46.37.375](#) and [WAC 204-10-034](#);

(s) A suspension as outlined in [WAC 204-10-036](#);

(t) An exhaust system as outlined in [WAC 204-10-038](#); and

(u) A horn that is capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than two hundred feet. The horn or another warning device must not emit an unreasonably loud or harsh sound or whistle. A bell or siren must not be used as a warning device. The device used to actuate the horn must be easily accessible to the driver when operating the **vehicle**.

(3) A **kit vehicle** may also be equipped with hoods and bumpers. If this equipment is present, it must meet the following requirements:

(a) Hood latches must be equipped with a primary and secondary latching system to hold the hood in a closed position if the hood is a front opening hood; and

(b) Bumpers must be 4.5 inches in vertical height, centered on the vehicle's centerline, and extend no less than the width of the respective wheel track distances. Bumpers must be horizontal load veering and attach to the frame to effectively transfer energy when impacted. The bumper must be installed in accordance with the bumper heights outlined in [WAC 204-10-022](#).

HISTORY: [2009 c 284 § 3](#).

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.12.560 (2016)

§ 46.12.560 Inspection by state patrol or other authorized inspector. (Effective July 1, 2011.)

(1)(a) Before accepting an application for a certificate of title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require an applicant to provide a certificate of vehicle inspection completed by the Washington state patrol or other authorized inspector if the vehicle:

- (i) Was declared a total loss or salvage vehicle under the laws of this state;
- (ii) Has been rebuilt after the certificate of title was returned to the department under RCW 46.12.600 and the vehicle was not kept by the registered owner at the time of the vehicle's destruction or declaration as a total loss; or
- (iii) Is presented with documents from another state showing that the vehicle was a total loss or salvage vehicle and has not been reissued a valid registration certificate from that state after the declaration of total loss or salvage.

(b) A vehicle presented for inspection must have all damaged major component parts replaced or repaired to meet all requirements in law and rule before the Washington state patrol will inspect the vehicle. The inspection must verify that the vehicle identification number is genuine and agrees with the number shown on the certificate of title and registration certificate.

(c) A Washington state patrol vehicle identification number specialist must ensure that all major component parts used for the reconstruction of a salvage or rebuilt vehicle were obtained legally, and must securely attach a marking at the driver's door latch pillar indicating the vehicle was previously destroyed or declared a total loss. It is a class C felony for a person to remove the marking indicating that the vehicle was previously destroyed or declared a total loss.

(2) A person presenting a vehicle for inspection under subsection (1) of this section must provide original invoices for new and used parts from:

(a) A vendor that is registered with the department of revenue or a comparable agency in the jurisdiction where the major component parts were purchased for the collection of retail sales or use taxes. The invoices must include:

(i) The name and address of the business;

(ii) A description of the part or parts sold;

(iii) The date of sale; and

(iv) The amount of sale to include all taxes paid unless exempted by the department of revenue or a comparable agency in the jurisdiction where the major component parts were purchased;

(b) A vehicle wrecker licensed under chapter 46.80 RCW or a comparable business in the jurisdiction outside Washington state where the major component part was purchased; and

(c) Private individuals. The private individual must have the certificate of title to the vehicle where the parts were taken from unless the parts were obtained from a parts car owned by a collector. Bills of sale for parts must be notarized and include:

(i) The names and addresses of the sellers and purchasers;

(ii) A description of the vehicle and the part or parts being sold, including the make, model, year, and identification or serial number;

(iii) The date of sale; and

(iv) The purchase price of the vehicle part or parts.

(3) A person presenting a vehicle for inspection under this section who is unable to provide an acceptable release of interest or proof of ownership for a vehicle or major component part as described in this section shall apply for an ownership in doubt application described in RCW 46.12.680.

(4)

(a) Before accepting an application for a certificate of title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require an applicant to provide a certificate of vehicle inspection completed by the Washington state patrol or other authorized inspector when the application is for a vehicle being titled for the first time as:

(i) Assembled;

(ii) Glider kit;

(iii) Homemade;

(iv) Kit vehicle;

(v) Street rod vehicle;

(vi) Custom vehicle; or

(vii) Subject to ownership in doubt under RCW 46.12.680.

(b) The inspection must verify that the vehicle identification number is genuine and agrees with the number shown on the certificate of title and registration certificate.

(5)

(a) Before accepting an application for a certificate of title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require an applicant to provide a certificate of vehicle inspection completed by the Washington state patrol when the application is for a vehicle with a vehicle identification number that has been:

(i) Altered;

(ii) Defaced;

(iii) Obliterated;

(iv) Omitted;

(v) Removed; or

(vi) Otherwise absent.

- (b) The application must include payment of the fee required in RCW 46.17.135.
- (c) The Washington state patrol shall assign a new vehicle identification number to the vehicle and place or stamp the new number in a conspicuous position on the vehicle.
- (d) The department shall use the new vehicle identification number assigned by the Washington state patrol as the official vehicle identification number assigned to the vehicle.
- (6) The department may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.12.695 (2016)

§ 46.12.695. Kit vehicles. (Effective July 1, 2011.)

(1) A person who applies for an original certificate of title for a kit vehicle shall provide:

(a) The manufacturer's certificate of origin or an equivalent document if the kit vehicle is a new manufactured vehicle kit or body kit;

(b) The certificate of title or a certified copy or equivalent document for the frame;

(c) Proof of ownership for all major parts used in the construction of the vehicle. Major parts include the frame, engine, axles, transmission, and any other parts that carry vehicle identification numbers;

(d) Bills of sale or invoices for all major components used in the construction of the vehicle. The bills of sale must be notarized unless the vendor is registered with the department of revenue for the collection of retail sales or use tax and must include:

(i) The names and addresses of the seller and purchaser;

(ii) A description of the vehicle or part being sold, including the make, model, and identification or serial number or the yard number if from a wrecking yard;

(iii) The date of sale; and

(iv) The purchase price of the vehicle or part;

(e) A certificate of vehicle inspection completed by the Washington state patrol or other authorized inspector verifying the vehicle identification number, and year and make when applicable. A Washington state patrol vehicle identification number inspector must ensure that all parts are documented by certificates of title, notarized bills of sale, or business receipts, such as those obtained from a wrecking yard purchase;

(f) A completed declaration of value form to determine the value for excise tax purposes if the purchase cost and year is unknown or incomplete;

(g) Payment of use tax on the frame and all component parts used, unless proof of payment of the sales or use tax is submitted; and

(h) An odometer disclosure statement on all originals and transfers of certificates of title for kit vehicles under ten years old, unless otherwise exempt by law.

(2) If the frame from a donor vehicle is used and the remainder of the donor vehicle is to be sold or destroyed, the certificate of title is required as an ownership document to the buyer. The department may make a certified copy of the certificate of title for documentation of the frame for this transaction.

(3) When accepting an application for an original certificate of title for a kit vehicle, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall:

(a) Use the vehicle identification number provided on the manufacturer's certificate of origin. If the vehicle identification number is not available, the Washington state patrol shall assign a vehicle identification number at the time of inspection;

(b) Use the actual model year provided on the manufacturer's certificate of origin as the model year. This is not the model year of the vehicle being replicated;

(c) Record the make as "KITV";

(d) Record in the series and body designation a discrete vehicle model; and

(e) Assign a use class identifying the actual use of the vehicle, such as a passenger car or truck.

(4) A kit vehicle may be registered under RCW [46.18.220](#) as a **street rod** vehicle if the vehicle is manufactured to have the same appearance as a similar vehicle manufactured before 1949. Kit vehicles must comply with chapter [204-10](#) WAC unless the kit vehicle is registered under RCW [46.18.220](#).

(5) A kit vehicle is exempt from the welding requirements under WAC [204-10-022](#)(8) if, upon application for a certificate of title, the owner furnishes documentation from the manufacturer of the vehicle frame that informs the owner that the welding on the frame was not completed by a certified welder and that the structural strength of the frame has not been certified by an engineer as meeting the applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards set under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.201, 571.214, 571.216, and 571.220 through 571.224, and the applicable SAE standards.

(6) The department may not deny a certificate of title to an applicant who completes the requisite application, complies with this section, and pays the requisite titling fees and taxes.

[2016 c 161 § 324; 2009 c 284 § 1; 1996 c 225 § 8. Formerly RCW [46.12.440](#).]

NOTES:

Effective date -- Intent -- Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2016 and other amendments made during the 2016 legislative session -- 2016 c 161: See notes following RCW [46.04.013](#).

Finding -- 1996 c 225: See note following RCW [46.04.125](#).

Equipment Exemptions

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.518 (2016)

§ 46.37.518. **Street rods and kit vehicles**

Notwithstanding the requirements of this chapter, hoods and bumpers are optional equipment on **street rods and kit vehicles**. **Street rods and kit vehicles** must comply with fender requirements under [RCW 46.37.500\(2\)](#) and the windshield requirement of [RCW 46.37.410\(1\)](#).

HISTORY: [1996 c 225 § 12](#).

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.050 (2016)

§ 46.37.050. Tail lamps

(1) After January 1, 1964, every motor vehicle, trailer, cargo extension, semitrailer, and pole trailer, and any other vehicle which is being drawn at the end of a combination of vehicles, shall be equipped with at least two tail lamps mounted on the rear, which, when lighted as required in RCW 46.37.020, shall emit a red light plainly visible from a distance of one thousand feet to the rear, except that passenger cars manufactured or assembled prior to January 1, 1939, shall have at least one tail lamp. On a combination of vehicles only the tail lamps on the rearmost vehicle need actually be seen from the distance specified. On vehicles equipped with more than one tail lamp, the lamps shall be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable.

(2) Every tail lamp upon every vehicle shall be located at a height of not more than seventy-two inches nor less than fifteen inches.

(3) Either a tail lamp or a separate lamp shall be so constructed and placed as to illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate and render it clearly legible from a distance of fifty feet to the rear. Any tail lamp or tail lamps, together with any separate lamp or lamps for illuminating the rear registration plate, shall be so wired as to be lighted whenever the head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted.

HISTORY: 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 5; 1963 c 154 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.050. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 5; prior: 1947 c 267 § 2, part; 1937 c 189 § 16, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-16, part; RCW 46.40.030, part; 1929 c 178 § 7; 1927 c 309 § 27; RRS § 6362-27; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part; 1915 c 142 § 21, part.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.060 (2016)

§ 46.37.060. Reflectors

(1) Every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer shall carry on the rear, either as a part of the tail lamps or separately, two or more red reflectors meeting the requirements of this section: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That vehicles of the types mentioned in [RCW 46.37.090](#) shall be equipped with reflectors meeting the requirements of [RCW 46.37.110](#) and [46.37.120](#).

(2) Every such reflector shall be mounted on the vehicle at a height not less than fifteen inches nor more than seventy-two inches measured as set forth in [RCW 46.37.030\(2\)](#), and shall be of such size and characteristics and so mounted as to be visible at night from all distances within six hundred feet to one hundred feet from such vehicle when directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps, except that reflectors on **vehicles** manufactured or **assembled** prior to January 1, 1970, shall be visible at night from all distances within three hundred and fifty feet to one hundred feet when directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps.

HISTORY: 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 6; 1963 c 154 § 4; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.060. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 6; prior: 1947 c 267 § 2, part; 1937 c 189 § 16, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-16, part; RCW 46.40.030, part.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.070 (2016)

§ 46.37.070. Stop lamps and electric turn signals required

(1) After January 1, 1964, every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer shall be equipped with two or more stop lamps meeting the requirements of [RCW 46.37.200](#), except that passenger **cars** manufactured or **assembled** prior to January 1, 1964, shall be equipped with at least one such stop lamp. On a combination of vehicles, only the stop lamps on the rearmost vehicle need actually be seen from the distance specified in [RCW 46.37.200\(1\)](#).

(2) After January 1, 1960, every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer and pole trailer shall be equipped with electric turn signal lamps meeting the requirements of [RCW 46.37.200\(2\)](#), except that passenger cars, trailers, semitrailers, pole trailers, and trucks less than eighty inches in width, manufactured or assembled prior to January 1, 1953, need not be equipped with electric turn signal lamps.

(3) Every passenger **car** manufactured or **assembled** after September 1, 1985; and every passenger truck, passenger van, or passenger sports [sport] utility **vehicle** manufactured or **assembled** after September 1, 1993, must be equipped with a rear center high-mounted stop lamp meeting the requirements of [RCW 46.37.200\(3\)](#).

HISTORY: [2006 c 306 § 2](#); 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 7; 1963 c 154 § 5; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.070. Prior: 1959 c 319 § 32; 1955 c 269 § 7; prior: 1953 c 248 § 2, part; 1947 c 267 § 4, part; 1937 c 189 § 23, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-23, part; RCW 46.40.090, part; 1929 c 178 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 15, part; RRS § 6362-15, part.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.090 (2016)

§ 46.37.090. Additional equipment required on certain vehicles

In addition to other equipment required in [RCW 46.37.040](#), [46.37.050](#), [46.37.060](#), and [46.37.070](#), the following vehicles shall be equipped as herein stated under the conditions stated in [RCW 46.37.080](#), and in addition, the reflectors elsewhere enumerated for such vehicles shall conform to the requirements of [RCW 46.37.120\(1\)](#).

(1) Buses, trucks, motor homes, and motor vehicles with mounted campers eighty inches or more in over-all width:

(a) On the front, two clearance lamps, one at each side, and on **vehicles** manufactured or **assembled** after January 1, 1964, three identification lamps meeting the specifications of subdivision (6) [(7)] of this section;

(b) On the rear, two clearance lamps, one at each side, and after January 1, 1964, three identification lamps meeting the specifications of subdivision (6) [(7)] of this section;

(c) On each side, two side marker lamps, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear;

(d) On each side, two reflectors, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear.

(2) Trailers and semitrailers eighty inches or more in over-all width:

(a) On the front, two clearance lamps, one at each side;

(b) On the rear, two clearance lamps, one at each side, and after January 1, 1964, three identification lamps meeting the specifications of subdivision (6) [(7)] of this section;

(c) On each side, two side marker lamps, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear;

(d) On each side, two reflectors, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear: PROVIDED, That a mobile home as defined by [RCW 46.04.302](#) need not be equipped with two side marker lamps or two side reflectors as required by subsection (2) (c) and (d) of this section while operated under the terms of a special permit authorized by [RCW 46.44.090](#).

(3) Truck tractors:

On the front, two cab clearance lamps, one at each side, and on **vehicles** manufactured or **assembled** after January 1, 1964, three identification lamps meeting the specifications of subdivision (6) [(7)] of this section.

(4) Trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers thirty feet or more in over-all length:

On each side, one amber side marker lamp and one amber reflector, centrally located with respect to the length of the vehicle: PROVIDED, That a mobile home as defined by [RCW 46.04.302](#) need not be equipped with such side marker lamp or reflector while operated under the terms of a special permit authorized by [RCW 46.44.090](#).

(5) Pole trailers:

(a) On each side, one amber side marker lamp at or near the front of the load;

(b) One amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

(c) On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer.

(6) Boat trailers eighty inches or more in overall width:

(a) One on each side, at or near the midpoint, one clearance lamp performing the function of both a front and rear clearance lamp;

(b) On the rear, after June 1, 1978, three identification lamps meeting the specifications of subsection (7) of this section;

(c) One on each side, two side marker lamps, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear;

(d) On each side, two reflectors, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear.

(7) Whenever required or permitted by this chapter, identification lamps shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced not less than six nor more than twelve inches apart, and mounted on the permanent structure of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical centerline: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That where the cab of a vehicle is not more than forty-two inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps.

HISTORY: 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 9; 1963 c 154 § 7; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.090. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 9; prior: 1947 c 267 § 3, part; 1937 c 189 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-17, part; RCW 46.40.040, part; 1933 c 156 §§ 5, part, 6, part; 1929 c 178 §§ 7, part, 8, part; 1927 c 309 §§ 27, part, 28, part; RRS §§ 6362-27, part, 6362-28, part; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON

CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.120 (2016)

§ 46.37.120. Visibility of reflectors, clearance lamps, identification lamps, and side marker lamps

(1) Every reflector upon any vehicle referred to in [RCW 46.37.090](#) shall be of such size and characteristics and so maintained as to be readily visible at nighttime from all distances within six hundred feet to one hundred feet from the vehicle when directly in front of lawful lower beams of head lamps, except that the visibility for reflectors on **vehicles** manufactured or **assembled** prior to January 1, 1970, shall be measured in front of the lawful upper beams of headlamps. Reflectors required to be mounted on the sides of the vehicle shall reflect the required color of light to the sides, and those mounted on the rear shall reflect a red color to the rear.

(2) Front and rear clearance lamps and identification lamps shall be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lights are required at all distances between five hundred feet and fifty feet from the front and rear, respectively, of the vehicle.

(3) Side marker lamps shall be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lights are required at all distances between five hundred feet and fifty feet from the side of the vehicle on which mounted.

HISTORY: 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 11; 1963 c 154 § 8; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.120. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 12; prior: 1947 c 267 § 3, part; 1937 c 189 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-17, part; RCW 46.40.040, part; 1933 c 156 §§ 5, part, 6, part; 1929 c 178 §§ 7, part, 8, part; 1927 c 309 §§ 27, part, 28, part; RRS §§ 6362-27, part, 6362-28, part; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.200 (2016)

§ 46.37.200. Stop lamps and electric turn signals displayed

(1) Any vehicle may be equipped and when required under this chapter shall be equipped with a stop lamp or lamps on the rear of the vehicle which shall display a red or amber light, or any shade of color between red and amber, visible from a distance of not less than one hundred feet and on any **vehicle** manufactured or **assembled** after January 1, 1964, three hundred feet to the rear in normal sunlight, and which shall be actuated upon application of a service brake, and which may but need not be incorporated with one or more other rear lamps.

(2) Any vehicle may be equipped and when required under [RCW 46.37.070\(2\)](#) shall be equipped with electric turn signals which shall indicate an intention to turn by flashing lights showing to the front and rear of a vehicle or on a combination of vehicles on the side of the vehicle or combination toward which the turn is to be made. The lamps showing to the front shall be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and, when signaling, shall emit amber light: PROVIDED, That on any vehicle manufactured prior to January 1, 1969, the lamps showing to the front may emit white or amber light, or any shade of light between white and amber. The lamp showing to the rear shall be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and, when signaling, shall emit a red or amber light, or any shade of color between red and amber. Turn signal lamps shall be visible from a distance of not less than five hundred feet to the front and rear in normal sunlight. Turn signal lamps may, but need not be, incorporated in other lamps on the vehicle.

(3) Any vehicle may be equipped and when required under this chapter shall be equipped with a center high-mounted stop lamp mounted on the center line of the rear of the vehicle. These stop lamps shall display a red light visible from a distance of not less than three hundred feet to the rear in normal sunlight, and shall be actuated upon application of a service brake, and may not be incorporated with any other rear lamps.

HISTORY: [2006 c 306 § 3](#); 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 17; 1963 c 154 § 15; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.200. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 20; prior: 1953 c 248 § 2, part; 1947 c 267 § 4, part; 1937 c 189 § 23, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-23, part; RCW 46.40.090, part; 1929 c 178 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 15, part; RRS § 6362-15.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.340 (2016)

§ 46.37.340. Braking equipment required

Every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer, and any combination of such vehicle operating upon a highway within this state shall be equipped with brakes in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(1) Service brakes—adequacy. Every such vehicle and combination of vehicles, except special mobile equipment as defined in RCW 46.04.552, shall be equipped with service brakes complying with the performance requirements of RCW 46.37.351 and adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold such vehicle under all conditions of loading, and on any grade incident to its operation.

(2) Parking brakes—adequacy. Every such vehicle and combination of vehicles shall be equipped with parking brakes adequate to hold the vehicle on any grade on which it is operated, under all conditions of loading, on a surface free from snow, ice, or loose material. The parking brakes shall be capable of being applied in conformance with the foregoing requirements by the driver's muscular effort or by spring action or by equivalent means. Their operation may be assisted by the service brakes or other source of power provided that failure of the service brake actuation system or other power assisting mechanism will not prevent the parking brakes from being applied in conformance with the foregoing requirements. The parking brakes shall be so designed that when once applied they shall remain applied with the required effectiveness despite exhaustion of any source of energy or leakage of any kind. The same brake drums, brake shoes and lining assemblies, brake shoe anchors, and mechanical brake shoe actuation mechanism normally associated with the wheel brake assemblies may be used for both the service brakes and the parking brakes. If the means of applying the parking brakes and the service brakes are connected in any way, they shall be so constructed that failure of any one part shall not leave the vehicle without operative brakes.

(3) Brakes on all wheels. Every vehicle shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels except:

(a) Trailers, cargo extensions, semitrailers, or pole trailers of a gross weight not exceeding three thousand pounds, provided that:

(i) The total weight on and including the wheels of the trailer or trailers or cargo extension shall not exceed forty percent of the gross weight of the towing vehicle when connected to the trailer or trailers; and

(ii) The combination of vehicles consisting of the towing vehicle and its total towed load, is capable of complying with the performance requirements of RCW 46.37.351;

(b) Trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers manufactured and assembled prior to July 1, 1965, shall not be required to be equipped with brakes when the total weight on and including the wheels of the trailer or trailers does not exceed two thousand pounds;

(c) Any vehicle being towed in driveaway or towaway operations, provided the combination of vehicles is capable of complying with the performance requirements of RCW 46.37.351;

(d) Trucks and truck tractors manufactured before July 25, 1980, and having three or more axles need not have brakes on the front wheels, except that when such vehicles are equipped with at least two steerable axles, the wheels of one steerable axle need not have brakes. Trucks and truck tractors manufactured on or after July 25, 1980, and having three or more axles are required to have brakes on the front wheels, except that when such vehicles are equipped with at least two steerable axles, the wheels of one steerable axle need not have brakes. Such trucks and truck tractors may be equipped with an automatic device to reduce the front-wheel braking effort by up to fifty percent of the normal braking force, regardless of whether or not antilock system failure has occurred on any axle, and:

(i) Must not be operable by the driver except upon application of the control that activates the braking system; and

(ii) Must not be operable when the pressure that transmits brake control application force exceeds eighty-five pounds per square inch (psi) on air-mechanical braking systems, or eighty-five percent of the maximum system pressure in vehicles utilizing other than compressed air.

All trucks and truck tractors having three or more axles must be capable of complying with the performance requirements of RCW 46.37.351;

(e) Special mobile equipment as defined in RCW 46.04.552 and all vehicles designed primarily for off-highway use with braking systems which work within the power train rather than directly at each wheel;

(f) Vehicles manufactured prior to January 1, 1930, may have brakes operating on only two wheels;

(g) For a forklift manufactured after January 1, 1970, and being towed, wheels need not have brakes except for those on the rearmost axle so long as such brakes, together with the brakes on the towing vehicle, shall be adequate to stop the combination within the stopping distance requirements of RCW 46.37.351.

(4) Automatic trailer brake application upon breakaway. Every trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer equipped with air or vacuum actuated brakes and every trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer with a gross weight in excess of three thousand pounds, manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels and of such character as to be applied automatically and promptly, and remain applied for at least fifteen minutes, upon breakaway from the towing vehicle.

(5) Tractor brakes protected. Every motor vehicle manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, and used to tow a trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer equipped with brakes, shall be equipped with means for providing that in case of breakaway of the towed vehicle, the towing vehicle will be capable of being stopped by the use of its service brakes.

(6) Trailer air reservoirs safeguarded. Air brake systems installed on trailers manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, shall be so designed that the supply reservoir used to provide air for the brakes shall be safeguarded against backflow of air from the reservoir through the supply line.

(7) Two means of emergency brake operation.

(a) Air brakes. After January 1, 1964, every towing vehicle equipped with air controlled brakes, in other than driveaway or towaway operations, and all other vehicles equipped with air controlled brakes, shall be equipped with two means for emergency application of the brakes. One of these means shall apply the brakes automatically in the event of a reduction of the vehicle's air supply to a fixed pressure which shall be not lower than twenty pounds per square inch nor higher than forty-five pounds per square inch. The other means shall be a manually controlled device for applying and releasing the brakes, readily operable by a person seated in the driving seat, and its emergency position or method of operation shall be clearly indicated. In no instance may the manual means be so arranged as to permit its use to prevent operation of the automatic means. The automatic and the manual means required by this section may be, but are not required to be, separate.

(b) Vacuum brakes. After January 1, 1964, every towing vehicle used to tow other vehicles equipped with vacuum brakes, in operations other than driveaway or towaway operations, shall have, in addition to the single control device required by subsection (8) of this section, a second control device which can be used to operate the brakes on towed vehicles in emergencies. The second control shall be independent of brake air, hydraulic, and other pressure, and independent of other controls, unless the braking system be so arranged that failure of the pressure upon which the second control depends will cause the towed vehicle brakes to be applied automatically. The second control is not required to provide modulated braking.

(8) Single control to operate all brakes. After January 1, 1964, every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer, and every combination of such vehicles, equipped with brakes shall have the braking system so arranged that one control device can be used to operate all service brakes. This requirement does not prohibit vehicles from being equipped with an additional control device to be used to operate brakes on the towed vehicles. This regulation does not apply to driveaway or towaway operations unless the brakes on the individual vehicles are designed to be operated by a single control in the towing vehicle.

(9) Reservoir capacity and check valve.

(a) Air brakes. Every bus, truck, or truck tractor with air operated brakes shall be equipped with at least one reservoir sufficient to insure that, when fully charged to the maximum pressure as regulated by the air compressor governor cut-out setting, a full service brake application may be made without lowering such reservoir pressure by more than twenty percent. Each reservoir shall be provided with means for readily draining accumulated oil or water.

(b) Vacuum brakes. After January 1, 1964, every truck with three or more axles equipped with vacuum assist type brakes and every truck tractor and truck used for towing a vehicle equipped with vacuum brakes shall be equipped with a reserve capacity or a vacuum reservoir sufficient to insure that, with the reserve capacity or reservoir fully charged and with the engine stopped, a full service brake application may be made without depleting the vacuum supply by more than forty percent.

(c) Reservoir safeguarded. All motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers, when equipped with air or vacuum reservoirs or reserve capacity as required by this section, shall have such reservoirs or reserve capacity so safeguarded by a check valve or equivalent device that in the event of failure or leakage in its connection to the source of compressed air or vacuum, the stored air or vacuum shall not be depleted by the leak or failure.

(10) Warning devices.

(a) Air brakes. Every bus, truck, or truck tractor using compressed air for the operation of its own brakes or the brakes on any towed vehicle, shall be provided with a warning signal, other than a pressure gauge, readily audible or visible to the driver, which will operate at any time the primary supply air reservoir pressure of the vehicle is below fifty percent of the air compressor governor cut-out pressure. In addition, each such vehicle shall be equipped with a pressure gauge visible to the driver, which indicates in pounds per square inch the pressure available for braking.

(b) Vacuum brakes. After January 1, 1964, every truck tractor and truck used for towing a vehicle equipped with vacuum operated brakes and every truck with three or more axles using vacuum in the operation of its brakes, except those in driveaway or towaway operations, shall be equipped with a warning signal, other than a gauge indicating vacuum, readily audible or visible to the driver, which will operate at any time the vacuum in the vehicle's supply reservoir or reserve capacity is less than eight inches of mercury.

(c) Combination of warning devices. When a vehicle required to be equipped with a warning device is equipped with both air and vacuum power for the operation of its own brakes or the brakes on a towed vehicle, the warning devices may be, but are not required to be, combined into a single device which will serve both purposes. A gauge or gauges indicating pressure or vacuum shall not be deemed to be an adequate means of satisfying this requirement.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.500

§ 46.37.500. Fenders or splash aprons

(1) Except as authorized under subsection (2) of this section, no person may operate any motor vehicle, trailer, cargo extension, or semitrailer that is not equipped with fenders, covers, flaps, or splash aprons adequate for minimizing the spray or splash of water or mud from the roadway to the rear of the vehicle. All such devices shall be as wide as the tires behind which they are mounted and extend downward at least to the center of the axle.

(2) A motor vehicle that is not less than forty years old or a street rod vehicle that is owned and operated primarily as a collector's item need not be equipped with fenders when the vehicle is used and driven during fair weather on well-maintained, hard-surfaced roads.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.510 (2016)

§ 46.37.510. Seat belts and shoulder harnesses

(1) No person may sell any **automobile** manufactured or **assembled** after January 1, 1964, nor may any owner cause such vehicle to be registered thereafter under the provisions of chapter 46.12 RCW unless such motor car or automobile is equipped with automobile seat belts installed for use on the front seats thereof which are of a type and installed in a manner conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol. Where registration is for transfer from an out-of-state license, the applicant shall be informed of this section by the issuing agent and has thirty days to comply. The state patrol shall adopt and enforce standards as to what constitutes adequate and safe seat belts and for the fastening and installation of them. Such standards shall not be below those specified as minimum requirements by the Society of Automotive Engineers on June 13, 1963.

(2) Every passenger **car** manufactured or **assembled** after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with at least two lap-type safety belt assemblies for use in the front seating positions.

(3) Every passenger **car** manufactured or **assembled** after January 1, 1968, shall be equipped with a lap-type safety belt assembly for each permanent passenger seating position. This requirement shall not apply to police vehicles.

(4) Every passenger **car** manufactured or **assembled** after January 1, 1968, shall be equipped with at least two shoulder harness-type safety belt assemblies for use in the front seating positions.

(5) The state patrol shall excuse specified types of motor vehicles or seating positions within any motor vehicle from the requirements imposed by subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section when compliance would be impractical.

(6) No person may distribute, have for sale, offer for sale, or sell any safety belt or shoulder harness for use in motor vehicles unless it meets current minimum standards and specifications conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol or the United States department of transportation.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.430 (2016)

§ 46.37.430. Safety glazing -- Sunscreening or coloring

(1) (a) No person may sell any motor vehicle as specified in this title, nor may any motor vehicle as specified in this title be registered unless such vehicle is equipped with safety glazing material of a type that meets or exceeds federal standards under [49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.205](#).

(b) The foregoing provisions apply to all passenger-type motor vehicles, including passenger buses and school buses, but in respect to trucks, including truck tractors, the requirements as to safety glazing material apply to all glazing material used in doors, windows, and windshields in the drivers' compartments of such vehicles except as provided by subsection (4) of this section.

(c) The safety glazing material that is manufactured and installed in accordance with federal standards shall not be etched or otherwise permanently altered if the safety glazing material is installed in the windshield or any other window located in the motor vehicle passenger compartment, except for the etching of the vehicle identification number if:

(i) The maximum height of the letters or numbers do not exceed one-half inch; and

(ii) The etched vehicle identification number is not located in a position that interferes with the vision of any occupant of the motor vehicle.

(2) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Light transmission" means the ratio of the amount of total visible light, expressed in percentages, that is allowed to pass through the sunscreening or coloring material to the amount of total visible light falling on the motor vehicle window.

(b) "Net film screening" means the total sunscreening or coloring material applied to the window that includes both the material applied by the manufacturer during the safety glazing and any film sunscreening or coloring material applied after the vehicle is manufactured.

(c) "Reflectance" means the ratio of the amount of total light, expressed in percentages, that is reflected outward by the sunscreening or coloring material to the amount of total light falling on the motor vehicle window.

(d) "Safety glazing materials" means glazing materials so constructed, treated, or combined with other materials as to reduce substantially, in comparison with ordinary sheet glass or plate glass, the likelihood of injury to persons by objects from exterior sources or by these safety glazing materials when they may be cracked or broken.

(3) The director of licensing shall not register any motor vehicle which is subject to the provisions of this section unless it is equipped with an approved type of safety glazing material, and he or she shall suspend the registration of any motor vehicle so subject to this section which the director finds is not so equipped until it is made to conform to the requirements of this section.

(4) No person may sell or offer for sale, nor may any person operate a motor vehicle registered in this state which is equipped with, any camper manufactured after May 23, 1969, unless such camper is equipped with safety glazing material of a type conforming to rules adopted under [49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.205](#) wherever glazing materials are used in outside windows and doors.

(5) No film sunscreening or coloring material that reduces light transmittance to any degree may be applied to the surface of the safety glazing material in a motor vehicle unless it meets the following standards for such material:

(a) The maximum level of net film sunscreening to be applied to any window, except the windshield, shall have a total reflectance of thirty-five percent or less, and a light transmission of twenty-four percent or more, where the vehicle is equipped with outside rearview mirrors on both the right and left. Installation of more than a single sheet of film sunscreening material to any window is prohibited.

(b) Hearses, **collector vehicles**, limousines and passenger buses used to transport persons for compensation, ambulances, rescue squad vehicles, any other emergency medical vehicle licensed under [RCW 18.73.130](#) that is used to transport patients, and any vehicle identified by the manufacturer as a truck, motor home, or multipurpose passenger vehicle as defined in [49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.3](#), may have net film sunscreening applied on any window to the rear of the driver that has less than twenty-four percent light transmittance, if the light reflectance is thirty-five percent or less and the vehicle is equipped with outside rearview mirrors on both the right and left.

(c) A person or business tinting windows for profit who tints windows within restricted areas of the glazing system shall supply a sticker to be affixed to the driver's door post, in the area adjacent to the manufacturer's identification tag. Installation of this sticker certifies that the glazing application meets this chapter's standards for light transmission, reflectance, and placement requirements. Stickers must be no smaller than three-quarters of an inch by one and one-half inches, and no larger than two inches by two and one-half inches. The stickers must be of sufficient quality to endure exposure to harsh climate conditions. The business name and state tax identification number of the installer must be clearly visible on the sticker.

(d) A greater degree of light reduction is permitted on all windows and the top six inches of windshields of a vehicle operated by or carrying as a passenger a person who possesses a written verification from a licensed physician that the operator or passenger must be protected from exposure to sunlight for physical or medical reasons.

(e) A greater degree of light reduction is permitted along the top edge of the windshield as long as the product is transparent and does not extend into the AS-1 portion of the windshield or extend more than six inches from the top of the windshield. Clear film sunscreening material that reduces or eliminates ultraviolet light may be applied to windshields.

(f) When film sunscreening material is applied to any window except the windshield, outside mirrors on both the left and right sides shall be located so as to reflect to the driver a view of the roadway, through each mirror, a distance of at least two hundred feet to the rear of the vehicle.

(g) The following types of film sunscreening material are not permitted:

(i) Mirror finish products;

(ii) Red, gold, yellow, or black material; or

(iii) Film sunscreening material that is in liquid preapplication form and brushed or sprayed on.

(6) Subsection (5) of this section does not prohibit:

(a) The use of shaded or heat-absorbing safety glazing material in which the shading or heat-absorbing characteristics have been applied at the time of manufacture of the safety glazing material and which meet federal standards for such safety glazing materials.

(b) The use and placement of federal, state, or local certificates or decals on any window as required by applicable laws or regulations. However, any such certificate or decal must be of a size and placed on the motor vehicle so as not to impair the ability of the driver to safely operate the motor vehicle.

(c) Sunscreening devices to be applied to any window behind the driver provided that the devices reduce the driver's area of vision uniformly and by no more than fifty percent, as measured on a horizontal plane. If sunscreening devices are applied to the rear window, the vehicle must be equipped with outside rearview mirrors on both the left and right.

(d) Recreational products, such as toys, cartoon characters, stuffed animals, signs, and any other vision-reducing article or material to be applied to or placed in windows behind the driver provided that they do not interfere, in their size or position, with the driver's ability to see other vehicles, persons, or objects.

(7) It is a traffic infraction for any person to operate a vehicle for use on the public highways of this state, if the vehicle is equipped with film sunscreening or coloring material in violation of this section.

(8) Owners of vehicles with film sunscreening material applied to windows to the rear of the driver, prior to June 7, 1990, must comply with the requirements of this section and [RCW 46.37.435](#) by July 1, 1993.

(9) The side and rear windows of law enforcement vehicles are exempt from the requirements of subsection (5) of this section. However, when law enforcement vehicles are sold to private individuals the film sunscreening or coloring material must comply with the requirements of subsection (5) of this section or documentation must be provided to the buyer stating that the vehicle windows must comply with the requirements of subsection (5) of this section before operation of the vehicle.

HISTORY: [2009 c 142 § 1](#); [2007 c 168 § 1](#); [1993 c 384 § 1](#); [1990 c 95 § 1](#); [1989 c 210 § 1](#); 1987 c 330 § 723; 1986 c 113 § 5; 1985 c 304 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 157; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 47; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.430. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 43; prior: 1947 c 220 § 1; 1937 c 189 § 40; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-40; RCW 46.36.090.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
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*** STATUTES CURRENT THROUGH THE 2016 REGULAR AND SPECIAL SESSIONS SECTIONS ***
*** EFFECTIVE THROUGH APRIL 30, 2016 ***
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.01. DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.01.260 (2016)

Legislative Alert:

[LEXSEE 2016 Wa. ALS 161](#) -- See section 208.

§ 46.01.260. Destruction of records by director

(1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the director, in his or her discretion, may destroy applications for vehicle licenses, copies of vehicle licenses issued, applications for drivers' licenses, copies of issued drivers' licenses, certificates of title and registration or other documents, records or supporting papers on file in his or her office which have been microfilmed or photographed or are more than five **years old**. If the applications for **vehicle** licenses are renewal applications, the director may destroy such applications when the computer record thereof has been updated.

(2) (a) The director shall not destroy records of convictions or adjudications of [RCW 46.61.502](#), [46.61.504](#), [46.61.520](#), and [46.61.522](#), or records of deferred prosecutions granted under [RCW 10.05.120](#) and shall maintain such records permanently on file.

(b) The director shall not, within fifteen years from the date of conviction or adjudication, destroy records if the offense was originally charged as one of the offenses designated in (a) of this subsection, convictions or adjudications of the following offenses: [RCW 46.61.500](#) or [46.61.5249](#) or any other violation that was originally charged as one of the offenses designated in (a) of this subsection.

(c) For purposes of [RCW 46.52.101](#) and [46.52.130](#), offenses subject to this subsection shall be considered "alcohol-related" offenses.

HISTORY: [2009 c 276 § 2](#); [1999 c 86 § 2](#); [1998 c 207 § 3](#); [1997 c 66 § 11](#); [1996 c 199 § 4](#); [1994 c 275 § 14](#); [1984 c 241 § 1](#); [1971 ex.s. c 22 § 1](#); [1965 ex.s. c 170 § 45](#); [1961 c 12 § 46.08.120](#). Prior: [1955 c 76 § 1](#); [1951 c 241 § 1](#); [1937 c 188 § 77](#); RRS § 6312-77. Formerly RCW 46.08.120.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.12. CERTIFICATES OF OWNERSHIP AND REGISTRATION

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.12.124 (2016)

Legislative Alert:

[LEXSEE 2016 Wa. ALS 161](#) -- See section 312.

§ 46.12.124. Odometer disclosure statement

(1) The department shall require an odometer disclosure statement to accompany every application for a certificate of ownership, unless specifically exempted. If the certificate of ownership was issued after April 30, 1990, a secure odometer statement is required, unless specifically exempted. The statements shall include, at a minimum, the following:

(a) The miles shown on the odometer at the time of transfer of ownership;

(b) The date of transfer of ownership;

(c) One of the following statements:

(i) The mileage reflected is actual to the best of transferor's knowledge;

(ii) The odometer reading exceeds the mechanical limits of the odometer to the best of the transferor's knowledge; or

(iii) The odometer reading is not the actual mileage;

If the odometer reading is under one hundred thousand miles, the only options that can be certified are "actual to the best of the transferor's knowledge" or "not the actual mileage." If the odometer reading is one hundred thousand miles or more, the options "actual to the best of the transferor's knowledge" or "not the actual mileage" cannot be used unless the odometer has six digit capability;

(d) A complete description of the vehicle, including the:

(i) Model year;

(ii) Make;

(iii) Series and body type (model);

(iv) Vehicle identification number;

(v) License plate number and state (optional);

(e) The name, address, and signature of the transferor, in accordance with the following conditions:

(i) Only one registered owner is required to complete the odometer disclosure statement;

(ii) When the registered owner is a business, both the business name and a company representative's name must be shown on the odometer disclosure statement;

(f) The name and address of the transferee and the transferee's signature to acknowledge the transferor's information. If the transferee represents a company, both the company name and the agent's name must be shown on the odometer disclosure statement;

(g) A statement that the notice is required by the federal Truth in Mileage Act of 1986; and

(h) A statement that failure to complete the odometer disclosure statement or providing false information may result in fines or imprisonment or both.

(2) The transferee shall return a signed copy of the odometer disclosure statement to the transferor at the time of transfer of ownership.

(3) The following vehicles are not subject to the odometer disclosure requirement at the time of ownership transfer:

(a) A vehicle having a declared gross vehicle weight of more than sixteen thousand pounds;

(b) A vehicle that is not self-propelled;

(c) A **vehicle** that is ten **years old or older**;

(d) A **vehicle** sold directly by a manufacturer to a federal agency in conformity with contract specifications; or

(e) A new vehicle before its first retail sale.

HISTORY: 1990 c 238 § 6.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.100 (2016)

§ 46.37.100. Color of clearance lamps, side marker lamps, back-up lamps, and reflectors

(1) Front clearance lamps and those marker lamps and reflectors mounted on the front or on the side near the front of a vehicle shall display or reflect an amber color.

(2) Rear clearance lamps and those marker lamps and reflectors mounted on the rear or on the sides near the rear of a vehicle shall display or reflect a red color.

(3) All lighting devices and reflectors mounted on the rear of any vehicle shall display or reflect a red color, except the stop lamp or other signal device, which may be red, amber, or yellow, and except that on any **vehicle** forty or more **years old**, or on any motorcycle regardless of age, the taillight may also contain a blue or purple insert of not more than one inch in diameter, and except that the light illuminating the license plate shall be white and the light emitted by a back-up lamp shall be white or amber.

HISTORY: 2002 c 196 § 1; 1992 c 46 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.100. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 10; prior: 1947 c 267 § 3, part; 1937 c 189 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-17, part; RCW 46.40.040, part; 1933 c 156 §§ 5, part, 6, part; 1929 c 178 §§ 7, part, 8, part; 1927 c 309 §§ 27, part, 28, part; RRS §§ 6362-27, part, 6362-28, part; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part; 1915 c 142 § 21, part.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.200 (2016)

§ 46.37.200. Stop lamps and electric turn signals displayed

(1) Any vehicle may be equipped and when required under this chapter shall be equipped with a stop lamp or lamps on the rear of the vehicle which shall display a red or amber light, or any shade of color between red and amber, visible from a distance of not less than one hundred feet and on any vehicle manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, three hundred feet to the rear in normal sunlight, and which shall be actuated upon application of a service brake, and which may but need not be incorporated with one or more other rear lamps.

(2) Any vehicle may be equipped and when required under [RCW 46.37.070\(2\)](#) shall be equipped with electric turn signals which shall indicate an intention to turn by flashing lights showing to the front and rear of a vehicle or on a combination of vehicles on the side of the vehicle or combination toward which the turn is to be made. The lamps showing to the front shall be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and, when signaling, shall emit amber light: PROVIDED, That on any **vehicle manufactured prior** to January 1, 1969, the lamps showing to the front may emit white or amber light, or any shade of light between white and amber. The lamp showing to the rear shall be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and, when signaling, shall emit a red or amber light, or any shade of color between red and amber. Turn signal lamps shall be visible from a distance of not less than five hundred feet to the front and rear in normal sunlight. Turn signal lamps may, but need not be, incorporated in other lamps on the vehicle.

(3) Any vehicle may be equipped and when required under this chapter shall be equipped with a center high-mounted stop lamp mounted on the center line of the rear of the vehicle. These stop lamps shall display a red light visible from a distance of not less than three hundred feet to the rear in normal sunlight, and shall be actuated upon application of a service brake, and may not be incorporated with any other rear lamps.

HISTORY: [2006 c 306 § 3](#); 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 17; 1963 c 154 § 15; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.200. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 20; prior: 1953 c 248 § 2, part; 1947 c 267 § 4, part; 1937 c 189 § 23, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-23, part; RCW 46.40.090, part; 1929 c 178 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 15, part; RRS § 6362-15.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.215 (2016)

§ 46.37.215. Hazard warning lamps

(1) Any vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning other operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking, or passing.

(2) After June 1, 1978, every motor home, bus, truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer eighty inches or more in overall width or thirty feet or more in overall length shall be equipped with lamps meeting the requirements of this section.

(3) Vehicular hazard warning signal lamps used to display such warning to the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing amber light: PROVIDED, That on any **vehicle manufactured prior** to January 1, 1969, the lamps showing to the front may display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. The lamps used to display such warning to the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. These warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than five hundred feet in normal sunlight.

HISTORY: 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 19.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.240 (2016)

§ 46.37.240. Single-beam road-lighting equipment

Head lamp systems which provide only a single distribution of light shall be permitted on all farm tractors regardless of date of manufacture, and on all other motor **vehicles manufactured** and sold **prior** to one year after March 18, 1955, in lieu of multiple-beam road-lighting equipment herein specified if the single distribution of light complies with the following requirements and limitations:

(1) The head lamps shall be so aimed that when the vehicle is not loaded none of the high intensity portion of the light shall at a distance of twenty-five feet ahead project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes, and in no case higher than forty-two inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of seventy-five feet ahead;

(2) The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least two hundred feet.

HISTORY: 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 21; 1963 c 154 § 18; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.240. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 24; prior: 1947 c 267 § 5, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-25a, part; RCW 46.40.140, part; 1933 c 156 § 3, part; 1929 c 178 § 5, part; 1927 c 309 § 22, part; RRS § 6362-22, part.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.340 (2016)

§ 46.37.340. Braking equipment required

Every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer, and any combination of such vehicle operating upon a highway within this state shall be equipped with brakes in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(1) Service brakes -- adequacy. Every such vehicle and combination of vehicles, except special mobile equipment as defined in [RCW 46.04.552](#), shall be equipped with service brakes complying with the performance requirements of [RCW 46.37.351](#) and adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold such vehicle under all conditions of loading, and on any grade incident to its operation.

(2) Parking brakes -- adequacy. Every such vehicle and combination of vehicles shall be equipped with parking brakes adequate to hold the vehicle on any grade on which it is operated, under all conditions of loading, on a surface free from snow, ice, or loose material. The parking brakes shall be capable of being applied in conformance with the foregoing requirements by the driver's muscular effort or by spring action or by equivalent means. Their operation may be assisted by the service brakes or other source of power provided that failure of the service brake actuation system or other power assisting mechanism will not prevent the parking brakes from being applied in conformance with the foregoing requirements. The parking brakes shall be so designed that when once applied they shall remain applied with the required effectiveness despite exhaustion of any source of energy or leakage of any kind. The same brake drums, brake shoes and lining assemblies, brake shoe anchors, and mechanical brake shoe actuation mechanism normally associated with the wheel brake assemblies may be used for both the service brakes and the parking brakes. If the means of applying the parking brakes and the service brakes are connected in any way, they shall be so constructed that failure of any one part shall not leave the vehicle without operative brakes.

(3) Brakes on all wheels. Every vehicle shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels except:

(a) Trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers of a gross weight not exceeding three thousand pounds, provided that:

(i) The total weight on and including the wheels of the trailer or trailers shall not exceed forty percent of the gross weight of the towing vehicle when connected to the trailer or trailers; and

(ii) The combination of vehicles consisting of the towing vehicle and its total towed load, is capable of complying with the performance requirements of [RCW 46.37.351](#);

(b) Trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers manufactured and assembled prior to July 1, 1965, shall not be required to be equipped with brakes when the total weight on and including the wheels of the trailer or trailers does not exceed two thousand pounds;

(c) Any vehicle being towed in driveaway or towaway operations, provided the combination of vehicles is capable of complying with the performance requirements of [RCW 46.37.351](#);

(d) Trucks and truck tractors manufactured before July 25, 1980, and having three or more axles need not have brakes on the front wheels, except that when such vehicles are equipped with at least two steerable axles, the wheels of one steerable axle need not have brakes. Trucks and truck tractors manufactured on or after July 25, 1980, and having three or more axles are required to have brakes on the front wheels, except that when such vehicles are equipped with at least two steerable axles, the wheels of one steerable axle need not have brakes. Such trucks and truck tractors may be equipped with an automatic device to reduce the front-wheel braking effort by up to fifty percent of the normal braking force, regardless of whether or not antilock system failure has occurred on any axle, and:

(i) Must not be operable by the driver except upon application of the control that activates the braking system; and

(ii) Must not be operable when the pressure that transmits brake control application force exceeds eighty-five pounds per square inch (psi) on air-mechanical braking systems, or eighty-five percent of the maximum system pressure in vehicles utilizing other than compressed air.

All trucks and truck tractors having three or more axles must be capable of complying with the performance requirements of [RCW 46.37.351](#);

(e) Special mobile equipment as defined in [RCW 46.04.552](#) and all vehicles designed primarily for off-highway use with braking systems which work within the power train rather than directly at each wheel;

(f) **Vehicles manufactured prior** to January 1, 1930, may have brakes operating on only two wheels.

(g) For a forklift manufactured after January 1, 1970, and being towed, wheels need not have brakes except for those on the rearmost axle so long as such brakes, together with the brakes on the towing vehicle, shall be adequate to stop the combination within the stopping distance requirements of [RCW 46.37.351](#).

(4) Automatic trailer brake application upon breakaway. Every trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer equipped with air or vacuum actuated brakes and every trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer with a gross weight in excess of three thousand pounds, manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels and of such character as to be applied automatically and promptly, and remain applied for at least fifteen minutes, upon breakaway from the towing vehicle.

(5) Tractor brakes protected. Every motor vehicle manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, and used to tow a trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer equipped with brakes, shall be equipped with means for providing that in case of breakaway of the towed vehicle, the towing vehicle will be capable of being stopped by the use of its service brakes.

(6) Trailer air reservoirs safeguarded. Air brake systems installed on trailers manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, shall be so designed that the supply reservoir used to provide air for the brakes shall be safeguarded against backflow of air from the reservoir through the supply line.

(7) Two means of emergency brake operation.

(a) Air brakes. After January 1, 1964, every towing vehicle equipped with air controlled brakes, in other than driveaway or towaway operations, and all other vehicles equipped with air controlled brakes, shall be equipped with two means for emergency application of the brakes. One of these means shall apply the brakes automatically in the event of a reduction of the vehicle's air supply to a fixed pressure which shall be not lower than twenty pounds per square inch nor higher than forty-five pounds per square inch. The other means shall be a manually controlled device for applying and releasing the brakes, readily operable by a person seated in the driving seat, and its emergency position or method of operation shall be clearly indicated. In no instance may the manual means be so arranged as to permit its use to prevent operation of the automatic means. The automatic and the manual means required by this section may be, but are not required to be, separate.

(b) Vacuum brakes. After January 1, 1964, every towing vehicle used to tow other vehicles equipped with vacuum brakes, in operations other than driveaway or towaway operations, shall have, in addition to the single control device required by subsection (8) of this section, a second control device which can be used to operate the brakes on towed vehicles in emergencies. The second control shall be independent of brake air, hydraulic, and other pressure, and independent of other controls, unless the braking system be so arranged that failure of the pressure upon which the second control depends will cause the towed vehicle brakes to be applied automatically. The second control is not required to provide modulated braking.

(8) Single control to operate all brakes. After January 1, 1964, every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer, and every combination of such vehicles, equipped with brakes shall have the braking system so arranged that one control device can be used to operate all service brakes. This requirement does not prohibit vehicles from being equipped with an additional control device to be used to operate

brakes on the towed vehicles. This regulation does not apply to driveaway or towaway operations unless the brakes on the individual vehicles are designed to be operated by a single control in the towing vehicle.

(9) Reservoir capacity and check valve.

(a) Air brakes. Every bus, truck, or truck tractor with air operated brakes shall be equipped with at least one reservoir sufficient to insure that, when fully charged to the maximum pressure as regulated by the air compressor governor cut-out setting, a full service brake application may be made without lowering such reservoir pressure by more than twenty percent. Each reservoir shall be provided with means for readily draining accumulated oil or water.

(b) Vacuum brakes. After January 1, 1964, every truck with three or more axles equipped with vacuum assistor type brakes and every truck tractor and truck used for towing a vehicle equipped with vacuum brakes shall be equipped with a reserve capacity or a vacuum reservoir sufficient to insure that, with the reserve capacity or reservoir fully charged and with the engine stopped, a full service brake application may be made without depleting the vacuum supply by more than forty percent.

(c) Reservoir safeguarded. All motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers, when equipped with air or vacuum reservoirs or reserve capacity as required by this section, shall have such reservoirs or reserve capacity so safeguarded by a check valve or equivalent device that in the event of failure or leakage in its connection to the source of compressed air or vacuum, the stored air or vacuum shall not be depleted by the leak or failure.

(10) Warning devices.

(a) Air brakes. Every bus, truck, or truck tractor using compressed air for the operation of its own brakes or the brakes on any towed vehicle, shall be provided with a warning signal, other than a pressure gauge, readily audible or visible to the driver, which will operate at any time the primary supply air reservoir pressure of the vehicle is below fifty percent of the air compressor governor cut-out pressure. In addition, each such vehicle shall be equipped with a pressure gauge visible to the driver, which indicates in pounds per square inch the pressure available for braking.

(b) Vacuum brakes. After January 1, 1964, every truck tractor and truck used for towing a vehicle equipped with vacuum operated brakes and every truck with three or more axles using vacuum in the operation of its brakes, except those in driveaway or towaway operations, shall be equipped with a warning signal, other than a gauge indicating vacuum, readily audible or visible to the driver, which will operate at any time the vacuum in the vehicle's supply reservoir or reserve capacity is less than eight inches of mercury.

(c) Combination of warning devices. When a vehicle required to be equipped with a warning device is equipped with both air and vacuum power for the operation of its own brakes or the brakes on a towed vehicle, the warning devices may be, but are not required to be, combined into a single device which will serve both purposes. A gauge or gauges indicating pressure or vacuum shall not be deemed to be an adequate means of satisfying this requirement.

HISTORY: 1989 c 221 § 1; 1979 c 11 § 1. Prior: 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 27; 1977 ex.s. c 148 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 49; 1963 c 154 § 21; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.340; prior: 1955 c 269 § 34; prior: 1937 c 189 § 34, part; RRS § 6360-34, part; RCW 46.36.020, 46.36.030, part; 1929 c 180 § 6; 1927 c 309 § 16; 1923 c 181 § 5; 1921 c 96 § 23; 1915 c 142 § 22; RRS § 6362-16.

ANNOTATED REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
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*** STATUTES CURRENT THROUGH THE 2016 REGULAR AND SPECIAL SESSIONS SECTIONS ***
*** EFFECTIVE THROUGH APRIL 30, 2016 ***

TITLE 46. MOTOR VEHICLES
CHAPTER 46.37. VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

GO TO REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ARCHIVE DIRECTORY

Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 46.37.390 (2016)

§ 46.37.390. Mufflers required -- Smoke and air contaminant standards -- Definitions -- Penalty, exception

(1) Every motor vehicle shall at all times be equipped with a muffler in good working order and in constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise, and no person shall use a muffler cut-out, bypass, or similar device upon a motor vehicle on a highway.

(2) (a) No motor vehicle first sold and registered as a new motor vehicle on or after January 1, 1971, shall discharge into the atmosphere at elevations of less than three thousand feet any air contaminant for a period of more than ten seconds which is:

(i) As dark as or darker than the shade designated as No. 1 on the Ringelmann chart, as published by the United States bureau of mines; or

(ii) Of such opacity as to obscure an observer's view to a degree equal to or greater than does smoke described in subsection (a)(i) above.

(b) No motor vehicle first sold and registered prior to January 1, 1971, shall discharge into the atmosphere at elevations of less than three thousand feet any air contaminant for a period of more than ten seconds which is:

(i) As dark as or darker than the shade designated as No. 2 on the Ringelmann chart, as published by the United States bureau of mines; or

(ii) Of such opacity as to obscure an observer's view to a degree equal to or greater than does smoke described in subsection (b)(i) above.

(c) For the purposes of this subsection the following definitions shall apply:

(i) "Opacity" means the degree to which an emission reduces the transmission of light and obscures the view of an object in the background;

(ii) "Ringelmann chart" means the Ringelmann smoke chart with instructions for use as published by the United States bureau of mines in May 1967 and as thereafter amended, information circular 7718.

(3) No person shall modify the exhaust system of a motor vehicle in a manner which will amplify or increase the noise emitted by the engine of such vehicle above that emitted by the muffler originally installed on the vehicle, and it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motor vehicle not equipped as required by this subsection, or which has been amplified as prohibited by this subsection. A court may dismiss an infraction notice for a violation of this subsection if there is reasonable grounds to believe that the vehicle was not operated in violation of this subsection.

This subsection (3) does not apply to vehicles twenty-five or more **years old** or to passenger **vehicles** being operated off the highways in an organized racing or competitive event conducted by a recognized sanctioning body.

HISTORY: 2006 c 306 § 4; 2001 c 293 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 33; 1972 ex.s. c 135 § 1; 1967 c 232 §

3; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.390. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 39; prior: 1937 c 189 § 36; RRS § 6360-36; RCW 46.36.050; 1927 c 309 § 17; 1921 c 96 § 21; 1915 c 142 § 20; RRS § 6362-17.

Emissions Exemptions

Washington requires emissions testing in the year that a vehicle license is to expire (every other year) in certain zip codes within Clark, Snohomish, Spokane, King and Pierce counties. A test is also required for a transfer of ownership of a vehicle, unless the vehicle was tested within 365 days of the transfer.

Diesel Vehicles:

Diesel vehicles under 8,501 lbs GVWR with two-wheel or part-time four wheel drive receive a smoke opacity test, the vehicle is also tested on a dynamometer. Diesel vehicles under 8,501 lbs GVWR with constant 4x4 (all wheel drive) or traction control receive a smoke opacity test, but the vehicle will not be driven on a dynamometer and will instead undergo a two-speed idle test. Diesel vehicles over 8,500 lbs GVWR receive a snap acceleration test, a smoke opacity test and a two-speed idle test (are not tested on a dynamometer).

Exemptions:

1. Motor vehicles that are less than five years old or more than twenty-five years old
2. Motor vehicles that are a 2009 model year or newer