



Vehicle licensing & insurance bulletin

Discontinuing licence plate decals, and printing changes

Starting May 1, 2022 licence plate validation decals (decals) will no longer be required on B.C. vehicles. Also, the appearance of *Vehicle registration, licence and owner's certificate of insurance* documents may vary due to a growing use of different types of paper and printers.

Key points

Decals are no longer required to be displayed on B.C. vehicle number plates as of May 1, 2022 according to B.C. regulatory amendments.

Beginning with policies effective May 1, 2022, [eligible Autoplan customers](#) may renew their vehicle licence and insurance with our new online service. They may also print their *Vehicle registration, licence and owner's certificate of insurance* on plain white paper using any printer if the result is legible. You can expect some variation in paper quality, printing appearance and a shift to single side printing.

Our electronic records will continue to be updated to provide a reliable reference for law enforcement and other ICBC partners.

Streamlined vehicle licence & insurance renewals

The new online service will allow many B.C. motorists to renew their vehicle licence and insurance policy from their computer, tablet or mobile device, and to print or re-print their registration, vehicle licence and insurance document. Like renewals done at Autoplan broker offices, the relevant electronic records remain available for law enforcement and others authorized to reference the information.

Decals will not be issued for any new or renewed licence and insurance certificate that commences May 1, 2022 or later.



Considerations

Law enforcement can continue to access up-to-date B.C. vehicle information through CPIC and other means to check licence and insurance validity. Drivers are still required to carry the paper documents as issued (legible, without alteration) or their photocopies in their vehicle, for presentation at roadside stops and other purposes.

Police throughout B.C. use Automated Licence Plate Recognition (ALPR) on a daily basis and continue to work closely with road safety partners for ways to improve existing practices and programs.

ICBC is making a one-time investment of up to \$1 million to enhance and modernize the ALPR program, and purchase new hardware helping law enforcement in B.C. detect unlawful, unlicensed and uninsured drivers.

No decals will be issued for vehicle licences that have an effective date of May 1, 2022 or later, even if the motorist applies for their vehicle licence and renews their insurance early. The old decal on their number plate will still show the expiry of their previous vehicle licence and insurance that was issued prior to May 1, 2022.

On or after May 1, 2022, motorists have the option to remove, cover or keep the old decal in place. Vehicles may be seen on highway legally displaying an expired decal, a decal that is blocked out with black marker, or covered with any color of plain material (e.g. a blank white sticker) that may or may not be reflective. ICBC is requesting customers to not use decal coverings that are mirrored or that have graphic(s), character(s), or pattern(s).

Reference

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motor Vehicle Act	s. 11	Carrying of licence
	s. 12	Number plates
	s. 13	Offences
	s. 33	Production of licence and liability card
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motor Vehicle Act Regulations	Div. 3	Division 3 as amended effective May 1, 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vehicle licensing and insurance bulletins		



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Canadian Border Services Agency

Law Enforcement

BC Association of Chiefs of Police
(Municipal Police forces, PRIME-BC,
BC Highway Patrol, RCMP)

Other Jurisdictions

Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA)

American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA)

Registrar of Imported Vehicles

RIV Policy, Standards & Enforcement
(Compliance Manager)

Transport Canada

Motor Vehicle Regulation Enforcement (Director)

Road Safety and Motor Vehicle Regulation (Director General)

Union of B.C. Municipalities

U.S. Customs & Border Protection

Vehicle Sales Authority of B.C.

ICBC

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