

DMVQ PRINTABLE CHECKLIST

Plate Transfer Checklist

Use this when moving your plates from one vehicle you own to another at an official DMV or BMV office.




Scan for the full web guide


Title first


Ohio ties plates to ownership, so the new vehicle must be titled in your name at a County Clerk of Courts title office before plates can move. Any Ohio county's title office works. Once the title is done, the plate transfer itself is a quick stop at an official DMV or BMV office.


BRING THESE


Bring to transfer your plates

-  **Title to the new vehicle**
Titled in your name first at the County Clerk of Courts.

-  **Current registration**
For the vehicle the plates are coming from, plus the plate number.

-  **Photo ID**
Ohio driver license or state ID.

-  **Proof of Ohio insurance**
Current insurance for the new vehicle.

-  **Payment**
The \$9.00 transfer fee plus any registration-fee difference and permissive tax.

DECISION POINT

Know the transfer rules

Same owner only

Plates move between vehicles owned by the same person, not between people. Spouse transfers may be allowed, ask official staff.

Keep your number

A transfer carries your plate number and remaining registration time to the new vehicle.

Fee difference

Moving to a higher registration class, like car to light truck, can mean paying the difference.

AT THE VISIT

Simple steps

- 1** Title the new vehicle in your name at the County Clerk of Courts.

- 2** Gather your title, old registration, ID, and insurance.

- 3** Complete the BMV 4809 transfer application and pay at an official DMV or BMV office.

- 4** Put the plates on the new vehicle and keep the updated registration card in it.

Avoid a return trip

Do not try to transfer plates to another person or a vehicle you do not own.

Do not drive the new vehicle on un-transferred plates past the roughly 30-day window.

Do not arrive before the new vehicle's title is in your name.

For illustrative purposes only. This DMVQ guide is a plain-language planning aid. Requirements, fees, and eligibility are subject to change and may not reflect the most up to date information. Verify current requirements at bmv.ohio.gov or call an official DMV or BMV office before visiting.

OFFICIAL SOURCES

- | Ohio BMV documents and fees
- | Ohio Revised Code 4503.12

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 Web guide: dmvq.com/transfer-license-plates
 Accessible version: dmvq.com/downloads/transfer-license-plates/