

DMVQ PRINTABLE CHECKLIST

Out-of-State VIN Inspection Checklist

Use this before bringing an out-of-state vehicle to an official DMV or BMV office for its VIN inspection.







Scan for the full web guide

Two agencies, one sequence

The VIN inspection happens at an official DMV or BMV office. Only a County Clerk of Courts title office can issue the Ohio title that follows, so that is the middle stop, then return to an official DMV or BMV office for registration and plates. Your inspection form is valid for 30 days, so the whole sequence can be done in one week without rushing.

BRING THESE

Bring the vehicle and its paperwork

-  **The vehicle itself**
It must be physically present so the inspector can read the VIN. Photos and paperwork alone are not enough.
-  **Out-of-state title**
Or another ownership document, such as a manufacturer's certificate of origin or foreign title for imports.
-  **Photo ID**
A valid photo ID for the owner.
-  **Payment**
The \$8.00 out-of-state vehicle inspection fee.

DECISION POINT

Do you need this inspection?

Out-of-state title

Yes. New residents and out-of-state purchases need the inspection before the Clerk of Courts can issue an Ohio title.

Ohio-to-Ohio transfer

No. A vehicle already titled in Ohio follows the standard title transfer process instead.

Imported vehicle

Yes, plus federal customs, EPA, and USDOT/NHTSA paperwork for the title step that follows.

AT THE VISIT

Simple steps

- 1** Drive the vehicle to an official DMV or BMV office with its out-of-state title and your ID.
- 2** Have the inspector verify the VIN and record the odometer.
- 3** Pay the \$8.00 fee and take the completed inspection certificate.
- 4** Take the certificate and title to the County Clerk of Courts, then return to the BMV for plates.

Avoid a return trip

Do not leave the vehicle at home, the inspector must see the actual VIN.

Do not go to the Clerk of Courts first, the title office needs the inspection certificate.

Do not expect to pay sales tax at the inspection, that comes at the title step.

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 out-of-state title process
- | Ohio BMV documents and fees

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Web guide: dmvq.com/vin-inspection
Accessible version: dmvq.com/downloads/vin-inspection/