

<b>Motor Vehicle Procedure Manual</b>
<b>Registration</b>
Horseless Carriage (Ancient), Antique (Regular and Permanent) And Authenticated License Plates

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**Provisions Of Law**

[Section 320.086, Florida Statutes](#), provides for the issuance of Horseless Carriage (Ancient), Antique (regular), and historical authenticated license plates. Upon payment of the license tax for an ancient motor vehicle prescribed by [s. 320.08\(1\)\(d\), \(2\)\(a\) or \(3\)\(e\)](#), the customer may be issued one of these special license plates.

[Section 320.086\(3\)](#), Florida Statutes, provides for the issuance of a permanent Horseless Carriage (Ancient) or Antique (permanent) license plate to the owner of ancient, or antique fire-fighting apparatus or other historical motor vehicle or former military vehicle.

[Section 320.086\(4\)](#), Florida Statutes, provides for the issuance of a historical license plate to the owner of an ancient or antique motor vehicle.

[Section 320.086\(5\)](#), Florida Statutes, provides for the issuance of an antique license plate for former military vehicles that are used only in exhibitions, parades, or public display and are exempt from the requirement to display a license plate or registration insignia, if the exemption is necessary to maintain the vehicle's accurate military markings. The license plate and registration certificate must be carried within the vehicle and available for inspection by any law enforcement officer.

[Section 320.086\(6\)](#), Florida Statutes, states: "Former military vehicle" means a vehicle, including a trailer, regardless of the vehicle's size, weight, or year of manufacture, that was manufactured for use in any country's military forces and is maintained to represent its military design and markings accurately.

## **Description and Use**

This procedure provides information and instructions to assist employees of the Tax Collector, License Plate Agents, and Florida Highway Safety And Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV) with the issuance of horseless carriage (ancient), antique, and authenticated license plates.

## **Definition And General Information**

Vehicles classified as ancient or antique may be issued regular, special, specialty, or personalized license plates (See Exhibit A).

- A. A Horseless Carriage (Ancient) motor vehicle is defined as an automobile, truck, or motorcycle manufactured in model year 1945 or earlier. The license plate is permanent and valid for use without renewal as long as the vehicle is owned by the same owner/registrant. The class code for a horseless carriage (ancient) motor vehicle is 82.

Motor vehicles with a model year of 1946-60, currently registered as a Horseless Carriage prior to July 1, 1996, shall be "grandfathered in" and maintain a permanent license plate, until the vehicle is transferred to a new owner. Upon transfer to a new owner, the vehicle will be registered as an antique and renewed annually.

- B. An Antique (regular) motor vehicle is defined as an automobile, truck, or motorcycle manufactured in a model year after 1945 and of the age of 30 years or more after the model year. The license plate must be renewed annually. The class code for an Antique (regular) motor vehicle is 95 (automobiles old class code 95, trucks old class code 91).

- C. Motorcycles manufactured after 1946 and of the age of 30 years or more will be issued a regular series, antique (regular) motorcycle, or authenticated license plate. There are no provisions for a reduced registration fee for motorcycles in this category.

- D. Horseless Carriage or Antique (permanent) license plates may be issued to any ancient or antique firefighting apparatus or other historical motor vehicle or former military vehicle. The license plates shall be permanent and valid for use without renewal as long as the vehicle is owned by the same owner/registrant.

An Antique permanent license plate for a historical motor vehicle only applies to those that are used in exhibitions, parades, or public display. It is not applicable to a vehicle that is driven on a daily basis.

### **Application Requirements For Horseless Carriage (Ancient) And Antique (Permanent) License Plates**

An application for a Horseless Carriage (Ancient) license plate or Antique (permanent) license plate must be submitted to the department. The address is shown on the form [HSMV 83045](#), Application for Registration of a Street Rod, Custom Vehicle, Horseless Carriage or Antique (Permanent). Both the Horseless Carriage and Antique license plates are permanent. The Initial Registration fee is not required.

An application for an Antique (permanent) license plate for a firefighting apparatus (fire truck) may be submitted to any local tax collector's office or license plate agency. It may also be submitted to and processed by the department. See Exhibit B for processing instructions.

- A. An accurately completed form [HSMV 83045](#), Application for Registration of a Street Rod, Custom Vehicle, Horseless Carriage or Antique (Permanent), is required for the issuance of the Horseless Carriage (Ancient) or Antique (Permanent) license plate.
- B. The applicant must possess a valid Florida Certificate of Title for the qualifying vehicle.
- C. Proof of Florida insurance is required. Refer to DMS Procedure [RS-36](#) for additional insurance requirements.
- D. Fees as listed on form [HSMV 83045](#), Application for Registration of a Street Rod, Custom Vehicle, Horseless Carriage, or Antique (Permanent).

### **Requirements For Authentication Of A License Plate**

Authenticated license plates may be issued to any vehicle manufactured in 1975 or earlier. The license plate must be the same year as the model year of the car or truck. The license plate will be approved for issuance by the department as an authenticated license plate if the license plate has not been refurbished in any way and is still legible for law enforcement purposes. Authenticated license plates may only be issued to cars, motorcycles, and pickups weighing 5,000 pounds or less.

The documentation listed below must be submitted by the applicant to the following address for authentication:

Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
**Direct Mail and Issuance Rm #A330**  
2900 Apalachee Parkway, MS #72  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

- A. A letter requesting the authentication of the license plate. The letter must include the following information:
1. Mailing address (printed). If an out-of-state address or a post office box is used, a Florida residence address must also be provided unless the applicant is an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is also a Florida resident. Such an applicant is exempt from this requirement.
  2. Driver License number or owner's sex (using "F" for female or "M" for male) and date of birth (month, day, and year). If joint ownership, give the information for both owners.
  3. A description of the license plate (the year and license plate number).
  4. A description of vehicle (the year, make, VIN number, and title number).
- B. The license plate (for authentication purposes) furnished by the owner. See Exhibit C for correct year and colors of license plate.
- C. Payment of the applicable fees.  
The Initial Registration fee is not required on vehicles 30 years and older.
- D. Proof of Florida insurance. Refer to [RS-36](#) for insurance requirements.

### **Renewals And Transfers**

- A. A Horseless Carriage or Antique (regular and permanent) license plate may be transferred to any vehicle, which qualifies for a Horseless Carriage or Antique (regular and permanent) license plate.
- B. An authenticated license plate is not required to be replaced in the 10-year replacement cycle. However, it must be renewed annually and may be transferred. Renewals and transfers may be processed at any county license plate agency.  
  
Authenticated license plate transfers can only be made to another antique vehicle of the same model year as the year of the license plate and previous antique vehicle.
- C. When the vehicle is sold and the new owner wants the authenticated license plate, the previous owner may relinquish the license plate to the new owner. Refer to [RS-27](#) for relinquishment procedures. In this situation, the authenticated license plate does not have

to be submitted to the department since it has previously been approved. Any tax collector or license plate agency can process this transaction.

### Requirements For Replacement License Plates

Applications for replacement antique license plates may be processed by the county license plate agency. Applications for replacement Horseless Carriage license plates must be submitted to the department.

An authenticated license plate is one-of-a-kind. It cannot be replaced in the event of theft or damage. If the customer elects to replace the stolen or damaged authenticated plate with a different authenticated plate, the customer may apply for a new authenticated license plate.

When the Horseless Carriage license plate needs to be replaced, issue a temporary license plate with the reason as "T" (administrative 30 days) and submit request to DMS. This reason must be used in order for the Horseless Carriage license plate to be issued with the correct fees.

The following is required:

A. Form [HSMV 83146](#), Application for Replacement License Plate, Validation Decal or Parking Permit, accurately completed.

B. Replacement Fees.

The Decal on Demand fee does not apply to Horseless Carriage license plates or Antique

(permanent) license plates.

If the license plate or decal is a replacement or a stolen license plate or decal, there is no fee when the applicant certifies on form [HSMV 83146](#) that the stolen item has been reported to

a

law enforcement agency.

C. A photocopy of the current registration certificate.

### Lost In Transit

Application for replacement of "Lost-In-Transit" license plate may be processed in any county license plate agency. Verification may be made in FRVIS to ensure that the license plate has been processed and mailed to the customer. If a determination cannot be made, it will be necessary to contact the county that processed and mailed the license plate. These replacements are issued for no fee when applied for within 180 days of the date issued.

## Miscellaneous Information

A. Question: What is the difference between a regular antique vehicle, custom vehicle, and street rod?

Answer:

- A “Regular Antique” motor vehicle is defined as an automobile, truck, or motorcycle manufactured in a model year after 1945 and of the age of 30 years or more after the model year. The license plate must be renewed annually. The class code for an Antique (regular) motor vehicle is 95 (automobiles old class code 95, trucks old class code 91). The form [HSMV 83045](#) is not required for a regular antique license plate.
- A “Custom Vehicle” is 25 years of age or older and of a model year after 1948 or was manufactured to resemble a vehicle that is 25 years of age or older and of a model year after 1948 and has been altered from the manufacturer’s original design or has a body constructed from non-original materials.

The model year and year of manufacture that the body of a custom vehicle resembles is the model year and year of manufacture listed on the certificate of title, regardless of when the vehicle was actually manufactured.

The vehicle title/record must carry a brand of “custom vehicle” prior to applying for a custom vehicle license plate. Once branded, an accurately completed form [HSMV 83045](#), Application for Registration of a Street Rod, Custom Vehicle, Horseless Carriage or Antique (Permanent), is required for the issuance of a custom vehicle license plate. See [RS-28](#) for additional information.

- A “Street Rod” is of a model year of 1948 or older or was manufactured after 1948 to resemble a vehicle of a model year of 1948 or older and has been altered from the manufacturer’s original design or has a body constructed from non-original materials.

The model year and year of manufacture that the body of a street rod resembles is the model year and year of manufacture listed on the certificate of title, regardless of when the vehicle was actually manufactured.

The vehicle title/record must carry a brand of “street rod” prior to applying for a street rod license plate. Once branded, an accurately completed form [HSMV 83045](#), Application for Registration of a Street Rod, Custom Vehicle, Horseless Carriage or Antique (Permanent), is required for the issuance of a street rod license plate. See [RS-28](#) for additional information.

B. Inquiry Information:

To inquire about a Horseless Carriage (Ancient), enter HC####.

There are several ways to do an inquiry for an antique license plate. Which inquiry method you use depends on when the plate was issued, if the plate is all numeric, or if the plate is alphanumeric.

A license plate with numbers only is an older issue date. Enter "ANTI" followed by the license plate numbers as shown: ANTI#####.

If the license plate only has four numbers instead of six numbers, enter two zeros after "ANTI" and before the four-digit license plate number as shown: ANTI00####.

If the license plate is alphanumeric, enter it using the letters displayed (BA-BZ) followed by the numbers as shown: BI####. See RS-01 Exhibit B for more inquiry information.

### Revision(s)

**Corrected Exhibit C to reflect the background color of orange.**

**10/07/20 Updated contact information to Direct Mail and Issuance Rm #A330 in Section (IV).**

08/17/15 Updated information on pages 2 and 5 changing date of manufacture to model year.

**EXHIBIT A**

**LICENSE PLATES AVAILABLE FOR ANCIENT AND ANTIQUE  
VEHICLES**

<b>YEAR MANUFACTURED</b>	<b>VEHICLE TYPE</b>	<b>LICENSE PLATES AVAILABLE</b>
<b>1946-1979*</b>	<b>REGULAR</b>	Antique Non-permanent (AQR) Any regular (RGR/RGS) Any Specialty license plate
	<b>TRUCKS 5000lbs or less</b>	Antique Non-Permanent (AQR) Any regular (RGR/RGS) Any Specialty license plate
	<b>TRUCKS(GVW) 5001lbs or more</b>	Any license plate available for GVW Trucks
	<b>MOTORCYCLE</b>	Any motorcycle license plate Antique
	<b>FIRE TRUCKS (any weight)</b>	Antique Permanent (AQR) Horseless Carriage HCR (reg use AG) Any regular (RGR/RGS) Any Specialty license plate
	<b>FORMER MILITARY VEHICLE</b>	Antique Permanent (AQR) Horseless Carriage HCR (reg use AG) Any regular (RGR/RGS) Any special license plate
	<b>TRAILER</b>	Any regular (RGR/RGS) Any special license plate
<b>1945 or EARLIER</b>	<b>REGULAR</b>	Horseless Carriage (HCR) Permanent Antique (AQR) Non-Permanent Any regular (RGR/RGS) Any Specialty license plate
	<b>TRUCKS 5000lbs or less</b>	Horseless Carriage (HCR) Permanent Antique (AQR) Non-Permanent Any regular (RGR/RGS) Any Specialty license plate
	<b>TRUCKS(GVW) 5001lbs or more</b>	Any license plate available for GVW Trucks
	<b>MOTORCYCLE</b>	MC Horseless Carriage (HMR) Any motorcycle license plate Antique
	<b>FIRE TRUCKS (any weight)</b>	Antique Permanent (AQR) Horseless Carriage HCR (reg use AG) Any regular (RGR/RGS) Any Specialty license plate



	<b>FORMER MILITARY VEHICLE</b>	<b>Antique Permanent (AQR) Horseless Carriage HCR (reg use AG) Any regular (RGR/RGS) Any special license plate</b>
	<b>TRAILER</b>	<b>Any regular (RGR/RGS) Any special license plate</b>

**\*Latest year will be 30 years prior to the current calendar year.**

## **EXHIBIT B**

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROCESSING A PERMANENT ANTIQUE LICENSE PLATE ON A FIRE TRUCK 30 YEARS OLD OR OLDER**

1. The title must have the vehicle type of “TR” and body type of “FT” for fire truck, net weight must be 5001 lbs. or more.
2. Use the reg-use code of “AG.”
3. Use the inventory code of “AQR.”
4. You must mark the box to issue a license plate (DO NOT MARK THE BOX TO ISSUE A DECAL). Plate will be issued without a decal and does NOT need to be renewed.

**If the customer is requesting a Horseless Carriage license plate for this type of vehicle, the application must be mailed to DMS to process.**

EXHIBIT C (Page 1, cont.)

AUTHENTICATED LICENSE PLATES

<u>YEAR EMBOSSED</u> <u>NUMBERS ON LICENSE PLATE</u>	<u>BACKGROUND COLOR</u>	<u>COLOR OF LETTERS AND</u>
1918	BLACK	WHITE
1919	ORANGE	BLACK
1920	GRAY	RED
1921	BROWN	WHITE
1922	GREEN	WHITE
1923	DARK BLUE	ORANGE
1924	BLACK	WHITE
1925	GREEN	ORANGE
1926	BLACK	YELLOW
1927	BLACK	IVORY
1928	MAROON	YELLOW
1929	BLUE	ORANGE
1930	GREEN	WHITE
1931	MAROON	WHITE
1932	BLACK	ORANGE
1933	ORANGE	BLACK
1934	BLACK	WHITE
1935	YELLOW	BLACK
1936	RED	WHITE
1937	GREEN	WHITE
1938	BLACK	YELLOW
1939	WHITE	RED
1940	BLACK	WHITE
1941	WHITE	RED
1942	BLUE	ORANGE
1943	1942 LICENSE PLATE WITH 1943 YELLOW ON BLUE METAL DATE TAB.	

1944	YELLOW	BLACK
1945	BLACK	YELLOW
1946	DARK BLUE	WHITE
1947	GREEN	WHITE
1948	BLACK	YELLOW
1949	CREAM	RED
1950	ORANGE	BLUE
1951	YELLOW	BLUE
1952	BLUE	ORANGE
1953	ORANGE	BLUE
1954	BLUE	ORANGE
1955	ORANGE	BLUE
1956	BLUE	WHITE
1957	WHITE	BLUE

EXHIBIT C (Page 2, cont.)

AUTHENTICATED LICENSE PLATES

<u>YEAR EMBOSSED</u> <u>NUMBERS ON LICENSE PLATE</u>	<u>BACKGROUND COLOR</u>	<u>COLOR OF LETTERS AND</u>
1958	DARK GREEN	WHITE
1959	WHITE	DARK GREEN
1960	BLUE	CREAM YELLOW
1961	YELLOW	DARK BLUE
1962	WHITE	BLUE
1963	BLUE	WHITE
1964	<b>ORANGE</b>	BLUE
1965	ORANGE (400 <sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY)	YELLOW
1966	BLUE	WHITE
1967	BLACK	WHITE
1968	RED	WHITE
1969	GREEN	WHITE
1970	BLUE	WHITE
1971	WHITE	ORANGE
<b>Two license plates were manufactured in 1972 and 1973</b>		
1972	WHITE	GREEN
1972	WHITE	ORANGE
1973	WHITE	GREEN
1973	WHITE	ORANGE
1974	WHITE	ORANGE
1975	WHITE	ORANGE