



Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency

INS107

Statutory Off Road Notification – SORN

For more information go to www.direct.gov.uk/sorn



Please read the notes in this booklet.
It will help you make sure that you do not break the law.



An executive agency of the
Department for
Transport

A short guide to Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN)

When you need to make a SORN

SORN stands for 'Statutory Off Road Notification'. The law states that if your tax disc runs out or you return it for a refund, you must:

- tax your vehicle again as normal (if it will be kept or used on public roads); or
- make a SORN (if you do not use or keep your vehicle on a public road – for example, in a garage, on a drive or on private land).

Do not use your vehicle or keep it on a public road while the SORN is in force. If you do, you may have to pay a £5000 fine and may be sent to prison.

You do not need to make a SORN in the following circumstances

- If you are waiting for insurance or are getting an MoT for your car and cannot renew your vehicle tax on time. By law you, as **the registered keeper**, will not be committing an offence if you either tax the vehicle or make a SORN within 14 days of the date your current tax disc runs out.

Important – you must, however, keep your vehicle off the road during this time as you will be committing an offence if it is used or parked on the road. (The vehicle may only be used on public roads to go to and from a pre-arranged test, – for example, an MoT – and as long as the vehicle is insured.)

If you decide not to renew your vehicle tax then you must declare your vehicle is off the road by making a SORN.

- If you sell, transfer, permanently export, or scrap your vehicle and DVLA has been notified.
- If your insurance company has written off your vehicle and taken the vehicle from you and DVLA has been notified.
- If your vehicle has been stolen and DVLA has been notified.

What SORN means to you

- The need for a SORN removes the option to do nothing when a registered keeper receives a 'Renewal reminder for a tax disc or Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN)' (V11).
- A SORN is valid for up to **12 months** and must then be renewed if the vehicle is still kept off the road.

- A SORN applies to all vehicles taxed on or after 31 January 1998, including those vehicles which tax does not have to be paid for (for example, vehicles in the historic or disabled tax class).
- A SORN cannot be transferred to another vehicle.
- If you get a vehicle which has a current SORN in force, this cannot be transferred to you. You must make a new SORN if you are keeping the vehicle untaxed and off the public road.
- A SORN will automatically end if the vehicle is taxed, or there is a change of keeper, before the 12 months are up.

How to make or renew a SORN

If you have become the registered keeper, you can make or renew a SORN in the following ways.

Online

- If you have a V11, an 'Application for a tax disc or SORN (Statutory Off Road Notification) for a heavy goods vehicle' (V85/1), or a registration certificate (V5C) in your name, you can do it on our website at www.direct.gov.uk/taxdisc

By phone

- If you have a V11, V85/1 or V5C in your name, you can phone **0300 123 4321**

In person or by post

- You can take your V11 to a Post Office® branch that issues tax discs, or take the V85/1 to a DVLA local office, from the 5th day of the month the tax disc or SORN runs out in.
- If you are applying by post, you should return the V11 to the Post Office® branch shown on the form or send the V85/1 to a DVLA local office. **Please do not send the form to us at DVLA, Swansea.**
- You can use a 'Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN)' form (V890) which you should send to us at DVLA, Swansea, SA99 1AR.
- If you are keeping the vehicle and you want to claim a refund for your tax disc, you can use either the 'Application for a refund of vehicle tax when you have the tax disc' (V14) or 'Application for a refund of vehicle tax when the tax disc is missing' (V33) form. Send the relevant form to us at DVLA, Swansea, SA99 1AL.

- You can get a V14 or V890 by downloading them from the website at **www.direct.gov.uk/motoringforms**, from a Post Office® branch that issue tax discs, or by phoning 0300 790 6802. If you are deaf or hard of hearing and have a textphone, call 0300 123 1279. (This number will not respond to ordinary phones.)
- You can get a V33 from DVLA local offices or by phoning 0300 790 6802.

Going abroad?

You can make a SORN up to two calendar months before you go abroad. You need to apply on form V890 and send us a letter to explain that you will be out of the country when the current tax disc or SORN runs out. Send these direct to us at DVLA, Swansea, SA99 1AR. You can only make a SORN for a vehicle that is being kept off the road in the UK.

What happens next

When you make a SORN you should receive an acknowledgement letter to confirm it. If you do not receive the acknowledgement letter within 4 weeks, please contact us by phoning DVLA Customer Enquiries (Vehicles) on 0300 790 6802. Lines are open between 8am and 7pm Monday to Friday, and between 8am and 2pm on Saturdays. If you have speech difficulties, are deaf, or hard of hearing and you have a textphone, phone 0300 123 1279.

What if I am ready to tax my vehicle before the 12 months have run out?

You can tax your vehicle in the following ways:

- online at **www.direct.gov.uk/taxdisc** (if you have a V5C);
- By phoning 0300 123 4321 (if you have a V5C) (if you are deaf or hard of hearing and have a textphone, phone 0300 790 6201. This number will not respond to ordinary phones);
- In person at any Post Office® branch that issues tax discs (by using the V5C and form V10). You can find details of your nearest Post Office® that issues tax discs by phoning 0845 722 3344;
- By posting the V5C and form V10 to your nearest Post Office® branch that deals with postal applications (you can get addresses from the website at **www.direct.gov.uk/postalapp** or by phoning 0845 722 3344).

Find out about DVLA's online services at **www.direct.gov.uk/onlinemotoringsservices**