

REGISTRATION AND TITLE FOR CUSTOM TRAILERS

EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Trailers registered for highway use in New York State must meet the equipment requirements of Section 375 of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law, and must pass a yearly safety inspection. Form MV-529C (“Equipment Required for Trailers”) is available from any DMV office to help you with these requirements.

Before you can get a registration and/or title for your custom (homemade) trailer, it must have a vehicle identification number (VIN). The procedure for obtaining the VIN depends on the unloaded/unladen weight of the trailer.

WEIGHING

To determine the unladen weight, have the trailer weighed on a certified scale and get a weight slip. (Call your local city, town or village officials to locate a weighscale in your area, or contact the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Bureau of Weights and Measures by phone at 518-457-3146 or by e-mail at agmweigh@agriculture.ny.gov.) Section 402(3) of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law allows an unloaded, newly-constructed trailer to be towed to and from a weighing station to be weighed, without being registered.

REGISTRATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF A VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN)

Trailers Weighing Less Than 1,000 Pounds

If your trailer weighs less than 1,000 pounds unloaded, the vehicle identification number will be assigned by DMV staff when you register the trailer.

Present these items at the DMV office:

- 1) original sales receipts for the materials and parts used to build the trailer;
- 2) the weight slip mentioned under “Weighing”;
- 3) form MV-82 (“Vehicle Registration/Title Application”);
- 4) form DTF-803 (“Claim for Sales and Use Tax Exemption”) **OR** FS-6T (“Sales Tax Clearance”);
- 5) form MV-272 (“Vehicle Identification Number for Homemade Trailer”).

Forms MV-82, MV-82.1 (“Registering/Titling a Vehicle in New York State”), DTF-803 and MV-272 are available from the DMV web site. Contact us at dmv.ny.gov to download forms and to obtain other information about DMV topics. Forms MV-82, MV-82.1, FS-6T and MV-272 are also available at any DMV office.

Note: The registrant must provide proof of his/her identity. See form MV-82.1 (“Instructions for Registering a Vehicle in New York State”) for information about acceptable proofs.

Staff in the DMV office will assign a vehicle identification number (VIN) which you must put on the trailer by stamping, welding or other permanent means. Staff in the DMV office will tell you what the fee is to register the trailer, and will give you a license plate and a registration document. The registration document is your proof of ownership for the trailer. Only a registration document that has the word “Transferable” printed on the face of the registration can be used to sell it to someone else. If the word “Non-transferable” appears, it is not a valid document for transfer. We will also give you a sticker (“Ten Day Time Extension for Motor Vehicle Inspection”); this gives you ten days to have the trailer pass a safety inspection.

Trailers that weigh less than 1,000 lbs. are not titled.

Trailers and Semi-trailers Weighing 1,000 Pounds or More

If your trailer weighs 1,000 pounds or more, unloaded, DMV’s Division of Field Investigation staff will affix

the vehicle identification number to the trailer after examining it. Get form MV-272.1 (“Application for Vehicle Identification Number”) from any DMV office. Fill out this form and return it with the required fee (check or money order) to the Division of Field Investigation office in Albany at the address shown on the form. Along with this form and the required fee, also send a permanent insurance ID card (FS-20) for the vehicle that will tow this trailer to the examination site (original document only--a photocopy will not be accepted).

The Division of Field Investigation will schedule an examination and will let you know the exact time, date and location of your appointment; they will also send a temporary transport permit to you. This permit will let you legally tow the trailer to and from the examination site.

At the examination site, you must present original sales receipts for the materials and parts used to build the trailer. After the vehicle identification number decal is assigned and affixed to the trailer, you will receive the signed and validated original copy of the “Application for Vehicle Identification Number” (MV-272.1) as proof that a VIN has been assigned.

To register/title this trailer, present the following items to any DMV office:

- 1) a signed and validated copy of the “Application for Vehicle Identification Number” (MV-272.1);
- 2) original sales receipts for materials and parts used to build the trailer (your original documents will be returned to you);
- 3) form DTF-803 (“Claim for Sales and Use Tax Exemption”) **OR** form FS-6T (“Sales Tax Clearance”);
- 4) form MV-82 (“Vehicle Registration/Title Application”);
- 5) an original weight slip.

Note: The registrant must provide proof of his/her identity. See form MV-82.1 (“Instructions for Registering a Vehicle in New York State”) for information about acceptable proofs.

Staff in the DMV office will tell you what the fee is to register the trailer, based on the trailer's gross weight (that is, the weight of the trailer, plus the weight of the load the trailer will carry). We will also give you a license plate and a registration document. This registration is not your proof of ownership, and cannot be used to sell the trailer to someone else.

DMV staff will mail a title to you after the trailer is registered. This title is your proof of ownership for the trailer, and can be used to sell the trailer to someone else.

Obtaining Only A Title (for trailers with an unladen weight of 1,000 lbs. or more)

If you want to title your trailer (but **not** register it), go to any DMV office and get a Sales Tax Clearance (FS-6T). Mail this form and the following items to **New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Title Bureau, 6 Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12228:**

- 1) proof that a VIN has been assigned (MV-272.1);
- 2) original sales receipts for materials and parts used to build the trailer (your original documents will be returned to you);
- 3) an unloaded/unladen weight slip;
- 4) a completed form MV-82TON ("Application for Title");
- 5) refer to the MV-82TON for the appropriate fee; make the check or money order payable to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.
- 6) proof of identity for the person applying for the title, and proof of identity for the person presenting the trailer for examination, if different than the applicant.



Department of
Motor Vehicles

dmv.ny.gov

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