

**Why are license plates required?**

License plates are evidence that registration fees have been paid and are a means of identifying a vehicle and tracing ownership.

**How many types of Wisconsin license plates are there?**

There are 96 plate types in 63 designs with 178 stickers and decals. There are 321 variations of Wisconsin license plates currently on the road. The plate issued depends on the design and use of the vehicle or the owner's special interest. Examples of plate types are:

Automobile	Disabled Parking
Truck	Tractor
Collector	Semi-trailer

Most plate types are issued in sets of two for front and rear vehicle display.

**How long are plates valid?**

The length of the registration period depends on the type of license plate. There are 7 valid registration periods: annual, quarterly, monthly, 2 year, 5 year, 6 year and non-expiring. More detail on license plate types and registration periods is available in the *Wisconsin License Plate and Motor Carrier Credentials Guide*, available at our website: <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/dmv/vehicles/title-plates/plateguide.aspx>. For information on truck and bus registration, see "Heavy Vehicle Registration & Titling."

**When are license plates issued?**

Individuals receive plates when first registering a vehicle (unless plates are transferable). They may replace their plates (same plate design) for a fee of \$4 per set for regular plates and \$10 or \$12 per set for some special plates. Plate holders are responsible for replacing plates that are no longer readable.

**When are renewal stickers issued?**

DMV issues stickers upon renewal to show the date of vehicle registration expiration. DMV sometimes issues plates with a new design instead of a renewal sticker.

**For more information contact:**

DMV Communication Center  
(608) 267-7447

