

How to apply for a photocard driving licence

You may apply at any time to exchange your old-style paper licence for a photocard licence by asking at a Post Office® for a D1*¹ Application for a Driving Licence, together with booklet INF1D and fee leaflet INS115.

Complete the forms as appropriate, enclose the correct fee, photograph, identity documents **and** your existing paper licence (if you have one). You can either take the application to a DVLA Local Office or selected Post Office® branch to be checked using the Premium Service*² or send it to the address shown on the D1. Booklet INF1D has details of the Premium Service.

*¹ D2 for lorry and bus licence applications (*available from DVLA, its Local Offices or Traffic Area Offices*).

*² DVLA reserves the right to see original documents.

If you change your name, address or vehicle, please notify DVLA immediately. Failure to do this could cost you a £1,000 fine.

If necessary, further driver licensing information can be obtained from our website: www.dvla.gov.uk

About this leaflet

This leaflet is not intended to be a definitive statement of the law, but is good for general guidance only. Other leaflets deal with towing trailers, minibuses, renewing a car licence, minimum test requirements, motorcycles and special licensing arrangements for drivers of large vehicles. These are available by ringing 01792 792792. Alternatively they may be downloaded from the DVLA website www.dvla.gov.uk

If you have any questions after reading this leaflet you can telephone the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency's Customer Enquiries whose staff will be able to help. The telephone number is 0870 240 0009.

The lines are open 8.00am to 8.30pm Monday to Friday and 8.00am to 5.30pm on Saturday.

You will be answered by an interactive VOICE system but will be able to speak to an operator during office hours.

Some calls are monitored or recorded for quality purposes. Alternatively, our e-mail address is drivers.dvla@gt.net.gov.uk or fax 01792 783071.

Minicom users should ring 01792 782787.



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Photocard Driving Licences



An executive agency of the
Department for Transport



The Photocard

The photocard driving licence shows the holder's full driving entitlement and contains the same

information as was previously shown on the pink part of the paper licence, with the addition of the photograph and signature of the holder.

The Counterpart

The counterpart document shows details of endorsements, provisional entitlements and information relating to the driver's licence history. The counterpart was the green part attached to the old style paper licence.

Why isn't endorsement information shown on the Photocard?

The format of the photocard, as specified by a European Community Directive, does not provide for the inclusion of endorsement details. In order to provide these details to drivers, a counterpart document is issued. Other European Community

countries do not provide endorsement details. They are usually held only on a central record.

Who can demand production of the Counterpart?

Legally, only the police and courts can demand production of the counterpart. It must also be produced when taking a driving test.

We advise drivers that vehicle hire companies may expect to see the counterpart to check for endorsements. Drivers are also advised to keep the photocard licence and counterpart document together.

What if drivers are not in possession of their Counterpart?

Vehicle hire companies can obtain information on a driver's record direct from DVLA using a premium rate number.

DVLA must obtain consent from the driver before releasing information.

Vehicle hire companies premium rate

Tel. No:

0906 1393837

DVLA will also fax details to the driver, if requested, for hiring vehicles abroad.

What about "old style" paper driving licences?

Paper driving licences (issued since 1976) which were firstly all green, later all pink and latterly pink and green, will remain valid until they expire. When this happens, or the details on them need changing, drivers must apply for a photocard licence.

