

# SORN

## Statutory Off Road Notification

A guide for motor traders

For more information go to [www.direct.gov.uk/sorn](http://www.direct.gov.uk/sorn)



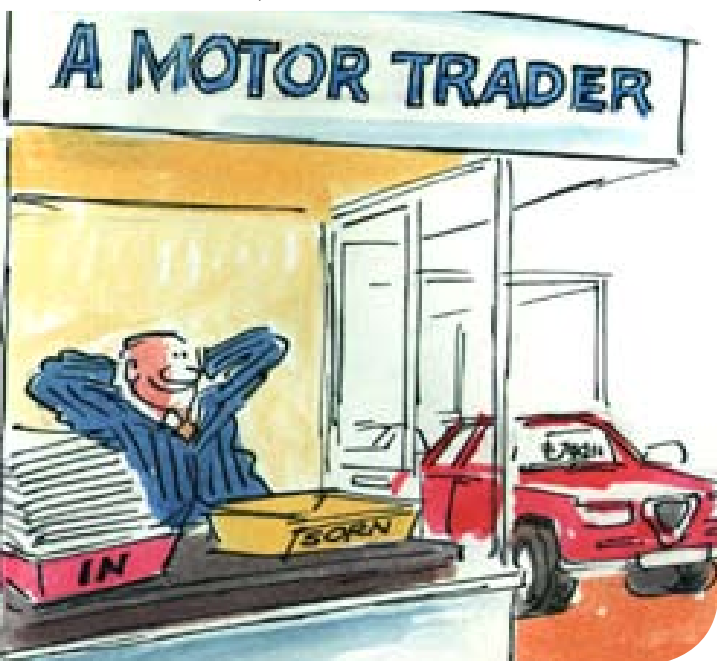
Please read the notes in this booklet.  
It will help you make sure that you do not break the law.

# A short guide to Statutory Off Road Notification

## What is a SORN?

SORN stands for 'Statutory Off Road Notification'. The law states that if a tax disc runs out or is returned for a refund the registered keeper of the vehicle must:

- tax it again as normal (if it will be kept or used on public roads); or
- make a SORN (if you do not use or keep it on a public road. Garages, driveways and private land may be considered to be off road areas. You can contact the authority responsible for maintaining a particular road to confirm this.)



## How does a SORN affect me as a motor trader?

You do **not** have to make a SORN if you keep vehicles **temporarily** in the course of your business.

You would qualify as a motor trader if you are one of the following.

- A motor dealer (including the holder of a trade licence).

- A vehicle auctioneer.
- A vehicle dismantler waiting to dismantle the vehicle.
- A vehicle insurer responsible for holding a vehicle in connection with an insurance claim.
- A finance company holding a licence under part 11 of the Consumer Credit Act 1974. (This is only for vehicles a personal credit agreement is held for and where you are holding the vehicle temporarily under a repossession order.)

**The registered keeper must tell us that the vehicle is with a motor trader by filling in the tear-off section 'Notification of Sale/Transfer to the Motor Trade' (V5C/3) on the registration certificate (V5C) and sending it to us. The registered keeper should do this when they sell or transfer the vehicle to your business, as stated on the V5C.**

## **When do I need to make a SORN?**

**You must make a SORN if a vehicle is registered in your business's name and:**

- the vehicle has been taxed on or after 31 January 1998; and
- the vehicle is kept off the road with no valid tax disc.

This applies to demonstration models of vehicles, courtesy cars and vehicles registered as a fleet vehicle, which are registered to your business and are not used or kept on the public road.

## **How to make or renew a SORN**

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

### **On-line**

- If you have a renewal reminder form (V11 or V85/1) or a registration certificate (V5C) in your name you can visit [www.dvla.gov.uk/taxdisc](http://www.dvla.gov.uk/taxdisc)

### **By phone**

- If you have a renewal reminder form (V11 or V85/1) or a registration certificate (V5C) in your name you can phone 0300 123 4321. You cannot make several SORNs at the same time over the phone.

### **In person or by post**

- You can take your renewal reminder (form 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 in which the tax disc or SORN runs out. If you are applying by post, you should return the V11 to the MVL Post Office® branch shown on the form, and send the V85/1 to a DVLA local office. Please do not send the forms to DVLA, Swansea.
- You can use SORN form V890, which you should send to DVLA, Swansea, SA99 1AR.

- If you are keeping the vehicle and you want to claim a refund of your road tax, you can use 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). Send the relevant form to DVLA, Swansea, SA99 1AL.

You can download forms V890 and V14 from

**[www.direct.gov.uk/motoringforms](http://www.direct.gov.uk/motoringforms)**. You can also get them from DVLA local offices and Post Office® branches, or by phoning 0300 790 6802.

You can get form V33 from DVLA local offices or by phoning 0300 790 6802. It is not available from Post Office® branches.

## SORN an overview

### The Statutory Off Road Notification scheme

- Motor traders who hold vehicles temporarily in the course of their business do not need to make a SORN.
- The scheme removes the option of doing nothing when registered keepers receive a renewal reminder (V11).
- It applies to all vehicles taxed on or after 31 January 1998.
- It applies to all vehicles, including those vehicles which tax does not have to be paid for (for example, vehicles in the Historic or Disabled tax class).
- 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 will end automatically if the vehicle is taxed or changes hands before the 12 months are up.