



VED (Road Tax) Exemption explained

The tax exemption for 40 year old vehicles rolls forward on a calendar year basis, so vehicles manufactured before 1st January 1979 are exempt from vehicle tax from 1st April 2019 continuing on an annual basis. There is a concession under which if the actual date of manufacture is not known, those vehicles first registered within the first week of a new year (1st – 7th January inclusive) are accepted as having been manufactured in the previous year.

Important clarification

It is important to appreciate that this VED (Road Tax) exemption stands on its own, it is quite independent from MoT exemption status, and a vehicle in the Historic tax class may or may not require an MoT.

How to apply for VED exemption

To apply for tax exemption, you will need to change the tax classification of your vehicle from Private/Light Goods (PLG) to Historic. To do this, apply at a Post Office that deals with Vehicle Tax. You need to take:

- the log book (V5C) in your name.
- your vehicle tax reminder letter (V11), if you have one.
- an MoT certificate that is valid when the tax starts, **or** evidence that your vehicle is exempt from an MoT in the form of a V112 declaration.
- in Northern Ireland only, an insurance certificate or cover note.

Enter the word 'HISTORIC' in section 7 of your V5C, marked Taxation Class, and write it where it states 'Changes to current vehicle' in the box provided. Use a black pen and write the wording in capitals. Then sign the declaration in section 8.

The V5C should show your vehicle being first registered 40 years prior to the 1st of January in the qualifying year. Which would mean if you were applying in April 2019 your V5C must show a registration date prior to 1st January 1979 or by concession up to 7th January 1980. You can only make your application on or after the date your car becomes exempt on the 1st of April of the qualifying year. If you do not have the log book, download and complete an application for a log book (V62) or get one from the Post Office. Take it to the Post Office with the £25 fee.

The Post Office will send your application to DVLA and you should receive a confirmation within 10 working days that the change has been made and your new log book within 4 weeks. If you are due a refund, you should receive it within 6 weeks. Contact the DVLA if it does not arrive within that time, and likewise the new log book. You can still use the vehicle while your application is being processed.

In future years you will receive a vehicle tax reminder letter (V11) as normal, and you will be able to re-license it online if you wish, including declaring that it is exempt from MoT requirements as a VHI, otherwise of course doing so at a Post Office. You must carry out the re-licensing process, even though there will be nothing to pay with a VED exempt car or alternatively put it on SORN if an owner might want to do that to enable them to cancel their road cover insurance if the car was not being used.

See our separate information note on MoT Exemption.

Further information is available on a dedicated micro website covering MoT exemption and VED exemption at: <http://www.buyinganmg.com/exemptions.htm>