



Competent authority

Direction pour l'Immatriculation des Véhicules/Directie Inschrijvingen van Voertuigen - DIV.

What documents do I need to present to register a car?

- The registration application form («formulaire de demande d'immatriculation» or «formulaire rose» in French, "formulier aanvraag tot inschrijving" or "roze formulier" in Dutch) filled in by the relevant parties (customs, insurance, etc.);
- The contract of sale or invoice;
- The registration certificate;
- The Certificate of Conformity (COC) is not mandatory but recommended. If the seller doesn't provide you with one, you can ask the manufacturer for a duplicate for a fee;
- Proof of payment.

To register the car, do I have to show that a technical inspection has been performed?

You have to provide a technical inspection certificate for **second-hand cars**.

If the car was sold with a valid foreign vehicle inspection certificate, is this recognised in Belgium?

- It is recognised if the foreign technical inspection has been performed in the EU within the 2 months prior to registration. However, a simplified inspection («contrôle visuel/visuele keuring») is required.
- If the foreign inspection took place more than 2 months before registration, a complete technical inspection is required. For more information, visit <http://www.goca.be/fr/p/ct-vp-controle-occasion> (see "Etape/Stap 2").

Every car registered in Belgium must undergo a vehicle inspection 4 years after it is first registered, and then every year. Prices start from EUR 33.80 for a petrol car, EUR 41.40 for a diesel car and EUR 55.10 for a liquid petroleum gas car.

Is it mandatory to show proof of insurance to the registration service?

Yes, you have to show confirmation of car insurance.

You may contact an approved Belgian insurer.

Insurers offering transit policies put a yellow sticker with a bar code on the registration application form. The original proof of insurance ("green card") is also attached to this form. This green card should be valid from the day of registration until at least the final day of the same month if registration takes place prior to the 15th day of the month. It should be valid from the day of registration until the final day of the following month if registration takes place after the 14th day of the month.



To whom should VAT be paid?

A car is considered new if no more than 6 months have passed since the date on which it was first registered or if its mileage does not exceed 6 000 km. For intra-EU transactions, **new cars are VAT exempt**. Thus, the supplier should not charge VAT. Instead, if you have bought a new car in another EU Member State with the intention of importing it to and registering it in your country of residence, you must pay VAT in your own

Member State at that country's rate.

All other cars are considered second hand (more than 6 months since the date of first registration and mileage of more than 6 000 km). They are generally sold inclusive of VAT if the supplier is a taxable person for VAT purposes. You don't have to pay VAT in your country of residence.

If you buy a new car, VAT should be paid to any customs office in Belgium .

Documents to be presented:

- The invoice (or any proof of purchase) and any commercial document;
- The registration certificate;
- You will have to fill in a special VAT declaration at the customs office. Customs will then attach a sticker (vignette 705) to the registration application.

Before final registration, can I drive in Belgium with temporary plates?

Yes, you can travel through Belgium with transit plates from other EU Member States.

Whom do I contact in the event of difficulties with the registration authority/administration?

You can contact your SOLVIT Centre or an out-of-court dispute resolution body for complaints against the administration.

Whom you should contact depends on the level of the administration with which you are having difficulties. For example, in the event of difficulties with the federal administration, you can contact the Federal Ombudsman .

If you have a question linked to your consumer rights when purchasing a car cross-border, contact your local ECC: www.eccbelgium.be