



Competent authority:

The Traffic Police Departments in the Regional Departments of the Ministry of the Interior

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

- A written application;
- Proof of ownership;
- Your identity card or passport;

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

If you are registering the car in Bulgaria for the first time and it is not a new car, the Traffic Police will carry out a technical inspection which is valid for one year. The inspection is part of the registration process and is performed at the same place.

Every car registered in Bulgaria must pass its first technical inspection 3 years after it is first registered and then every year (average cost: EUR 20).

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

Yes, you have to show proof of the requisite third-party liability insurance.

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.

In Bulgaria VAT should be paid to the National Revenue Agency (www.nap.bg).

Documents to be presented:

A declaration to the tax authorities plus a copy of the document issued by the seller (an invoice in most cases).

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

Yes, you can travel through Bulgaria 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 Bulgaria](#) for help with any difficulties.

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