

LEGAL NOTICE NO.

THE TRAFFIC ACT (CAP 403)

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by section 119(g) of the Traffic Act, the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and Infrastructure makes the following Rules:

THE TRAFFIC (IDENTIFICATION PLATES) RULES, 2015

1. These rules may be cited as the Traffic (Identification) Rules, 2015.
2. On these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires:-

“Act” means the Traffic Act Cap 403.

“Authority” means the National Transport and Safety Authority established under section 3 of the National Transport and safety Authority Act No 33 of 2012.

“Barcode” means a machine-readable code in the form of numbers and a pattern of parallel lines of varying widths, printed on the identification plate.

“Hologram” means virtual three dimensional image which changes as the position and orientation of the viewing system changes thus making the image appear three dimensional and shall have a minimum measurement of 20 millimeters by 20 millimeters.

“Optical Recognizable Characters” means alpha-numeric Euro fonts with simple, distinct features identifiable using cameras.

“Radio Frequency Identity (RFID)” means an electronic chip, used for identifying and locating vehicles and validating the identity, status and authenticity of the vehicle data.

"Registration Plates" means License plate grade reflective sheeting bonded to aluminum sheet with a minimum thickness of 0.9 milimetres.

“Third License” means a sticker placed on the windscreen of a motor vehicle bearing discrete, overt and covert features of the motor vehicle registration and ownership for technical inspection, tax and insurance validation, highway vignettes, vehicle registration and other compliance and validation requirements.

“Water Mark” means a recognizable image or pattern on the identification plate that appears as various shades of lightness/darkness when viewed from different angles.

3. The following provisions of this rule shall apply to identification plates carried pursuant to section 12 of the Act and to plates carried for use under a dealer's general license-

- (a) every plate shall be rectangular in shape;
- (b) every vehicle other than a motor cycle or trailer shall have fixed thereon one identification plate on the front elevation thereof and one on the back elevation thereof; in both cases, the plate shall be fixed in a horizontal position at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle.
- (c) every vehicle shall have fixed thereon a third license identification plate in a conspicuous and reasonably vertical position behind the glass of the windscreen or nearside window so that the front of the license is clearly visible at all times by daylight to a person standing in front of the vehicle or to the left side thereof.

Provided that, in the case of a motorcycle or a vehicle not fitted with a windscreen or windows, the third license shall be suitably carried in a weatherproof holder having a transparent face.

- (c) every motor cycle shall have fixed thereon one plate at the rear in a horizontal position at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the cycle;
- (d) every trailer shall have fixed thereon one plate at the back in a horizontal position at right angles to its longitudinal axis;
- (e) the ground of every dealer's general identification plate on a motor vehicle used under the authority of a dealer's general licence shall be white, and the distinctive letters and numbers thereon shall be red;
- (f) every letter and number on an identification plate shall consist of Optical Recognizable Characters and not less than 75 millimeters high and every part of every such letter and number shall be at least 15 millimetres broad; the total width of the space taken up by every such letter or number (except in the case of the letter "l" and the number "1") shall be at least 47.5 millimetres:

Provided that in the case of the plate for a motor cycle the letters shall be not less than 40 millimetres high, every part of every letter and number shall be at least 15 millimetres broad and the total width of the space taken up by every letter or number (except in the case of the letter "l") shall be at least 39 millimetres;

- (g) the space between adjoining letter and adjoining numbers shall be 8 millimetres, and there shall be a margin between the nearest part of any letter or number and the top and bottom of the plate of at least 18.5 millimetres, and between the nearest part of any letter or number and the sides of the plate of at least 12 millimetres in the case of motor cycles and at least 25 millimetres in the case of all other vehicles;
- (h) the space between the last letter and the first number, or vice versa as the case may be, shall be 42.5 millimetres, and where the letters and numbers are in separate lines the space between the upper and lower lines shall be 18.5 millimetres.
- (i) every registration plate shall bear a National Flag, with the security hologram at the left hand side and optical recognizable characters. Diplomatic vehicles shall not bear the national flag.
- (j) every registration plate shall have a borderline of 4 millimetres in thickness.

4. (1) (a) Every motor vehicle or trailer registered shall be fitted with reflective plates and a third license unless it is being operated under the authority of a dealer's general license.

(b) No person shall manufacture or sell reflective number plates and third licenses without the written consent of the Authority.

(c) No person shall alter, modify, cut or otherwise interfere with the identification plate and third license as issued by the Authority.

(d) No person shall use on a road a motor vehicle or trailer the identification plates and/or third license of which are not clearly visible or legible; or which contain any letter or number other than the identification marks assigned to the vehicle or trailer (or any letter or number other than the identification marks authorized by the Authority), or which do not comply with the provisions of this rule.

5. In this Rules, "fitted with reflective plates" means carrying identification plates as required under this Rules.

6. The design and size of identification plates shall be as follows:-

(a) General Number Plates for Motor Vehicles

- (i) the front plate shall bear seven optical recognizable characters embossed and printed in black on white aluminum reflective sheet measuring 520mm x 112mm with an alternate front plate measuring 250mm x 205mm
 - (ii) the rear plate shall bear seven optical recognizable characters embossed and printed in black on yellow aluminum reflective sheet measuring 250mm x 205mm with an alternate rear plate measuring 520mm x 112mm.

- (k) Motor cycles
the rear plate shall bear seven optical recognizable characters with prefix “KM” embossed and printed in black on yellow aluminum reflective sheet measuring 205mm x 155mm.

- (l) Trailers
the rear registration plate shall bear six optical recognizable characters with prefix “Z” embossed and printed in black on yellow aluminum reflective sheet measuring 250mm x 205mm with an alternate rear plate measuring 520mm x 112mm.

- (m) Tractors
 - (i) the front plate shall bear eight optical recognizable characters with prefix “KTC” embossed and printed in black on white aluminum reflective sheet measuring 520mm x 112mm with an alternate front plate measuring 250mm x 205mm
 - (ii) the rear plate shall bear shall bear eight optical recognizable characters with prefix “KTC” embossed and printed in black on white aluminum reflective sheet measuring 250mm x 205mm with an alternate rear plate measuring 520mm x 112mm.

- (n) Heavy Machinery
 - (i) the front plate shall bear eight optical recognizable characters with prefix “KHM” embossed and printed in black on white aluminum reflective sheet measuring 520mm x 112mm with an alternate front plate measuring 250mm x 205mm

 - (ii) the rear plate shall bear shall bear eight optical recognizable characters with prefix “KHM” embossed and printed in black on white aluminum reflective sheet measuring 250mm x 205mm with an alternate rear plate measuring 520mm x 112mm..

- (o) Three Wheeler motorcycles.
- (i) the front plate shall bear eight optical recognizable characters with prefix ““KTW” embossed and printed in black on white aluminum reflective sheet measuring 520mm x 112mm with an alternate front plate measuring 250mm x 205mm
- (ii) the rear plate shall bear shall bear eight optical recognizable characters with prefix “KTW” embossed and printed in black on white aluminum reflective sheet measuring 250mm x 205mm with an alternate rear plate measuring 520mm x 112mm.
- (p) State Corporations
the registration plates shall bear the required number of optical recognizable characters depending on the type of motor vehicle embossed and printed in white on blue aluminum reflective sheet.
- (q) Kenya Garage Plates
- (i) the front plate shall bear six optical recognizable characters with prefix “KG” embossed and printed in black on white aluminum reflective sheet and shall both measure 500mm x 112mm.
- (ii) the rear plate shall bear shall bear six optical recognizable characters with prefix “KG” embossed and printed in black on white aluminum reflective sheet and shall both measure 500mm x 112mm.
- (r) Government of Kenya Motor Vehicles
the registration plates shall bear seven (7) optical recognizable characters with prefix “GK” embossed and printed in black on white aluminum reflective sheet for the front plate and yellow reflective sheet for the rear plate.
- (s) Diplomatic Plates
- (a) the registration plates shall bear eight optical recognizable characters embossed and printed in white on red reflective aluminum sheet.
- (b) the registration plates shall comprise the registration serial code “D000 000A-Z” with the code “000 CMD” being reserved for the Embassy Representational Vehicles only and “000 CG 00” for Consul Generals.

- (c) the measurements of the registration plates shall depend on the type of motor vehicle.
 - (t) United Nation Vehicles
 - (a) the registration plates shall bear eight optical recognizable characters embossed and printed in white on red reflective aluminum sheet.
 - (b) the registration plates shall comprise the registration serial code “UN 000A-Z”. The representational vehicle shall have the serial code “UNON DG” while “UN 001” and “UN 002” shall be reserved for Heads of UNEP and UN HABITAT respectively. Vehicles for Permanent Missions to UNEP and UN HABITAT shall have a code “000 PR UN 00”.
 - (u) International Organizations’ Vehicles
 - the registration plates shall bear seven optical recognizable characters with the prefix “INT” .
7. A person may apply to the Authority to be issued with new number plates upon payment of the fees prescribed in the First schedule.
 8. A person who contravenes any provision of these regulations and whose penalty is not provided for in the Traffic Act, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding Twenty Thousand Shillings or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or, both.
 9. Rule 7(1)(2) and (4) of the Traffic Rules shall stand revoked on 31st December 2017.
 10. Rule 7(3) of the Traffic Rules is hereby revoked.

SCHEDULE

ITEM	FEE
Application for motor vehicle registration plates and third license	KShs 4,000
Application for motor cycle registration plates and third license.	Kshs 2,500
Replacement of a single registration plate	Kshs 1,500
Replacement of third license	Kshs 1,000

Dated _____, 2015.

Eng. M.S.M KAMAU.
Cabinet Secretary for Transport and Infrastructure.