# Motorcycle PLATES









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#### **OBTAINING MOTORCYCLE PLATES**

Chapter 90, Section 1 of the Massachusetts General Laws defines a motorcycle as:

http://www.malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXIV/Chapter90/Section1

"Motorcycle", any motor vehicle having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, including any bicycle with a motor or driving wheel attached, except a tractor or a motor vehicle designed for the carrying of golf clubs and not more than four persons, an industrial three-wheel truck, a motor vehicle on which the operator and passenger ride within an enclosed cab, or a motorized bicycle.

The following motorcycle plate types are available:

- Normal
- Reserved
- Vanity
- Special
- Military
- Disabled
- Antique
- Year of Manufacture
- Limited Use

If a customer wants to put a new motorcycle plate on a newly acquired motorcycle, the customer must bring the following items to a full service RMV branch:

- RMV-1 form signed and stamped from the customer's insurance agent
- Registration and title fees
- Sales tax, if applicable
- Title (if used vehicle), Certificate of Origin (if new vehicle), or Bill of Sale (if non-titled vehicle)

If a customer wants to swap his/her current motorcycle registration for a new motorcycle plate, the customer must bring the following items to a full service RMV branch:

- RMV-3 form signed and stamped from the customer's insurance agent
- Old plate
- Swap fee http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf

#### **SURVIVING SPOUSE**

A surviving spouse can transfer the following motorcycle plates into his/her name...

- Antique
- Bronze Star\*
- Congressional Medal of Honor\*
- Distinguished Flying Cross\*
- Ex-POW
- Gold Star\*\*\*
- Legion of Valor\*
- Pearl Harbor Survivor\*
- Purple Heart\*
- Silver Star\*
- Vanity
- Veterans' \*
- Year of Manufacture

\*Note: A surviving spouse can transfer a motorcycle Veterans' Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Pearl Harbor Survivor, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Congressional Medal of Honor, or Legion of Valor registration plate to himself/herself (until remarriage, cancellation, or non-renewal) but must pay the initial registration fee and the renewal fee. Also, if the Veteran never obtained these plates or cancelled them, the surviving spouse is eligible to obtain a new set of plates (until remarriage, cancellation, or non-renewal).

\*\*\*Note: A surviving spouse can transfer a Gold Star plate only if he/she is the parent of the deceased.

A surviving spouse **cannot** transfer the following plates into his/her name...

- Disability
- Disabled Veterans'

# **MOTORCYCLE PLATE DESCRIPTIONS**





## **MOTORCYCLE NORMAL**

All Motorcycle Normal (MCN) plates measure 4 by 7 inches with one and one-half inch lettering in height. The lettering consists of **BLUE** alphanumerics on a white background.

**Eligibility:** Anyone can obtain a Motorcycle Normal Plate.

**Fees**: http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Normal plate must be renewed annually. All motorcycle plates

expire on December 31.

**Available At:** Any full service RMV branch office.

http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/BranchInfo/BranchMap.aspx

#### Reference:



#### MOTORCYCLE RESERVED

A Motorcycle Reserved plate consists of two letters and 1 or 2 numbers. Either the first or second letter must be an "X". The plate measures 4 by 7 inches with one and one-half inch lettering in height. Plate lettering consists of BLUE alphanumerics on a white background.

**Eligibility:** Anyone can obtain a Motorcycle Reserved Plate.

Fees: <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf</a>

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Reserved Plate must be renewed annually. All motorcycle plates

expire on December 31.

**Available At:** A motorcycle reserved plate is only available through the RMV's Special Plates

Section. When the plate is manufactured, it is delivered to an RMV branch near

the customer for pick-up.

#### Reference:



## **MOTORCYCLE VANITY**

A Motorcycle Vanity plate can contain a maximum of five characters and a minimum of two characters. The letters "I," "O," "Q," and "U" can ONLY be used as part of a clearly defined word. No periods, spaces, or punctuation marks are allowed.

Numbers cannot be used in the middle of a plate; they must be located at the end. For example, AA22 would be acceptable; AA2A would not be acceptable.

The first letter cannot be the letter "O." The number "0" cannot follow a letter. Letter and/or number combinations that convey an offensive message or appear to duplicate an existing registration plate are not permitted. Customers must explain any foreign language word or other obscure request to the satisfaction of the Registrar.

**Eligibility:** Anyone can order a Motorcycle Vanity plate.

Fees: <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf</a>

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Vanity plate must be renewed annually. All motorcycle plates expire

on December 31.

**Available At:** You may order a Motorcycle Vanity plate in person or by mail.

A Request for Vanity Plates application must be completed and submitted to the

RMV. Applications are available at any full service RMV branch or can be

downloaded from the RMV website at

http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/20284.pdf

. Customers can also request one be mailed to him/her by calling 857.368.8000.

There is a \$50 manufacture fee. Plates are manufactured within 12 -14 weeks

after payment is received.

The Special Plates Department will notify the customer by mail when the plates

are ready to be picked up at the branch location requested.

#### Reference:



#### **MOTORCYCLE ANTIQUE**

Motorcycle Antique plates feature the words "Antique Cycle" in red on the left side of the plate. Plate lettering consists of **BLUE** alphanumerics on a white background.

**Eligibility:** A motorcycle that is over 25 years old and maintained solely for use in

exhibitions, club activities, parades, and other functions of public interest (this includes drives to prepare for such functions and transportation to and from the

repair shop) is eligible for a motorcycle Antique plate.

Fees: <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf</a>

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Antique plate must be renewed annually. All motorcycle plates

expire on December 31.

**Available At:** Any full service RMV branch office.

http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/BranchInfo/BranchMap.aspx

An Application for Motorcycle Antique Plates must be notarized before submission to the Registry. Applications are available at any full service RMV

branch or can be downloaded from the RMV website at

http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/20132.pdf. Customers can also request one

be mailed to him/her by calling 857.368.8000.

#### Reference:

http://www.lawlib.state.ma.us/source/mass/cmr/cmrtext/540CMR2.pdf



## MOTORCYCLE YEAR OF MANUFACTURE (YOM)

A customer may register a motorcycle with a Year of Manufacture (YOM) plate. The motorcycle must be over 25 years old.

A Year of Manufacture plate is a plate (in the possession of the customer) originally issued by the Commonwealth in the exact year of manufacture of the antique motorcycle to which it will be attached. If no plates were issued for a particular year, the customer may use a plate originally issued in a prior year if approved by the Registrar. Vehicles must be at least 25 years old. The YOM plate can contain no more than 5 characters and must be in good repair and in original condition, and must be from 1987 or earlier. The plate must also be 25 years of age or older. Once the number is issued it cannot be issued again. Therefore duplicates are not allowed. Refer to the Year of Manufacture Reference List for a detailed list YOM plate guidelines.

**Eligibility:** The Year of Manufacture (YOM) plate must be presented to any full service RMV

branch for approval. An Application for Year of Manufacture Registration Plates

must be notarized before submission to the Registry. Refer to the *Year of* 

Manufacture Reference List and Application for information about the use of Year

of Manufacture plates.

Fees: <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf</a>

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle YOM plate must be renewed annually. All motorcycle plates expire

annually on December 31.

**Available at:** The RMV does not issue YOM plates. The customer must locate, obtain and present the YOM plate to any full service RMV branch for approval. Applications are available at any full service RMV branch or can be downloaded

from the RMV website at <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/20132.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/20132.pdf</a> .

Customers can also request one be mailed to him/her by calling 857.368.8000.

Reference:

http://www.lawlib.state.ma.us/source/mass/cmr/cmrtext/540CMR2.pdf



#### MOTORCYCLE DISABILITY

Motorcycle Disability plates feature the universal disabled symbol decal that is placed to the right of "Mass" on the top of the plate.

#### **Eligibility:**

The customer must complete an application for *Disabled Parking Placard/plate* and submit it to the RMV Medical Affairs Branch at the address listed on the top of the application.

Applications are available at any full service RMV branch or can be downloaded from the RMV website at <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/20060.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/20060.pdf</a>. A customer can also call 857.368.8000 and request one be mailed to him/her.

Applicants must meet one of the following requirements...

- Unable to walk 200 feet without assistance
- Legally blind
- Chronic lung disease
- Cardiovascular disease
- Arthritis
- Loss of or permanent loss of use of a limb

The RMV's Medical Affairs Branch may determine other standards of disability and standards of qualification for issue of Motorcycle Disability plates. Refer to the *Application for Disabled Parking Placard/Plate* for more information. http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/20060.pdf

**Fees:** <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf</a>

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Disability plate must be renewed annually. All motorcycle plates

expire on December 31.

**Available At:** A motorcycle Disability Plate is only available through the RMV Medical Affairs

Branch (MAB). Once approved, MAB delivers the plate to a full service RMV

branch. Contact MAB for additional information - 857.368.8020

#### Reference:



#### MOTORCYCLE BLUE KNIGHT

A motorcycle Blue KNIGHT PLATE is issued to police officers who are members of the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club. This club is a non-profit fraternal organization consisting of active and retired law-enforcement men and women who enjoy riding motorcycles.

**Eligibility:** The President of a Massachusetts Chapter of the Blue Knights International Law

Enforcement Motorcycle Club determines if a member may apply for a

motorcycle BLUE KNIGHT plate.

To apply for a BLUE KNIGHT plate, a customer must, first, write a letter to the President of the local Blue Knights Chapter in his/her area and request the plate. The letter should specify the customer's qualifications to receive the plate.

Upon submittal of the letter, the Chapter President is authorized by the RMV to approve the application for a BLUE KNIGHT plate. After the Chapter President approves issuance of the requested plate, he/she forwards the letter and any other documentation to the RMV Special Plates Section. The Registrar may authorize issuance of a BLUE KNIGHT plate on the recommendation of the

Chapter President.

**Fees:** http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle BLUE KNIGHT plate must be renewed annually. All motorcycle

plates expire on December 31.

**Available At:** A motorcycle BLUE KNIGHT plate is only available through the RMV's Special

Plates Section. When the plate is manufactured, it is delivered to an RMV branch

near the customer for pick-up.



#### MOTORCYCLE RED KNIGHT

A motorcycle Red KNIGHT PLATE is issued to firefighters who are members of the Red Knights Motorcycle Club. This club is a non-profit fraternal organization consisting of active and retired fire fighting men and women who enjoy riding motorcycles.

**Eligibility:** The President of a Massachusetts Chapter of the Red Knights International

Motorcycle Club determines if a member may apply for a RED KNIGHT plate. To apply for a motorcycle RED KNIGHT plate, a customer must, first, write a letter to the President of the local Red Knights Chapter in his/her and request the plate. The letter should specify the customer's qualifications to receive the plate.

Upon submittal of the letter, the Chapter President is authorized by the RMV to approve the application for a motorcycle RED KNIGHT plate. After the Chapter President approves issuance of the requested plate, he/she forwards the letter and any other documentation to the RMV Special Plates Section. The Registrar may authorize issuance of a RED KNIGHT plate on the recommendation of the Chapter President.

Fees: http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle RED KNIGHT plate must be renewed annually. All motorcycle

plates expire on December 31.

**Available At:** A motorcycle RED KNIGHT plate is only available through the RMV's Special

Plates Section. When the plate is manufactured, it is delivered to an RMV branch

near the customer for pick-up.

## **MOTORCYCLE AWARDED MEDAL DECALS**

(refer to each plate for specific requirements)



**Congressional Medal of Honor** 



Gold Star Family



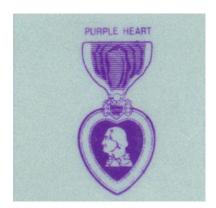
Silver Star



**Bronze Star** 



Distinguished Flying Cross



Purple Heart



Pearl Harbor Survivor



**EX-POW** 

# **Motorcycle Veterans' Branch of Service Decals**

The plate can display either the American Flag or one of Branch of Service Decals shown below.

http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf







Navy



Coast Guard



**Marines** 



**Airforce** 



Flag

## **Motorcycle Veterans' War Time Decals**

In addition, the plate may display the War time Decals shown below.

http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf























#### MOTORCYCLE GOLD STAR FAMILY

Motorcycle Gold Star Family plates feature the Gold Star decal. There are two decals that must be affixed to Gold Star Family motorcycle plates before they are issued:

- The "Gold Star Family" decal (affixed to bottom of plate)
- The "Gold Star" decal (affixed to the right of word Mass at top of plate)

#### **Eligibility:**

A Motorcycle Gold Star Family plate is issued to eligible family members of soldiers who have been killed in action while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States. The family members who are eligible to obtain these plates include:

- Spouses
- Parents
- Children
- Siblings
- Grandchildren

An application for Motorcycle Gold Star Family Plates must be completed and submitted along with the following documents:

- An RMV-1 or RMV-3 form (stamped by an insurance company), depending on the type of transaction
- Evidence of the required family relationship (birth certificate, marriage certificate)
- Evidence that the deceased was killed in action while serving in the Armed Forces (either a casualty report in the form of a telegram or an overseas death certificate issued by the US military)

Each qualifying applicant can register one motorcycle owned and principally used by him/her.

**Fees:** There is no fee.

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Gold Star Family Medal plate must be renewed annually. All

motorcycle plates expire on December 31.

Available At: Customers can get an Application for Gold Star Family Medal Plates at any full

service RMV branch. They can also download the Application from the RMV

Website at <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21625.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21625.pdf</a>, or a customer can call 857.368.8000 and request that the RMV send an application by mail. For more information about the Gold Star Family Medal plate, a customer can call the Special Plates Section at 857.368.8031, or refer to the application.

#### Reference:



#### MOTORCYCLE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR

Motorcycle Congressional Medal of Honor plates feature the Medal of Honor decal that is placed to the right of "Mass" on top of the plate.

**Eligibility:** 

A motorcycle Congressional Medal of Honor plate is issued to veterans who have received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

An Application for Veterans' License Plates must be completed. Claims of this award are verified through the Department of Veterans' Services by Special Plates. Along with the completed application, the customer must submit a photocopy of one of the following documents to the Special Plates Department:

- A DD-214 that indicates "Honorable" in the Character of Service box (which will not always be located in the same place on the form).
   Note that only the long form (full page) DD-214 is acceptable; the short form (halfpage) cannot be accepted.
- A DD-215 (which is an amended version of the DD-214) that indicates an honorable discharge.
- An Honorable Discharge form (this was used during WWII and the Korean War).

A Congressional Medal of Honor recipient is eligible for one plate for each Congressional Medal of Honor he/she received.

Regardless of which document is presented, the document must state Honorably Discharged and awarded medal.

**Fees:** There is no fee.

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Congressional Medal of Honor plate must be renewed annually. All

motorcycle plates expire on December 31.

**Available At:** A Motorcycle Congressional Medal of Honor plate is only available through the

RMV Special Plates Section. For more information about the Congressional

Medal of Honor plate, a customer can call the Special Plates Section at 857.368.8031.

Customers can get an *Application for Veterans' Plates* at any full service RMV branch. They can also download the Application from the RMV Website at <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf</a>, or a customer can call 857.368.8000 and request that the RMV send an application by mail.

#### Reference:



#### MOTORCYCLE LEGION OF VALOR

#### **Eligibility:**

A motorcycle Legion of Valor plate is issued to members of the Legion of Valor of the USA, Inc. Legion of Valor Members are recipients of the following medals:

- Medal of Honor
- Distinguished Service Cross
- Navy Cross
- Air Force Cross

Along with an Application for Veterans' License Plates, the customer must submit a photocopy of the following documents to the Special Plates Section:

- A DD-214 that indicates "Honorable" in the Character of Service box (which will not always be located in the same place on the form).
   Note that only the long form (full page) DD-214 is acceptable; the short form (halfpage) cannot be accepted.
- A DD-215 (which is an amended version of the DD-214) that indicates an honorable discharge.
- An Honorable Discharge form (this was used during WWII and the Korean War).

A Legion of Valor member is eligible for one plate per medal.

Regardless of which document is presented, the document must state Honorably Discharged and awarded medal.

**Fees:** There is no fee.

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Legion of Valor plate must be renewed annually.

All motorcycle plates expire on December 31.

**Available At:** A Motorcycle Legion of Valor plate is only available through the Special Plates

Section. For more information about Legion of Valor plates, the customer can call

Special Plates Section at 857.368.8031.

Customers can get an *Application for Veteran's Plates* at any full service RMV branch. They can also download the Application from the RMV Website at http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf, or a customer can call 857.368.8000 and request that the RMV send an application by mail.

#### Reference:



#### MOTORCYCLE SILVER STAR

Motorcycle Silver Star plates feature the Silver Star Medal decal that is placed to the right of "Mass" on the top of the plate.

**NOTE:** For **Active Duty Members of the Military**, the word **Veteran** on the plate will be covered by a decal that is labeled **Active Duty**.

#### **Eligibility:**

A motorcycle Silver Star plate is issued to veterans who have been awarded the Silver Star medal.

Along with an *Application for Veterans' License Plates*, the customer must submit a photocopy of the following documents to the Special Plates Section:

- A DD-214 that indicates "Honorable" in the Character of Service box (which will not always be located in the same place on the form).
   Note that only the long form (full page) DD-214 is acceptable; the short form (halfpage) cannot be accepted.
- A DD-215 (which is an amended version of the DD-214) that indicates an honorable discharge.
- An Honorable Discharge form (this was used during WWII and the Korean War).

A Silver Star recipient is eligible for one plate for each Silver Star medal he/she received.

Regardless of which document is presented, the document must state Honorably Discharged and awarded medal.

#### **Active Duty Members of the Military:**

To be eligible for these plates, a customer must be on active military duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, or Coast Guard (including National Guard or Reserve on active

duty) at the time of application and he/she must have been awarded the medal for the plate he/she is applying for. Along with the completed application - <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21855.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21855.pdf</a> the customer must send the following documentation to the Special Plates Department:

- A photocopy of his/her current vehicle registration
- A photocopy of his/her current Military ID Card (and a document to satisfy his/her "active duty" status if not on the Card)
- A photocopy of the document awarding him/her the specific medal for the plate being applied for

**Fees:** There is no fee.

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Silver Star plate must be renewed annually. All motorcycle plates

expire on December 31.

**Available At:** A motorcycle Silver Star plate is only available through the Special Plates

Section. For more information about Silver Star plates, the customer can call the

Special Plates Section at 857.368.8031.

Customers can get an *Application for Veteran's Plates* at any full service RMV branch. They can also download the Application from the RMV Website at http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf, or a customer can call 857.368.8000 and request that the RMV send an application by mail.

#### Reference:



#### MOTORCYCLE BRONZE STAR

Motorcycle Bronze Star plates feature the Bronze Star Medal decal that is placed to the right of "Mass" on the top of the plate.

**NOTE:** For **Active Duty Members of the Military**, the word **Veteran** on the plate will be covered by a decal that is labeled **Active Duty**.

#### **Eligibility:**

A motorcycle Bronze Star plate is issued to veterans who have been awarded the Bronze Star medal.

Along with an *Application for Veterans' License Plates*, the customer must submit a photocopy of the following documents to the Special Plates Section:

- A DD-214 that indicates "Honorable" in the Character of Service box (which will not always be located in the same place on the form).
   Note that only the long form (full page) DD-214 is acceptable; the short form (halfpage) cannot be accepted.
- A DD-215 (which is an amended version of the DD-214) that indicates an honorable discharge.
- An Honorable Discharge form (this was used during WWII and the Korean War).

A Bronze Star recipient is eligible for one plate for each Bronze Star medal he/she received.

Regardless of which document is presented, the document must state Honorably Discharged and awarded medal.

#### **Active Duty Members of the Military:**

To be eligible for these plates, a customer must be on active military duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, or Coast Guard (including National Guard or Reserve on active

duty) at the time of application and he/she must have been awarded the medal for the plate he/she is applying for. Along with the completed application - <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21855.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21855.pdf</a>, the customer must send the following documentation to the Special Plates Department:

• A photocopy of his/her current vehicle registration

 A photocopy of his/her current Military ID Card (and a document to satisfy his/her "active duty" status if not on the Card)

• A photocopy of the document awarding him/her the specific medal for the plate being applied for

**Fees:** There is no fee.

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Bronze Star plate must be renewed annually.

All motorcycle plates expire on December 31.

**Available At:** A motorcycle Bronze Star plate is only available through the Special Plates

Section. For more information about Bronze Star plates, the customer may call

the Special Plates Section at 857.368.8031.

Customers can get an *Application for Veteran's Plate*s at any full service RMV branch. They can also download the Application from the RMV Website at <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf</a>, or a customer can call 857.368.8000 and request that the RMV send an application by mail.

#### Reference:



## **MOTORCYCLE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS (DFC)**

Motorcycle Distinguished Flying Cross plates feature the Distinguished Flying Cross Medal decal that is placed to the right of "Mass" on the top of the plate.

**NOTE:** For **Active Duty Members of the Military**, the word **Veteran** on the plate will be covered by a decal that is labeled **Active Duty**.

#### **Eligibility:**

A motorcycle Distinguished Flying Cross plate is issued to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the armed forces of the United States, distinguished himself or herself by heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight.

Along with an *Application for Veterans' License Plates*, the customer must submit a photocopy of the following documents to the Special Plates Section:

- A DD-214 that indicates "Honorable" in the Character of Service box (which will not always be located in the same place on the form).
   Note that only the long form (full page) DD-214 is acceptable; the short form (halfpage) cannot be accepted.
- A DD-215 (which is an amended version of the DD-214) that indicates an honorable discharge.
- An Honorable Discharge form (this was used during WWII and the Korean War).
- A photocopy of your current vehicle registration

Regardless of which document is presented, the document must state Honorably Discharged and awarded medal.

#### **Active Duty Members of the Military:**

To be eligible for these plates, a customer must be on active military duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, or Coast Guard (including National Guard or Reserve on active

duty) at the time of application and he/she must have been awarded the medal for the plate he/she is applying for. Along with the completed application - <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21855.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21855.pdf</a>, the customer must send the following documentation to the Special Plates Department:

- A photocopy of his/her current vehicle registration
- A photocopy of his/her current Military ID Card (and a document to satisfy his/her "active duty" status if not on the Card)
- A photocopy of the document awarding him/her the specific medal for the plate being applied for

**Fees:** There is no fee.

Renewal: The Motorcycle Distinguished Flying Cross plate must be renewed annually. All

motorcycle plates expire on December 31.

**Available At:** A motorcycle DFC plate is only available through the Special Plates Section.

For more information about Distinguished Flying Cross motorcycle plates, the

customer may call the Special Plates Section at 857.368.8031.

Customers can get an *Application for Veteran's Plates* at any full service RMV branch. They can also download the Application from the RMV Website at <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf</a>, or a customer can call 857.368.8000 and request that the RMV send an application by mail.

#### Reference:



#### MOTORCYCLE PURPLE HEART

Purple Heart Motorcycle plates feature the Purple Heart Medal decal that is placed to the right of "Mass" on the top of the plate.

**NOTE:** For **Active Duty Members of the Military**, the word **Veteran** on the plate will be covered by a decal that is labeled **Active Duty**.

#### **Eligibility:**

A motorcycle Purple Heart plate is issued to veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart medal. A Purple Heart recipient must prove that he/she has been awarded the Purple Heart.

Along with an *Application for Veterans' License Plates*, the customer must submit a photocopy of the following documents to the Special Plates Section:

- A DD-214 that indicates "Honorable" in the Character of Service box (which will not always be located in the same place on the form).
   Note that only the long form (full page) DD-214 is acceptable; the short form (halfpage) cannot be accepted.
- A DD-215 (which is an amended version of the DD-214) that indicates an honorable discharge.
- An Honorable Discharge form (this was used during WWII and the Korean War).

A Purple Heart recipient is eligible for one plate for each Purple Heart medal he/she received.

Regardless of which document is presented, the document must state Honorably Discharged and awarded medal.

#### **Active Duty Members of the Military:**

To be eligible for these plates, a customer must be on active military duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, or Coast Guard (including National Guard or Reserve on active

duty) at the time of application and he/she must have been awarded the medal for the plate he/she is applying for. Along with the completed application - <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21855.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21855.pdf</a>, the customer must send the

following documentation to the Special Plates Department:

- A photocopy of his/her current vehicle registration
- A photocopy of his/her current Military ID Card (and a document to satisfy his/her "active duty" status if not on the Card)
- A photocopy of the document awarding him/her the specific medal for the plate being applied for

**Fees:** There is no fee.

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Purple Heart plate must be renewed annually.

All motorcycle plates expire on December 31.

**Available At:** A motorcycle Purple Heart plate is available at any full service RMV branch.

http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/BranchInfo/BranchMap.aspx

Customers can get an *Application for Veteran's Plates* at any full service RMV branch. They can also download the Application from the RMV Website at <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf</a>, or a customer can call 857.368.8000 and request that the RMV send an application by mail.

#### Reference:



#### MOTORCYCLE PEARL HARBOR SURVIVOR

Pearl Harbor Survivor Motorcycle plates feature the Eagle decal that is placed to the right of "Mass" on the top of the plate.

**Eligibility:** 

A motorcycle Pearl Harbor Survivor plate is issued to veterans who served in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

The Pearl Harbor Survivor must prove that he/she served in Pearl Harbor on that day. The customer must submit a Pearl Harbor Association membership card. Along with an *Application for Veterans' License Plates*, the customer must submit a photocopy of the following documents to the Special Plates Section:

- A DD-214 that indicates "Honorable" in the Character of Service box (which will not always be located in the same place on the form).
   Note that only the long form (full page) DD-214 is acceptable; the short form (halfpage) cannot be accepted.
- A DD-215 (which is an amended version of the DD-214) that indicates an honorable discharge.
- An Honorable Discharge form (this was used during WWII and the Korean War).

Pearl Harbor Survivors are eligible for one set of plates.

Regardless of which document is presented, the document must state Honorably Discharged and awarded medal.

**Fees:** There is no fee.

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Pearl Harbor Survivor plate must be renewed annually.

All motorcycle plates expire on December 31.

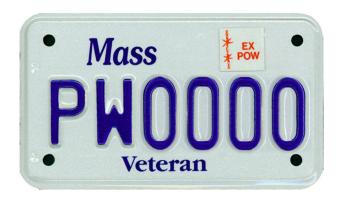
**Available At:** A Pearl Harbor Survivor motorcycle plate is only available through the Special

Plates Section. For more information about Pearl Harbor Survivor plates, the

customer can call the Special Plates Section at 857.368.8031.

Customers can get an *Application for Veteran's Plates* at any full service RMV branch. They can also download the Application from the RMV Website at <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf</a>, or a customer can call 857.368.8000 and request that the RMV send an application by mail.

Reference:



### **MOTORCYCLE EX-POW**

Motorcycle EX-POW plates feature the barbwire EX POW decal that is placed to the right of "Mass" on the top of the plate.

**Eligibility:** An Ex-POW plate is issued to former prisoners of war.

Along with an *Application for Veterans' License Plates*, the customer must submit a photocopy of the following documents to the Special Plates Section:

- A DD-214 that indicates "Honorable" in the Character of Service box (which will not always be located in the same place on the form).
   Note that only the long form (full page) DD-214 is acceptable; the short form (halfpage) cannot be accepted.
- A DD-215 (which is an amended version of the DD-214) that indicates an honorable discharge.
- An Honorable Discharge form (this was used during WWII and the Korean War).
- A photocopy of your current vehicle registration

Ex-Prisoners of War are eligible for one plate.

Regardless of which document is presented, the document must state Honorably Discharged and awarded medal.

**Fees:** There is no fee.

**Renewal:** An EX POW motorcycle plate must be renewed annually.

All motorcycle plates expire on December 31.

**Available At:** A Motorcycle Ex-POW plate is available at any full service RMV branch.

Customers can get an *Application for Veteran's Plates* at any full service RMV branch. They can also download the Application from the RMV Website at <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21573.pdf</a>, or a customer can call 857.368.8000 and request that the RMV send an application by mail.

#### Reference:

## **MOTORCYCLE VETERANS'**

Motorcycle Veteran's plates feature the flag decal that is placed to the right of "Mass" on the top of the plate.

#### Eligibility:

Available At:

A Motorcycle Veterans' Plate is issued to individuals who are considered to be veterans. To qualify for a Motorcycle Veteran's Plate, a veteran will be required to have either:

- 180 days of regular active duty service (enlisted or drafted service) and a last discharge or release under honorable conditions (does not include training)
- 90 days of active duty service (Reservists or National Guard), one day of which is during "wartime" and a last discharge or release under honorable conditions (does not include training)

Along with an *Application for Veterans' License Plates*, the customer must submit a photocopy of the current vehicle registration and one of the following documents to the Special Plates Section:

- A DD-214 that indicates "Honorable" in the Character of Service box (which will not always be located in the same place on the form).
   Note that only the long form (full page) DD-214 is acceptable; the short form (halfpage) cannot be accepted.
- A DD-215 (which is an amended version of the DD-214) that indicates an honorable discharge.
- An Honorable Discharge form (this was used during WWII and the Korean War).

For more information on how to obtain these documents, please call the US Veterans' Administration at 800-827-1000.

Veterans are eligible for one plate for each motorcycle registered in their name.

Fees: <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf</a>

Proceeds from the special plate fee for this plate go to the Chelsea and Holyoke Soldier's Homes.

A motorcycle Veterans' plate is available at any full service RMV branch.

**Renewal:** A Motorcycle Veteran's plate must be renewed annually. All motorcycle plates expire on December 31.

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http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/BranchInfo/BranchMap.aspx

Customers can get an *Application for Veterans' Plates* at any full service RMV branch. They can also download the Application from the RMV Website at <a href="http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21099.pdf">http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/forms/21099.pdf</a>, or a customer can call 857.368.8000 and request that the RMV send an application by mail.

#### Reference:



## **State Police Motorcycle Plates**

**Eligibility:** Any vehicle which is assigned to the Massachusetts State Police is eligible for a

State Police Motorcycle Plate.

**Fees:** State Police plates have no fee.

**Renewal:** State Police plates do not expire.

**Available At:** This plate is issued by the State Police Vehicle Manager.



# **Municipal Motorcycle Plates**

**Eligibility:** Available to any motorcycle owned or leased by a municipal department.

**Renewal:** Municipal plates do not expire.

**Fees:** Municipal plates have no fee.

**Available At:** This plate is available at is available at any full service RMV branch.

http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/BranchInfo/BranchMap.aspx

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## **Motorcycle Limited Use**

Motorcycle Limited Use plates feature the words "Limited Use" in a yellow triangle to the right of the word "Mass" on the top of the plate.

A "limited use motorcycle" is any motor vehicle that . . .

- has 2 or more wheels
- has a certificate of origin
- has a 17 character VIN
- has been certified by the manufacturer to meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) for that particular class of vehicle (e.g. passenger) and
- whose speed on a paved level surface can exceed 30 miles per hour but is not capable of exceeding 40 miles per hour.

Important: To determine whether the vehicle should be issued limited use plates, keep in mind that if the Certificate of Origin or previous title says "motorcycle" or motor driven cycle," then the vehicle is most likely a motorcycle, and therefore cannot be registered as a moped. Such a vehicle should be issued motorcycle or limited use plates, depending on the maximum speed. : In most instances, the maximum speed of the vehicle will not be on the Certificate of Origin. It will be up to the dealer, insurance agent, and the customer to ensure the vehicle is properly registered.

**Eligibility**: Anyone can obtain a Limited Use plate.

**Fees**: http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/fees/20141.pdf

**Renewal**: A Limited Use Motorcycle plate must be renewed annually. All motorcycle plates

expire on December 31.

**Available At:** Limited Use plates are available at any full service RMV branch.

http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/BranchInfo/BranchMap.aspx

#### Reference:

## Limited Use Motorcycle continued...

**Note**: A vehicle that previously could not be registered as a motorcycle under state law because its operator and a passenger rode within an "enclosed cab." But is certified by its manufacturer as a motorcycle with NHTSA, can be registered as a limited use motorcycle or a regular motorcycle depending on the speed.

**Note**: If the two or three-wheeled vehicle has a maximum speed greater than 30 mph and has not been certified by its manufacturer as a motorcycle or motor –driven cycle with NHTSA, it cannot be registered as a "Moped" or a Limited use vehicle and cannot be legally operated on the roads of the Commonwealth.

# APPENDIX A: Motorcycle Plates Year of Manufacture Reference List

YEAR	Plates Issued ?	BACKGROUND & TEXT	CONTENT & DESCRIPTION
1903	Y	Navy Blue, White Numbers	"Z" prefix from 1903 until 1907 MASS AUTO REGISTER at top; Serials Issued: Z1 to Z502 Porcelain on metal; Size varied to fit length of serial
1904	Y	Navy Blue, White Numbers	MASS AUTO REGISTER at top; Serials Issued: Z503 to Z991 Porcelain on metal; Size varied to fit length of serial
1905	N		In 1905 & 1906, "Z" plate issuance ceased since plates wore poorly due to motorcycle vibration Serial: Z992 to Z1524 (in 1905)
1906	N		Serial: Z1525 to Z2189 (in 1906)
1907	N		From 1904 to 1909, owner was directed to paint number on battery
1908	N		box of motorcycle Serial: Z2190 to Z3021 (issued in 1907, 1908 & 1909)
1909	N		Genal. 22190 to 23021 (ISSued III 1907, 1900 & 1909)
1910	N		From 1910 to 1914 a brass watch fob that the operator attached
1911	N		to himself served as a registration plate. Disc had state seal on FRONT; year and Z-prefixed serial number on BACK.
1912	N		8161 watch fobs were issued
1913	N		
1914	N		
1915	Y	Navy Blue, White Numbers	M over 15 at left  Motorcycle plates FROM 1916 TO 1919 were Flat Metal plates, 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 9520 issued  Annual registration, 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inch PLATES WERE ISSUED IN PAIRS FROM 1916 TO 1966,
1916	Y	White, Dark Blue Numbers	M over 16 at left Flat Metal plates 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 10,713 issued
1917	Y	Navy Blue, White Numbers	M over 17 at left; MASS – 1917 at bottom; Short dash separator Flat Metal plates 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 11,065 issued
1918	Y	White, Dark Blue Numbers	MASS 1918 at bottom; Square separator Flat Metal plates; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 12,862 issued (Motorcycle plates from 1917 to 1961 are 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches)
1919	Υ	Navy Blue, White Numbers	MASS 1919 at bottom; Square separator Flat Metal plates 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 13,698 issued
1920	Y	White, Dark Blue Numbers	MASS 1920 at bottom, dot separator  Note: same format used in following years  Embossed lettering; 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 15,143 issued
1921	Y	Navy Blue, White Numbers	MASS 1921 at bottom, dot separator; Embossed lettering Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 12,048 issued
1922	Y	White, Dark Blue Numbers	MASS 1922 at bottom, dot separator; Embossed lettering Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 10,047 issued
1923	Υ	Navy Blue, White Numbers	MASS 1923 at bottom, dot separator; Embossed lettering Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 11,043 issued

1924	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	MASS 1924 at bottom, dot separator; Embossed lettering Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 10,778 issued
YEAR	Plates Issued ?	BACKGROUND & TEXT	CONTENT & DESCRIPTION
1925	Y	Black, White Alphanumerics	MASS 1925 at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 9801 issued
1926	Y	Black, White Alphanumerics	MASS. 1926 at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 9215 issued
1927	Y	Black, White Alphanumerics	MASS 1926 at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 7245 issued
1928	Y	Green, White Alphanumerics	1928 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 6856 issued
1929	Y	Green, White Alphanumerics	1929 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 5568 issued
1930	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1930 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 4642 issued
1931	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1941 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 3068 issued
1932	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1932 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 2161 issued
1933	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1933 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 1488 issued
1934	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1934 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 1337 issued
1935	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1935 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 1379 issued
1936	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1936 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches 1336 issued
1937	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1937 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 1131 issued
1938	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1938 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 776 issued
1939	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1939 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches 950 issued
1940	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1940 MASS at bottom; Period after "MASS"; Embossed lettering; Plate size; 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches; 1065 -issued
1941	N		No plates issued
1942	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics Also exists as Green, White Alphanumerics after Serial 3131	MASS 1942 at bottom; Embossed lettering; Plate size; 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches 3131 plates issued
1943	N		Wartime, no plates issued to save metal
1944	N		
1945	N		
1946	N		No plates issued
1947	Y	Green, White Alphanumerics	MASS 1947 at bottom; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches  Same Format in following years
1948	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1948 MASS at bottom; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches Steel & Aluminum

YEAR	Plates Issued ?	BACKGROUND & TEXT	CONTENT & DESCRIPTION
1949	Y	Black, White Alphanumerics	1949 MASS at bottom; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches Steel & Aluminum
1950	N		Plates issued in odd numbered years until 1964
1951	Υ	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1951" MASS at bottom; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches Steel & Aluminum
1952	N		
1953	Y	Black, White Alphanumerics	1953" MASS at bottom; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches Steel & Aluminum
1954	N		
1955	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1955 MASS at bottom; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches Steel & Aluminum
1956	N		
1957	Y	Black, White Alphanumerics	1957 MASS at bottom; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches Steel & Aluminum
1958	N		
1959	Y	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	1959 MASS at bottom; Plate Length increased by 1-1/4 inches Serial numbers were issued from 1 to 9999, then Z1 to Z999 Steel or Aluminum
1960	N		
1961	Y	Green, White Alphanumerics	Either: MASS 1961 or 1961 MASS at bottom (two different length plates made even when both had 4-digit serials)  From 1961 TO 1998, all motorcycle plates measure 7-1/2 inches by 4-1/2 inches
1962	N		
1963	Υ	Black, White Alphanumerics	1963 MASS at bottom; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches
1964	Υ	Cranberry, White Alphanumerics	MASS 1964 at bottom; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches
1965	N	, j j	No plates issued
1966	Y	Green, White Alphanumerics	Resumed issuing plates yearly MASS 1966 at bottom; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches Serial all numeric
1967 AX000	Y	White, Blue/Red Alphanumerics	MASS at top; Plate size 6-1/4 by 4-1/2 inches Letter over "X" prefix, renewed with annual sticker Serial Number prefixed by letter over "X" from 1967 to date.
1968 AX000	Y	White, Blue/Red Alphanumerics	MASS at top (blue letters); 7-1/2 inches by 4-1/2 inches Serial is red; Letter over "X" prefix, Renewed with annual sticker Windshield sticker carried with the registration
1969 AX000	Y	White, Blue/Red Alphanumerics	MASS at top (blue letters); 7-1/2 inches by 4-1/2 inches Serial (red); Letter over "X" prefix Renewed with annual sticker Windshield sticker carried with the registration
1970 AX000	Y	White, Blue/Red Alphanumerics	MASS at top (blue letters) Serial (red); Letter over "X" prefix Renewed with annual sticker; Renewal sticker placed on plate

YEAR	Plates Issued ?	BACKGROUND & TEXT	CONTENT & DESCRIPTION
1971 AX000	Y	White, Blue/Red Alphanumerics	MASS at top (blue letters); 7-1/2 inches by 4-1/2 inches Serial (red) Letter over "X" prefix, Renewed with annual sticker Renewal sticker placed on plate
1972	Υ	White, Red Alphanumerics	MASS 72 at bottom; 7-1/2 inches by 4-1/2 inches Letter over "X" prefix – starting with "H" (only year)
1973	Y	Reflective White/Red Alphanumerics	MASS at bottom, validated with "74" motorcycle sticker NO BORDER = "AX" through JX; RED BORDER from KX on 7-1/2 inches by 4-1/2 inches
1974	Y	Reflective White, Red Alphanumerics	MASS at bottom, validated with "73" motorcycle sticker NO BORDER = "AX" through FX; RED BORDER from HX on 7-1/2 inches by 4-1/2 inches
1975	Υ	White, Red Alphanumerics	MASS 75 at bottom; Plate Size 7-1/2 inches by 4-1/2 inches Letter over X prefix
			SAME COLOR AND FORMAT 1976 through 1977 and part of 1978
1976	Y	White, Red Alphanumerics	MASS 76 at bottom; Plate Size 7-1/2 inches by 4-1/2 inches Letter over X prefix
1977	Υ	White, Red Alphanumerics	MASS 77 at bottom; Plate Size 7-1/2 inches by 4-1/2 inches Letter over X prefix
			SAME COLOR AND FORMAT in part of 1978
1978	Y	Reflective White, Red Alphanumerics	Serial Numbers AX through SX in 1977 format with 1979 Trailer Sticker Serial Numbers from TX, only "MASS" at bottom; with 1979 Trailer sticker Plate size 7-1/2 inches by 4-1/2 inches
1979	N		
1980	Y	Reflective White, Green Alphanumerics	MASS 80 at top; Plate Size 7-1/2 by 4-1/2 inches Letter over "X" prefix Note: Same color and format in even-numbered following years
			(1982, 1984, 1986, 1990)
1981	Y	Reflective White, Red Alphanumerics	MASS 81 at bottom; Letter over "X" prefix Plate Size 7-1/2 by 4-1/2 inches
			Note: Same color and format in odd-numbered following years (1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989).
1982	Y	Reflective White, Green Alphanumerics	MASS 82 at top; Plate Size 7-1/2 by 4-1/2 inches Letter over "X" prefix
1983	Υ	Reflective White, Red Alphanumerics	MASS 83 at bottom; Plate Size 7-1/2 by 4-1/2 inches Letter over "X" prefix
1984	Y	Reflective White, Green Alphanumerics	MASS 84 at top; Plate Size 7-1/2 by 4-1/2 inches Letter over "X" prefix
1985	Y	Reflective White, Red Alphanumerics	MASS 85 at bottom; Letter over "X" prefix Plate Size 7-1/2 by 4-1/2 inches
1986	Υ	Reflective White, Green	During 1985, elongated holes changed to round holes  MASS 86 at top; Plate Size 7-1/2 by 4-1/2 inches
1987	Y	Alphanumerics Reflective White, Red Alphanumerics	Letter over "X" prefix; round holes  MASS 87 at bottom; Letter over "X" prefix Plate Size 7-1/2 by 4-1/2 inches; round holes