

Transfer Ownership of a Vehicle Purchased

If you purchased your vehicle from a dealer, you need to speak to the dealership to determine what part, if any, of the titling and registration is being done for you. Typically, dealers submit the title application and leave vehicle registration up to the buyer. Title applications can be done prior to or at the same time as registration.

To transfer ownership you will need the following things:

1. Valid Georgia Driver's License
2. Proof of ownership for model years 1986 and newer the title provides proof of ownership. If the dealership applied for the title for you, they will give you a validated receipt showing the title fee has been paid. If a title has not been applied for, bring the Manufacturer's Statement of Origin (MSO) or properly assigned certificate of title. Note that you have 30 days from purchased date to register.

If you purchased from an individual, you will need the Certificate of title properly assigned showing a complete and correct chain of ownership. Note that if you purchase from an individual who still has a loan for the vehicle he must pay the loan off in order to provide you with a clear title before you can apply for a title in your name. Also, you only have 7 days from the purchased date to register the vehicle without penalties.

Photocopies or faxes are not acceptable and any lien or security interest shown on the MSO, title, or other supporting document must be shown on the title application or properly released. For Model years 1985 and older or vehicle such as homemade, boat or utility trailers weighing less than 2,000 pounds for which a title is not required, a Bill of Sale is used to transfer ownership and is proof of ownership. Please note: Travel trailer or campers model year 1986 or newer are titled.

3. A valid emission inspection certificate, with test date less than one year old, is required for non-exempt vehicles when changing ownership, regardless of whether the model year is odd or even.
4. If the vehicle is previously owned, bring a copy of the registration, referred to as a tag receipt.
5. Proof of insurance in Georgia