Wheelclamping and removing vehicles
Why your vehicle has been clamped or removed

Every vehicle registered in the UK must be taxed if used or kept on a public road. If you keep a vehicle off road without tax, you must make a Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN). DVLA records show this vehicle does not have tax or a valid SORN.

What you should do if your vehicle has been clamped or removed

You should contact the vehicle pound.

Paying the fees to release your vehicle

Before you can pay any fees you will need to produce a valid tax disc. If you are unable to, you will also need to pay a surety fee (deposit). The fees you will need to pay are:

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<th>Release Fees</th>
<th>Surety Fee (if not producing a valid tax disc)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Within 24 hours of offence</td>
<td>£100</td>
<td>£160 for motorcycles, light passenger and light goods vehicles</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>£330 for buses, recovery, haulage and goods vehicles</td>
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<td>£700 for exceptional loads and heavy goods vehicles such as a large lorry or bus</td>
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<td>Release from pound 24hrs or more after offence</td>
<td>£200</td>
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<td>Storage</td>
<td>£21 per complete day at the pound</td>
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How you can pay

You can pay by cash, cheque (up to the value of a valid cheque guarantee card), postal order or most major credit cards or debit cards.

The documents you need to release your vehicle from the vehicle pound

• Registration Certificate (V5C)
• Proof of identity such as a photocard driving licence or passport
• Recent utility bill.

If you cannot produce a V5C you must also provide documentation linking you to the vehicle, such as a bill of sale, or an insurance or MoT certificate. The vehicle pound will provide you with an ‘Application for
a registration certificate’ (V62). You must fill this in and pay the appropriate fee by cheque or postal order. The vehicle pound will send this application to DVLA.

**How to claim a refund of the surety fee**

Produce a valid tax disc to either the vehicle pound or a DVLA local office, within 14 days of the vehicle’s release. After this period, you will lose the surety fee.

**If the vehicle was clamped or removed in error**

- You should contact the vehicle pound immediately
- If you believe the vehicle is correctly taxed or SORNed, give the pound full details of the current tax disc or SORN declaration for them to verify with DVLA.

**How to tax your vehicle or make a SORN**

- Online at [www.direct.gov.uk/taxdisc](http://www.direct.gov.uk/taxdisc)
- By phone on 0300 123 4321 (textphone/minicom 0300 790 6201)
- At a Post Office® branch that issues tax discs or a DVLA local office
- By post on the address shown on your V11 reminder form.

**If you do not intend to tax your vehicle after it has been released**

You must still pay the release fees, including the surety fee which you will not be able to claim back. The vehicle must not be used or kept on a public road and you must make a SORN. A SORN does not entitle you to a refund of the surety fee.

**If you do not pay to have your vehicle released**

- If it’s currently clamped, it will be taken to a vehicle pound after 24 hours
- If it’s currently impounded, it could be disposed of after seven days at the pound

If you no longer want the vehicle, tell DVLA by returning a vehicle disclaimer form. If you’re the registered keeper, you’ll be sent this form when the vehicle is impounded, or you can get one from the vehicle pound.
Will any further action be taken?

- A DVLA enforcement centre will contact you to claim any unpaid back-tax on the vehicle from the date it was last taxed. There may also be a fine imposed of up to £1,000 or 5 times the annual cost of the vehicle tax, whichever is more.
- If the vehicle isn’t covered by a valid tax disc or SORN after its release, it could be immobilised again after 24 hours.

It is an offence to:

- remove, interfere with, or damage the information card and notices on a clamped vehicle
- remove, interfere with, or damage the wheel clamp
- make a false declaration which would allow a person to recover a vehicle
- make a false declaration to obtain a refund of the surety payment, and
- alter or use the vehicle release receipt fraudulently.

Make sure you display a valid tax disc in your vehicle.

No Exceptions
No Excuses
No Escape

Find out about DVLA's online services
Go to: www.direct.gov.uk/onlinemotorservices