

How to fill out REG 156 — Application for Replacement Plates, Stickers, Documents

California · written against REG 156 (Rev 11/2024), issued under California Vehicle Code 4457 and 9265

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/forms/california/reg-156-replacement-plates-stickers-documents/

Replaces the pieces of a registration that have gone missing - plates, stickers, the registration card, a disabled person placard. A seller reaches for it when a plate has been lost or stolen and the car cannot be handed over legally plated.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank REG 156 from the California Department of Motor Vehicles at <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/file/application-for-replacement-plates-stickers-documents/> — always take the current revision from the agency rather than a copy. Print this and keep it beside you while you complete theirs.

Every line, in the order you meet it

1	YOU	Vehicle strip	Plate or CF number, make and VIN. Watch out: The placard number, birth date and engine number boxes beside them are for other kinds of replacement and stay empty on a car.
2	YOU	Section 1, registered owner of record	True full name or business name with a driver licence number, plus a co-owner if the registration names one. Watch out: The instruction at the top is to complete all sections of this form. A half-completed application comes back.
3	YOU	Address and county	Physical residence or business address, county, and a mailing address only if it differs. Watch out: If your address has changed, this needs the appropriate change of address form with it - the note at the top of the page says so.
4	YOU	What you are replacing	Tick boxes for licence plates, stickers, registration card, certificates and the rest. Watch out: Tick only what is actually gone. Every item on that list carries its own fee.
5	YOU	Why it is being replaced	Lost, stolen, destroyed, not received from the DMV, not received from a prior owner, surrendered, and how many plates are involved. Watch out: One plate or two is a separate tick, and it changes what you owe. Replacement plates are \$28 under VC 9265.
6	YOU	Explanation	A free-text line for anything the tick boxes do not explain. Watch out: Left empty where Lost says everything there is to say. Filled in where the circumstances are unusual enough that a clerk would ask.
7	YOU	Certification	Print your name, sign, date, and give a daytime telephone number. Watch out: Under penalty of perjury, as with everything else on the DMV's paperwork. Then expect the plates by post, not over the counter.

What gets this one rejected

- Filing it when your address has changed. The note at the top says to submit the appropriate change of address form as well.
- Assuming it is free. The form says there is a fee to replace most items and points at [dmv.ca.gov](https://www.dmv.ca.gov) or 1-800-777-0133 for the current figure - replacement plates are \$28 under VC 9265.
- Leaving a section blank. The instruction is to complete all sections of the form.
- Using it for a personalised plate you want moved rather than replaced. That is the REG 17.

☒ Amber is what you write ☐ Grey is a block somebody else completes The completed example follows overleaf.

Read off REG 156 (Rev 11/2024) and the California Department of Motor Vehicles's own pages, current as of 2026-08-23. Plain-language help with a [sellmycarhub.com](https://www.dmv.ca.gov) form, not legal advice — where this and the agency differ, the agency governs.



APPLICATION FOR REPLACEMENT PLATES, STICKERS, DOCUMENTS

Complete all sections of this form and submit to any DMV office or mail to:
DMV, P.O. Box 942869, Sacramento, CA 94269-0001

NOTE: There is a fee to replace most items. If your address has changed, submit the appropriate Change of Address form.

For current fee information, visit dmv.ca.gov, or call 1-800-777-0133.

DMV USE ONLY	
DL/ID/OL NUMBER	☐ CA ☐ O/S
DL/ID NUMBER (IF PRIOR RDF)	☐ CA ☐ O/S
NUMBER OF PLATES SURRENDERED	TECHS INITIALS
OFFICE	DATE ID #

VEHICLE LICENSE PLATE/CF NUMBER 7BXK492	MAKE Subaru	VEHICLE ID NUMBER/HULL ID NUMBER 4S4BRBCC1D3241785
DISABLED PERSON PLACARD NUMBER	BIRTH DATE, IF DP PLACARD	ENGINE NUMBER (MOTORCYCLES ONLY)

SECTION 1 — REGISTERED OWNER OF RECORD (Please Print)

TRUE FULL NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE) OR BUSINESS NAME RAMAN, PRIYA N		DRIVER LICENSE/ID CARD NUMBER C2288741	
CO-OWNER TRUE FULL NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE)		DRIVER LICENSE/ID CARD NUMBER	
PHYSICAL RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS ADDRESS (INCLUDE ST., AVE., RD., CT., ETC.) 2418 Fruitvale Ave		APT/SPACE/STE. # Oakland	CITY STATE ZIP CODE CA 94601
COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OR COUNTY WHERE VEHICLE/VESSEL IS PRIMARILY GARAGED Alameda			
MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT FROM PHYSICAL ABOVE)		APT/SPACE/STE. #	CITY STATE ZIP CODE

SECTION 2 — PLATES, STICKERS, DOCUMENTS REQUEST — I am requesting replacement of (Check appropriate box(es))

NOTE: For replacement of missing License Plate, License Sticker, or Disabled Person Placard, if the original item is later located or received, the original item is no longer valid and must be destroyed or returned to DMV.

☒ License Plates	☐ Vessel (Boat) Year Sticker	☐ Disabled Person Placard	☐ PFR Sticker
☐ Registration Card	☐ Vessel Certificate of Number	☐ Disabled Person ID Card	☐ CVRA Weight Decal
☐ Year ☐ Month Sticker	☐ Vessel Mussel Fee Sticker	☐ Planned Non-Operation (PNO) Card	☐ CVRA Year Sticker
			☐ Trailer or OHV ID Card

SECTION 3 — THE ITEM REQUESTED WAS (Check appropriate box(es))

☒ Lost	☐ Stolen	☐ Destroyed/Mutilated (remnants/remains of the plate(s) must be surrendered to DMV)
☐ Not Received from DMV (Allow 30 days from issue date before reapplying) ☐ Not Received from Prior Owner		
☐ Surrendered — Number of plates surrendered to DMV ☒ One ☐ Two		
☐ Special Plates were Retained by Owner (Personalized, Disabled Person, Disabled Veteran)		
☐ Requesting Registration Card with Current Address		
☐ Per CVC §4467 – Copy of a police report, court documentation, or other law enforcement documentation required.		
☐ Other – Explain:		

SECTION 4 — LICENSE PLATE Complete only if address is different than DMV records (California Vehicle Code (CVC) §4466)

If the license plate(s) were **stolen** or **missing** and **your address is different** from the department's records, then you must appear in person at a DMV office and bring the following items: 1) An original or photocopy of proof of ownership (i.e., Certificate of Title, Registration Card, or Registration Renewal Notice); 2) Your Driver License or Identification Card; 3) If stolen, a copy of the police report stating the license plate(s) were stolen is required; 4) If duplicate license plates have been issued within the last 90 days, a CHP verification of the vehicle identification number (VIN) is required.

Check appropriate box:

☐ One license plate missing (automobiles/two-plate commercial vehicles/pick-ups only). The remaining plate must be surrendered to DMV.
☐ Two license plates are missing or one license plate is missing for a single-plate commercial truck tractor, motorcycle, or trailer. The registered owner must immediately notify a law enforcement agency (e.g., police or sheriff's dept., CHP, etc.).

SECTION 5 — CERTIFICATION

The registered owner mailing address is valid, existing, and an accurate mailing address. I consent to receive service of process at this mailing address pursuant to CVC §1808.21, Code of Civil Procedure §§415.21(b), 415.30(a), and 416.90.

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

PRINT TRUE FULL NAME Priya N. Raman	TITLE IF SIGNING FOR COMPANY Priya Raman	TELEPHONE NUMBER (510) 555-0148
SIGNATURE OF REGISTERED OWNER X	DATE 08/19/2026	EMAIL ADDRESS

