

How to fill out VR-197 — Odometer Disclosure Statement

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Maryland · written against VR-197 (06-17), issued under 49 CFR Part 580 and Maryland Transportation Article, Section 13-112

/forms/maryland/vr-197-odometer-disclosure-statement/

A separate mileage statement for the times the printed box on the certificate is not available or not enough - a title held by a lender, a duplicate on its way, a certificate whose odometer box has already been used. Maryland puts the disclosure on the title itself, so on an ordinary sale this form is a second copy rather than the main event, and it is printed in triplicate: white to the MVA, canary to the seller, pink to the buyer.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank VR-197 from the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration at <https://mva.maryland.gov/media/164?f=VR-197.pdf> — 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	I, print seller's name	The first rule on the sheet, inside the certification sentence. Watch out: Print it as the face of the certificate has it, middle initial included. This is a certification in your name and it should be recognisable as yours.
2	YOU	The reading	Whole miles in the box marked no tenths, read on the day you sign rather than the day the buyer first looked at the car. Watch out: A fortnight of test drives is a different number. If the reading has moved since you last wrote it down, write the new one and change the certificate to match before anyone signs.
3	YOU	The two exception boxes	Tick the first for a reading in excess of its mechanical limits, the second for a reading that is not the actual mileage. Watch out: Ticking the second one puts a permanent warning on the vehicle's record. It is still the right answer where it is true, and the warning is printed on the form precisely so that nobody can claim not to have seen it.
4	YOU	Make, Model, Year	Three boxes across the middle of the sheet, taken from the certificate rather than the dashboard. Watch out: Trim names are a trap on this row. The title's make and model are what the MVA has on file and what this statement has to agree with.
5	YOU	Body Type and Vehicle Identification No.	The row underneath, with the VIN in the wider box. Watch out: Check it back against the certificate character by character. The VIN is what ties this loose sheet of paper to the vehicle it is about.
6	YOU	Seller's Signature, Printed Name and address	Four rules down the middle of the sheet: signature, printed name, street address, then city, state and ZIP. Watch out: There is no notary block on this form and there is not meant to be. Do not go looking for one, and do not let anybody tell you the mileage statement has to be sworn in Maryland.
7	YOU	Date of Statement	One box under the seller's address. The day you signed. Watch out: It should match the DATE OF SALE box on the reverse of the certificate. A gap between the two invites the question of which document describes the transaction.
8	BUYER	Buyer's Signature, Printed Name and address	The last four rules on the sheet, mirroring yours. Watch out: Keep the canary copy with the buyer's signature on it. It is the only proof you will have that the disclosure was made before the vehicle changed hands, which is what the federal rule actually requires.

What gets this one rejected

- A reading carrying tenths, when the box says no tenths in its own label.
- A blank buyer block. Federal law makes the buyer's acknowledgement part of the disclosure rather than a courtesy.
- A date of statement that is not the date of sale, which raises the question of which reading was true when the keys changed hands.
- A figure that differs from the one in the printed odometer box on the reverse of the certificate.
- Neither exception ticked on a vehicle whose odometer has rolled past its mechanical limit, which certifies a false mileage by default.
- A seller's printed name that does not match the name on the face of the title.

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

Read off VR-197 (06-17) and the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration's own pages, current as of 2026-08-23. Plain-language help with a form, not legal advice — where this and the agency differ, the agency governs. sellmycarhub.com

Odometer Disclosure Statement

Federal and State law requires that you state the mileage in connection with the transfer of ownership. Failure to complete or providing a false statement may result in fines and/or imprisonment.

1 I, (print seller's name) Rosalind T. Purnell

certify to the best of my knowledge that the odometer reading is the actual mileage of the vehicle unless one of the following statements is checked:

2 61208 miles (no tenths)

☐ The mileage stated is in excess of its mechanical limits

3 ☐ The odometer reading is **not** the actual mileage. **Warning - odometer discrepancy**

Make: Mazda Model: CX-5 Year: 2021

5 Body Type: Utility Vehicle Identification No.: JM3KFBCM0M0357418

Seller's Signature: _____

6 Seller's Printed Name: Rosalind Purnell

Seller's Street Address: 812 Snow Hill Rd

City: Salisbury State: MD Zip Code: 21804

7 Date of Statement: 08/12/2026

Buyer's Signature: _____

8 Buyer's Printed Name: Emmett Callahan

Buyer's Street Address: 1904 Dual Highway

City: Hagerstown State: MD Zip Code: 21740

White Copy - MVA Canary Copy - Seller Pink Copy - Buyer