

How to fill out SFN 2486 — Certificate of Motor Vehicle Inspection

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North Dakota · written against SFN 2486 (5-2026), issued under NDCC 39-05-20.2, cited at the head of the form, with the equipment standards at NDCC 39-21, 39-27 and NDAC 37-12

The only inspection in the North Dakota titling system, and the state does not perform it. The form must be completed by an agent of the qualified business conducting the inspection, and a qualified business means one registered and in good standing with the North Dakota Secretary of State that offers motor vehicle repairs to the public - a private garage, in other words, which the department's own guidance says is not obligated to provide the service. Five reasons sit at the top and one of them is ticked: newly constructed or kit car, modified motor vehicle, antique restoration, salvage rebuilt or repaired, or untitled vehicle. Everything below is an equipment checklist the inspector works through.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank SFN 2486 from the North Dakota Department of Transportation, Motor Vehicle Division at <https://dot.nd.gov/forms/sfn02486.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	Vehicle Owner Name(s) and Telephone Number	Your name and a contact number at the head of the form. Watch out: Use the name that will go on the title application. The inspection certificate is filed with it, and the department matches the two.
2	YOU	Reason for Vehicle Inspection	One of five - newly constructed or kit car, modified motor vehicle, antique restoration, salvage rebuilt or repaired, or untitled vehicle. Watch out: The reason decides which conditional block below has to be completed as well. Modified needs an explanation with proof; antique restoration needs the original-parts answer; salvage needs the repairer's acknowledgement.
3	YOU	Year of Manufacture, Make, Model, Body Style	The vehicle description the inspector will verify against the vehicle itself. Watch out: Match the wording you used on the ownership affidavits. Three documents describing the same truck three ways is a reason for a reviewer to pause.
4	YOU	VIN and VIN Location	The identification number and where on the vehicle it is physically found. Watch out: The inspector confirms the location, so point it out on the day. On an older truck it is often on the door pillar rather than the dashboard.
5	OTHER	Name of Qualified Business Performing Inspection	The garage's name, the date of inspection, its address and telephone number. Watch out: Ask for a copy of the business's current Secretary of State filing at the same time. The untitled-vehicle package needs it and it is easier to collect on the day.
6	OTHER	Name and Title of Inspector, Signature and Date	The individual who performed the inspection, signing the four certifications above their name. Watch out: Check the second certification is true before you leave - that this business did not reconstruct or repair the vehicle. It is the one that invalidates an otherwise perfect certificate.

What gets this one rejected

- An owner completing the checklist. The form's own header requires it to be completed by an agent of the qualified business conducting the inspection, and all fields must be filled out completely.
- An inspection by the business that did the work. The inspector's second certification is that the business completing the inspection is not the same business that reconstructed or repaired the vehicle - a garage cannot sign off its own rebuild.
- No Secretary of State filing attached. The untitled-vehicle procedure requires a copy of the current North Dakota Secretary of State filing for the inspection facility, obtained from the Secretary of State's own site.
- A VIN inspection expected from this form alone. The note at the head is explicit: a vehicle identification number inspection requires the department's separate VIN inspection certificate to be completed.
- Incomplete or illegible entries. The header says such forms will not be accepted, which on a 120-box checklist is a real risk rather than a formality.

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

CERTIFICATE OF MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION

North Dakota Department of Transportation, Motor Vehicle
SFN 2486 (5-2026)

MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION
ND DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
608 E BOULEVARD AVE
BISMARCK ND 58505-0780
Telephone (701) 328-2725
Website: <https://dot.nd.gov>

This form must be completed by an agent of the qualified business conducting the inspection as required by NDCC 39-05-20.2 All fields must be filled out completely. Incomplete or illegible forms will not be accepted. Note: A Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) inspection requires SFN 61999 to be completed.

Vehicle Owner Name(s) <i>Marlys J. Thorsrud</i>	Telephone Number <i>(701) 555-0146</i>
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Reason for Vehicle Inspection (select one):

☐ Newly constructed/Kit Car
 ☐ Modified Motor Vehicle
 ☐ Antique Restoration
 ☐ Salvage Rebuilt/Repaired
 ☒ Untitled Vehicle

If modified motor vehicle is selected, please explain (proof required):

If antique restoration is selected, is it equipped with original or equivalent parts as required by law when first manufactured? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If salvage rebuilt/repared is selected, complete Repairer Acknowledgment below.

Repairer Acknowledgment: By signing below, I certify that the vehicle specified below has been rebuilt, ensuring that the frame and wheel alignment conform to standards set forth in NDAC 37-12-05. A business qualified to perform inspections may require additional certification when they determine the salvage vehicle may have suffered damage to frame, chassis, or wheel alignment because of an accident.

Repairs Completed By (Print or Type)	Signature	Date
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Year of Manufacture <i>1978</i>	Make <i>Chevrolet</i>	Model <i>C10 Custom Deluxe</i>	Body Style <i>Pickup</i>
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VIN <i>CCL148F326104</i>	VIN Location <i>Driver door pillar</i>
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Motor Vehicle or 4-Wheeled Unconventional Vehicle

Select One Vehicle Type in the Section Below:

☐ MOTOR VEHICLE
 ☐ 4-WHEELED UNCONVENTIONAL

Does the vehicle meet the statutory requirements including all electronic components that gives power to any of the following? (NDCC 39-21 and NDAC 37-12)

PASS	FAIL	NA (explain in comments)
☐	☐	☐ Headlights (39-21-02, 39-21-03, 39-21-20)
☐	☐	☐ Taillights (39-21-04)
☐	☐	☐ License Plate Light (39-21-04) (3))
☐	☐	☐ Clearance Lights and Reflectors (39-21-05, 39-21-07 through 39-21-12)
☐	☐	☐ Stoplights (39-21-06) (1))
☐	☐	☐ Turn Signals (39-21-06(2), 39-21-19)
☐	☐	☐ Brakes (39-21-32, 39-21-33) (37-12-02-03(1))
☐	☐	☐ Horn (39-21-36) (37-12-02-04)
☐	☐	☐ Exhaust System (39-21-37) (37-12-02-03(3))
☐	☐	☐ Mirrors (39-21-38) (37-12-02-02(5))
☐	☐	☐ Windshield - Tinted Windows (39-21-39 (1) (4))
☐	☐	☐ Windshield Wipers (39-21-39 (2) (3))
☐	☐	☐ Bumper Height (39-21-45.1, 39-21-52) (37-12-02-03(2))
☐	☐	☐ Door Latches (37-12-02-02(1))
☐	☐	☐ Floor Pan (37-12-02-02(2))
☐	☐	☐ Hood Latches (37-12-02-02(3))
☐	☐	☐ Steering Wheel (37-12-02-02(4))
☐	☐	☐ Fenders (39-21-52)(37-12-02-03(4))
☐	☐	☐ Fuel System (37-12-02-03(5))
☐	☐	☐ Steering and Suspension (37-12-02-03(6))
☐	☐	☐ Tires (39-21-52)(37-12-02-03(7))
☐	☐	☐ Seat Belts (39-21-41.1)

Motorcycle, 3-Wheeled Unconventional, Moped, or Scooter

Select One Vehicle Type in the Section Below:

☐ MOTORCYCLE
 ☐ 3-WHEELED UNCONVENTIONAL
 ☐ MOPED
 ☐ SCOOTER

Does the vehicle meet the statutory requirements including all electronic components that gives power to any of the following? (NDCC 39-27)

PASS	FAIL	NA (explain in comments)
☐	☐	☐ Frame and Chassis (39-27-03)
☐	☐	☐ Brakes (39-27-04) (39-27-04.1)
☐	☐	☐ Tires, Wheels, and Rims (39-27-05)
☐	☐	☐ Steering and Suspension (39-27-06)
☐	☐	☐ Fuel System (39-27-07)
☐	☐	☐ Muffler (39-27-08)
☐	☐	☐ Mirror (39-27-09)
☐	☐	☐ Fenders (39-27-10)
☐	☐	☐ Seat (39-27-11)
☐	☐	☐ Chain Guard (39-27-12)
☐	☐	☐ Vehicle Stand (39-27-13)
☐	☐	☐ Glazing (39-27-14)
☐	☐	☐ Horn (39-27-15)
☐	☐	☐ Speedometer and Odometer (39-27-16)
☐	☐	☐ Lighting Equipment (39-27-17) (39-27-17.1)
☐	☐	☐ Passenger Seat (39-27-18)
☐	☐	☐ Footrest (39-27-20)
☐	☐	☐ Highway Bars (39-27-21)

Comments

☐ Street Rod, Collector or Special Interest

Name of Qualified Business Performing Inspection <i>Bakken Ridge Auto Service</i>	Date of Inspection <i>05/22/2026</i>
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Address <i>3110 Gateway Dr</i>	City <i>Grand Forks</i>	State <i>ND</i>	ZIP Code <i>58203</i>	Phone Number <i>(701) 555-0121</i>
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By my Signature below, I certify all the following to be true and correct:

- 1) The vehicle was physically in my presence at the time I performed the inspection.
- 2) The business completing the inspection is not the same business that reconstructed or repaired the vehicle.
- 3) The business I represent is registered with the Secretary of State, is in good standing, and offers vehicle repair to the public. (Proof Required)
- 4) The inspection verifies the above-mentioned vehicle meets the minimum equipment standards as required by law.

Name and Title of Inspector <i>Dale W. Fossum</i>	Signature <i>Dale W. Fossum</i>	Date <i>05/22/2026</i>
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PENALTY: Any person making a false statement on this certificate of which another penalty is not specifically provided is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.