

# Former Military Vehicles in Texas

The Texas DMV Registration site has the form VTR-135 used to register former military vehicles. Excerpt from the form instructions:

## **Instructions**

Submit the completed application and payment in the form of a personal check, money order, or cashier's check; and any required attachments to your local county tax assessor-collector's office. **Do not mail cash.** A Former Military Vehicle plate or sticker is issued for a five-year period. The fee is \$50 if the vehicle was manufactured in 1921 or later, or \$40 if the vehicle was manufactured prior to 1921. **Fee is not refundable.** Proof of financial responsibility (insurance) or a copy of the completed Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) insurance exemption affidavit (DPS Form SR-2) is required at time of application. If the vehicle is not titled in your name, attach a statement stating you have legal right of possession and control of this vehicle. If you recently submitted an application for title, attach a copy of the title application receipt (VTR-500-RTS). A photo of the vehicle is required to be submitted with this application. If you order by mail, contact your county tax assessor-collector's office in three weeks to verify your license plate is ready, or if you have any questions.

## **Plate Eligibility**

Former Military Vehicles and trailers used in any country's military forces and maintained to represent its military design and markings accurately are eligible for Former Military License Plates. Vehicles registered as a Former Military Vehicle may only be used for parades, club activities, exhibitions, and other functions of public interest and not for regular transportation; and may not carry advertising.

## **License Plate Designation**

Former Military Vehicles have two options for license plate designation as indicated below. Please select one of the options:

OPTION 1: The serial number assigned to the vehicle by the Armed Forces may be used as the license plate number. The digits must be at least two inches high, in a design and location, which conforms to the vehicle's official military design and markings. No license plate will be issued, but a registration sticker will be issued and must be carried in the vehicle.

OPTION 2: If the Registration Number option is not selected, a single Military Vehicle specialty license plate will be issued for display on the rear of the vehicle.

Because few county tax office personnel have seen this form, I prefer to take it there in person. Sometimes just pointing to the instructions printed on the form can save lots of time.

You may **ONLY** register it as a **Former Military Vehicle IF** it has authentic insignias, military registration numbers (usually on the hood), and correct paint schemes. A former military vehicle that does not meet this requirement may only be registered as an Antique Vehicle, or Classic Auto, Classic Truck, or Classic Motorcycle.

You must include a picture of your truck to show that it has the authentic insignias, military registration numbers (usually on the hood), and correct paint schemes. It is unlikely that those clerks will have AR 850-5, Military

Vehicle Markings, but you need to be as accurate as Hollywood since that's where most people have become experts.

The vehicle registration form issued by the State uses the military registration (hood) number in the space that would normally contain the registration license plate number. This form must be carried whenever the vehicle is on any public thoroughfare. Also, see my above comment on the validation tag.

This information is the result of research by the Kempner Power Wagon Museum. Please pass it on to all **Former Military Vehicle** owners.