

FACT SHEET

Odometer Information

PURPOSE

This Fact Sheet provides information for a customer regarding the odometer laws and odometer disclosure requirements.

GENERAL INFORMATION

It is illegal to disconnect, reset or replace an odometer for the purpose of changing the number of miles on it. Federal and state laws give protection to consumers who suspect they have purchased a car with a rolled back odometer.

ACCORDING TO LAW

- ❖ When a vehicle is transferred, the new owner must be given a written odometer statement disclosing the vehicle's true mileage at the time of transfer, the date of transfer, the buyer's and the seller's name and address, and the vehicle's make, year, body type and vehicle identification number. The odometer disclosure information is also found on the vehicle's Certificate of Title.
- ❖ It is illegal to tamper with an odometer; sell, use or advertise any device for tampering; or operate a vehicle with a disconnected or non-functional odometer with intent to defraud.
- ❖ If the seller knows that the mileage has exceeded the mechanical limit, 99,999 miles, the seller must provide that information to the buyer.

VEHICLES EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ Vehicles more than 10 years old
- ❖ Vehicles titled as a Commercial Implement of Husbandry or Implement of Husbandry
- ❖ Vehicles titled as a Special Mobile Equipment
- ❖ Vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of 16,000 pounds or higher

WHEN IS A SEPARATE ODOMETER STATEMENT REQUIRED

- ❖ When the Federal Odometer disclosure statement is not included on the Certificate of Title for vehicles that are not exempt from odometer disclosure requirements.

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REQUESTING ODOMETER HISTORY

Consumers who suspect they bought a used Pennsylvania titled vehicle whose odometer was rolled back should complete Form DL-135, "Request for Vehicle Information". This form is available online through PENNDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services web site at www.dmv.state.pa.us and at any messenger service office or Driver and Vehicle Service Center Location.

A separate form is required for each record requested. Only one form is required when requesting a title/odometer history. Vehicle record information is available for the past 10 years only. When requesting a title or odometer history, more than one transaction may be available on that particular vehicle.

The fee is payable by check or money order made payable to "Commonwealth of PA." Attach your check or money order and send to: Department of Transportation, Bureau of Driver Licensing, Vehicle Record Services, P.O. Box 68691, Harrisburg, PA 17106-8691.

TAKE PRECAUTIONS

- ❖ Know the reputation of the person or dealer from whom you are purchasing the vehicle.
- ❖ Obtain the odometer mileage statement before completing the transaction.
- ❖ If you question a vehicle's mileage prior to purchasing, use the procedure listed above to attempt to verify the actual mileage.

If you believe your vehicles' odometer has been rolled back, find out as much information as possible through the above procedure and contact Pennsylvania's Office of Attorney General, Bureau of Consumer Protection.