

RECORDER'S NOTES
By Pamela Bacon
Logan County Clerk and Recorder

MOTOR VEHICLE FUN FACTS:

While the state of Colorado began issuing metal license plates in 1913, cities in Colorado began registering motor vehicles as early as 1906.

Many of these original plates were made of leather or other materials, while others were more carefully crafted metal plates. Three cities –Del Norte, Monte Vista, and Salida – are known to have issued porcelain plates, which are now highly collectible.

1910- Owners may have made their own plates to display license numbers

- Leather backing or tabs
- WWI created a national metal shortage & leather year tabs were used in 1919 plates

1920

- Metal tabs were used
- Year was stamped into the plate
- Several different configurations and colors were used

1930

- Stamping of plate numbers on very heavy metal began
- "County Numbers" are also stamped indicating the issuing county

1940

- Aluminum plates are introduced 1948

1950

- First appearance of the wording "Colorful" on plates
- Coveted skier plate design introduced in 1953
- County numbers replaced with identifying letters (DN = Denver)

1960

- Green & White or White and Green
- Started incorporating the Rocky Mountain range in the Colorado Scheme

1980

- Year and month decals are placed left and right side of the plates
- Designer plates are issued beginning 1989
- Dark green background used through 1990's

Present day

- Passenger regular or "Green and White" plates are most common
- Plates issued on registration data entry
- Have security features
- Font set name on Colorado License plates is "Colorado Gothic" This font is not made available outside of plate manufacturing.

C.R.S 42-3-202

- Front and rear plates are required and must be attached
- Operator is responsible for legibility of the digits
- Tabs and decals are placed on the rear license plate

2001 Plate issuance was 3 numbers and 3 letters 000-XXX
2018 plate issuance went to 4 letters – 2 numbers XXX-X00

The Election and Recording Department can be reached at 522-1544 for voter and election questions or recording information. The Motor Vehicle Department can be reached at 522-1158 for license plates/renewals or titling a vehicle. You can also reach our office by email at baconp@logancountyco.gov . **Like us on Facebook at Logan County Elections/MotorVehicle/Recording!**