

WHAT ARE VIN ETCHING AND MARKING OF COMPONENT PARTS SERVICES



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What is VIN Etching?

VIN etching is the engraving of the complete Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) in the lower corner of the windshield and on each side or rear window of a new car, used car, or leased car. VIN etching is also the engraving of the VIN on motorcycle component parts.

Must my vehicle/motorcycle be etched?

No. This is an option. Even if the vehicle has already received the VIN etching process, it is the consumer who makes the choice of accepting and paying for it.

Should my vehicle/motorcycle be etched?

Whether your vehicle/motorcycle should be etched depends upon your individual preference. However, statistics maintained by law enforcement agencies indicate that vehicles which have been etched are less likely to be the target of professional car thieves.

What must my dealer/lease company do?

State law mandates that the dealer/lease company **must** offer window etching as a service to purchasers of new, used, and leased vehicles or motorcycles. The service must include etching of the lower corner of the windshield, and each side or rear window of the vehicle, or in the case of a motorcycle, component parts.

What is VIN parts marking?

VIN parts marking is the secure marking of vehicle component parts with the complete vehicle identification number (VIN).

Does Connecticut state law require marking of component parts?

No. The service of marking component parts is permitted, but is **not** mandated by Connecticut state law.

Do federal statutes require marking of component parts?

Federal Law, however, requires manufacturers to mark component parts in designated "high theft" line vehicles.

How much can be charged for VIN etching or marking of component parts?

A dealer/lease company may charge a reasonable rate but no more than the rate filed with the DMV. A company must file its rates with DMV each time a change occurs with a rate.

For additional information, or to file a complaint, call the Department of Motor Vehicles, Dealers and Repairers Division, at (860) 263-5405.