



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES
YEAR OF MANUFACTURE LICENSE PLATE PROGRAM
PLATE DESIGN GUIDE

MOTORCYCLE PLATES

*For use on motorcycles only.
First year of issue was 1904.*

1987-1996



Measurements: 4" X 7 ½" **Material:** Aluminum

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Blue

Fully Reflective **YOM Use:** 1987-1996 Model Years

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in blue characters centered on plate. "RI" left of center embossed on bottom of plate in blue characters. "MOTORCYCLE" embossed on top of plate in blue letters centered. Embossed blue pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. Revalidated with stickers. (See sticker chart).

1984-1987



Measurements: 4" X 7 ½" **Material:** Aluminum

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Blue

Fully Reflective **YOM Use:** 1984-1987 Model Years

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in blue characters centered on plate. "RI 84" slightly left of center embossed on bottom of plate in blue characters. "MOTORCYCLE" embossed on top of plate in blue letters centered. Embossed blue pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. Revalidated with stickers. (See sticker chart).

1982-1983



Measurements: 4" X 7 ½" **Material:** Aluminum

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Blue

Fully Reflective **YOM Use:** 1982 and 1983 Model Years

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in blue characters centered on plate. "RI" slightly left of center embossed on bottom of plate in blue characters. "1982" slightly right of center embossed on bottom of the plate in blue letters. "MOTORCYCLE" embossed on top of plate in blue letters centered. Embossed blue pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. Revalidated with stickers. (See sticker chart.)

1962-1964 and 1968-1982



Measurements: 4 ¾" X 8 ¾"

Material: Steel (through 1976) – Galvanized Steel (1977) - Aluminum (1978-1982)

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black

Fully Reflective (1977-1982)

YOM Use: 1962-1964 and 1968-1982 model years

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. "R. I. {YEAR}" embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. (Random plates from this time are undated and only have "R. I." embossed left of center on the bottom of the plate.) "MOTORCYCLE" embossed on top of plate in black letters centered. Embossed black pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. Revalidated with stickers.

1960-1961 and 1965-1967



Measurements: 4 ¾" X 8 ¾" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White

YOM Use: 1960, 1961, 1965, 1966 and 1967 model years

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. "R. I. {TAB}" embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. "MOTORCYCLE" embossed on top of plate in white letters centered. Embossed white pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. 1960 plate was revalidated with tabs in 1961 and 1965 plate was revalidated with stickers in 1966 and 1967. (shown in photos). For the purposes of our program, these plates shall be considered interchangeable provided the year of the vehicle is shown with the proper tab for 1960 and 1961 plates, proper stickers for the 1965-1967 plates, or naturally embossed on the plate.

1954-1955 and 1958-1959



Measurements: 4 ¾" X 8 ¾" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black

YOM Use: 1954, 1955, 1958 and 1959 Model Years

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. "R. I. {TAB}" embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. Debossed edge border on perimeter of plate. Revalidated with tabs for 1955 and 1959 respectively. For the purposes of our program, these plates shall be considered interchangeable provided the year of the vehicle is shown with the proper tab, or naturally embossed on the plate.

1951-1953 and 1956-1957



Measurements: 4 ¾" X 8 ¾" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White

YOM Use: 1951, 1952, 1953, 1956 and 1957 Model Years

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. "R. I. {TAB}" embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. Debossed edge border on perimeter of plate. 1951 plates were revalidated with a window sticker. New registrations in 1952 were issued plates with "52" embossed on the plate. New plates were issued for all registrations in 1956 and revalidated with tabs in 1957. For the purposes of our program, these plates shall be considered interchangeable provided the year of the vehicle is shown with the proper tab, or naturally embossed on the plate.

1948-1950



Measurements: 4 ¾” X 8 ¾” **Material:** Aluminum

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1948-1950 model years

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. “R. I. {TAB}” embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. “MOTOR CYCLE” embossed on top of plate in black letters centered. Debossed edge border on perimeter of plate. Revalidated with Tabs in 1949 and 1950.

1946-1947



Measurements: 4 ¾” X 8 ¾” **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Raw Aluminum/Silver **Letter Color:** Black

YOM Use: 1946 and 1947 model years

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. “R. I. {TAB}” embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. “MOTOR CYCLE” embossed on top of plate in black letters centered. Debossed edge border on perimeter of plate. Revalidated with Tabs in 1947.

1942-1946



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ¾"

Material: Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White

YOM Use: 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945 and 1946 model years

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. "R.I. {TAB}" embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on top of plate in white letters centered. Debossed edge border on perimeter of plate. Revalidated with window sticker in 1943 and tabs in 1944-1946.

****Special Note**** In 1946, two different base plates were issued. Both are acceptable.

1941



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ¾"

Material: Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1941 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. "R. I. 41" embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on top of plate in black letters centered. Debossed edge border on perimeter of plate.

1940



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ¾" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1940 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. "R.I. 40" embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on top of plate in white letters centered. Debossed edge border on perimeter of plate.

1939



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ¾" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1939 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. "RHODE ISLAND 39" embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on top of plate in black letters centered. Debossed edge border on perimeter of plate.

1938



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ¾" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1938 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 5 digits (numbers only)

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. "R.I. 1938" embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on top of plate in white letters centered. Debossed edge border on perimeter of plate. The "B" prefix has disappeared from this point forward.

1937



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ½" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1937 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. "1937 RHODE ISLAND" embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on top of plate in black letters centered. Embossed black pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A black embossed dash follows the "B" prefix.

1936



Measurements: 4 ½” X 8 ½” **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1936 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a “B” prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. “1936 RHODE ISLAND” embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. “MOTORCYCLE” embossed on top of plate in white letters centered. Embossed white pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A white embossed dash follows the “B” prefix.

1935



Measurements: 4 ½” X 8 ½” **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1935 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a “B” prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. “RHODE ISLAND 35” embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. “MOTOR CYCLE” embossed on top of plate in black letters centered. Embossed black pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A black embossed dash follows the “B” prefix.

1934



Measurements: 4 ½” X 8 ½” **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1934 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a “B” prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. “1934 RHODE ISLAND” embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. “MOTOR CYCLE” embossed on top of plate in white letters centered. Embossed white pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A white embossed dash follows the “B” prefix.

1933



Measurements: 4 ½” X 8 ½” **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1933 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a “B” prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. “33 RHODE ISLAND” embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. “MOTOR CYCLE” embossed on top of plate in black letters centered. Embossed black pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A black embossed dash follows the “B” prefix.

1932



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ½" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1932 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. "Rhode Island 1932" embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on top of plate in white letters centered. Embossed white pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A white embossed dash follows the "B" prefix.

1931



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ½" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1931 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. "31 Rhode Island" embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on top of plate in black letters centered. Embossed black pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A black embossed dash follows the "B" prefix.

1930



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ½" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1930 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. "Rhode Island 1930" embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on top of plate in white letters centered. Embossed white pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A white embossed dash follows the "B" prefix.

1929



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ½" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1929 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. "29 - R.I." embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on top of plate in black letters centered. Embossed black pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A black embossed dash follows the "B" prefix.

1928



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ½" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1928 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. "R.I. 1928" embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on top of plate in white letters centered. Embossed white pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A white embossed dash follows the "B" prefix.

1927



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ½" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1927 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. "27 R.I." embossed on top of plate centered in black characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on bottom of plate in black letters centered. Embossed black pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A black embossed dash follows the "B" prefix.

1926



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ½" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1926 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. "R.I. 1926" embossed on top of plate centered in white characters. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed on bottom of plate in white letters centered. Embossed white pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A white embossed dash follows the "B" prefix.

1925



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ½" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1925 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. "MOTOR CYCLE" embossed in black letters centered at top of plate. "R.I. 1925" embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. Embossed black pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A black embossed dash follows the "B" prefix.

1924



Measurements: 4 ½” X 8 ½” **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1924 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a “B” prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. “MOTOR CYCLE” embossed in white letters centered at top of plate. “R.I. 1924” embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. Embossed white pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A white embossed dash follows the “B” prefix.

1923



Measurements: 4 ½” X 8 ½” **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1923 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a “B” prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. “MOTOR CYCLE” embossed in black characters centered on top of plate. “R.I. 1923” embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. Embossed black pinstripe border on perimeter of plate. A white embossed dash follows the “B” prefix.

1922



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8 ½" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1922 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in white characters centered on plate. "R.I. 1922" embossed on bottom of plate centered in white characters. Embossed white pinstripe border on perimeter of plate.

1921



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1921 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Embossed plate message in black characters centered on plate. "R.I. 1921" embossed on bottom of plate centered in black characters. Embossed black pinstripe border on perimeter of plate.

1920



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1920 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Flat Plate. Plate message is centered on plate with white characters. "R.I. 1920" on bottom of plate centered in white characters.

1919



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: White **Letter Color:** Black **YOM Use:** 1919 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Flat Plate. Plate message is centered on plate with black characters. "R.I. 1919" on bottom of plate centered in black characters.

1918



Measurements: 4 ½" X 8" **Material:** Steel

Base Color: Black **Letter Color:** White **YOM Use:** 1918 model year

Number Sequence Allowed: Between 1 and 3 digits with a "B" prefix, OR between 1 and 4 digits.

Description: Flat Plate. Plate message is centered on plate with white characters. "R.I. 1918" on bottom of plate centered in white characters

1904-1917

See Passenger Plates.

In 1904 through 1917 the presence of a "B" prefix denoted a Motorcycle plate. They were even the same size as passenger plates. For the purposes of our program, because plates from this era are only distinguished by a prefix and the plate type is not indicated on the plate, Motorcycle and passenger plates are interchangeable for these years.