This document is intended to present the information consumers might need for a successful car purchase abroad and the registration in various European countries at the moment of publication and in the most user-friendly manner possible. It has no legal value however and the working group will not be held liable for any loss or cost incurred by reason of any person using or relying on the information in this publication.

This publication is part of the action 670505 — ECC-Net FR FPA which has received funding under a grant for an ECC action from the European Union’s Consumer Programme (2014-2020). The content of this publication represents the views of the author only and it is his/her sole responsibility; it cannot be considered to reflect the views of the European Commission and/or the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency or any other body of the European Union. The European Commission and the Agency do not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

Portugal

Competent authority:

Instituto da Mobilidade e dos Transportes (IMT, I.P.)

What documents do I need to present to register a car?

For new cars:

- Application form (Modelo 9);
- European Certificate of Conformity (COC or equivalent). For new cars without a COC but with a national approval number, a certificate issued by the manufacturer or the relevant national administration regarding the technical characteristics of the car is needed. For those without a COC or a national approval number, documentation with the technical characteristics of the car and applicable regulations issued by the authorities of the country of origin must be provided. You should ask a designated technical service (“Centro de Inspeção Técnica de Veículos (CITV)”) for category B vehicles for form “Modelo 112.” For more information, click here;
- A VAT payment receipt;
- Personal identification of the owner;
- Proof of payment of vehicle tax.

For new cars without a COC but with a national approval number, a certificate issued by the manufacturer or the relevant national administration regarding the technical characteristics of the car is needed. For those without a COC or a national approval number, documentation with the technical characteristics of the car and applicable regulations issued by the authorities of the country of origin must be provided;

For used cars (for the purposes of the IMT, a used car is any car that is already licensed, even if temporarily, i.e. with a temporary licence plate):

- Application form (Modelo 9);
- Original or copy of a COC, unless no COC exists but the car has a national approval number. For used cars without a COC or national approval number, consumers will need to provide the original document with the country of origin approval number or a certified copy;
- Form “Modelo 112” to be issued by a designated technical service (Centro de Inspeção Técnica de Veículos – CITV);
- Personal identification of the owner;
- A VAT payment receipt;
- A copy of the original car registration document certified by customs;
- Proof of payment of vehicle tax.

Note: For the purposes of the Portuguese registration authority (Transport and Mobility Authority – IMT), a used car is any car that has been licensed, even temporarily, i.e. that has been provided with a temporary licence plate.

To register the car, do I have to show that a technical inspection has been performed?

Yes, unless it is a new car with a COC.

Is it mandatory to show proof of insurance to the registration service?

Every driver and car must be covered by insurance allowing them to use public roads, but the registration service will not ask for proof.
To whom should VAT be paid?

A car is considered new if no more than 6 months have passed since the date on which it was first registered or if its mileage does not exceed 6,000 km. For intra-EU transactions, **new cars are VAT exempt**. Thus, the supplier should not charge VAT. Instead, if you have bought a new car in another EU Member State with the intention of importing it to and registering it in your country of residence, you must pay VAT in your own Member State at that country's rate.

**All other cars are considered second hand** (more than 6 months since the date of first registration and mileage of more than 6,000 km). They are generally sold inclusive of VAT if the supplier is a taxable person for VAT purposes. You don't have to pay VAT in your country of residence.

VAT should be paid to the tax and customs authority (Autoridade Tributária e Aduaneira).

**Documents to be presented:**

- Invoice;
- Form “DAV” (Modelo 22.1110);
- Registration certificate (for used cars);
- COC;
- CO2 emissions document (if this is not mentioned on the COC) issued by a CITV;
- Transport document and payment receipt if the car was transported into Portugal.

Before final registration, can I drive in Portugal with temporary plates?

Yes, you can travel through Portugal with transit plates from other EU Member States.

Whom do I contact in the event of difficulties with the registration authority/administration?

You can contact the SOLVIT Centre Portugal for help with any difficulties.

If you have a question linked to your consumer rights when purchasing a car cross-border, contact your local ECC: [http://cec.consumidor.pt](http://cec.consumidor.pt)