



IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY REFERENCE SERIES

Idaho License Plates

Number 170

Revised 1988

Since 1913, Idaho automobile license plates have been issued in the following colors. The State has never used porcelain plates, and undated plates have never been issued for general use.

1913: white on blue
1914: white on red
1915: red on white
1916: black on cream
1917: yellow on black
1918: white on brown
1919: cream on dark green
1920: white on blue
1921: black on orange
1922: orange on black
1923: light orange on silver
1924: black on yellow
1925: black on white
1926: black on orange
1927: orange on dark blue
1928: green on tan
1929: deep yellow on black
1930: black on deep yellow
1931: white on black
1932: black on orange
1933: orange on black
1934: black on deep yellow
1935: yellow on black
1936: black on deep yellow
1937: black on silver
1938: white on maroon
1939: yellow on blue
1940: green on yellow-orange
1941: black on yellow
1942: blue on light gray
1943: 1942 plate with windshield sticker
1944: 1942 plate with windshield sticker
1945: black on yellow-orange
1946: white on black
1947: white on blue

1948: black on aluminum
 1949: 1948 with red on aluminum 1949 date tab
 1950: white on black
 1951: white on maroon
 1952: 1951 with red on aluminum 1952 date tab
 1953: white on black
 1954: black on white
 1955: white on black
 1956: black on white
 1957: white on apple green
 1958: green on white
 1959: white on green
 1960: green on white
 1961: white on green
 1962: green on white
 1963: white on green
 1964: green on white
 1965: white on green
 1966: green on white
 1967: white on green
 1968: green on white/5-year reflectorized
 1969: 1968 plate with green on white sticker
 1970: 1968 plate with red on white sticker
 1971: 1968 plate with black on yellow sticker
 1972: 1968 plate with black on white sticker
 1973: 1968 plate with white on red sticker
 1974: green on white/5-year reflectorized
 1975: 1974 plate with black on yellow sticker
 1976: 1974 plate with white on orange sticker
 1977: 1974 plate with black on white sticker
 1978: 1974 plate with red on yellow sticker
 1979: 1974 plate with white on black sticker
 1980: 1974 plate with white on red sticker
 1981: 1974 plate with white on blue sticker
 1982: 1974 plate with black on yellow sticker
 1983: 1974 plate with white on red sticker
 1984: 1974 plate with white on green sticker
 1985: 1974 plate with white on blue sticker
 1986: 1974 plate with white on black sticker
 1987: 1974 plate with white on red sticker
 also: optional Centennial plates red/white/blue
 1988: 1974 plate with white on green sticker
 1989: 1974 plate with white on blue sticker

County	1932-1933	1934-1944	1945 on
Ada Adams	A1	1A	1A
Bannock	A2	2A	2A
Bear	A3	3A	1B
Lake	A4	4A	2B

Benewah	A5	5A	3B
Bingham	A6	6A	4B
Blaine	A7	7A	5B
Boise	A8	8A	6B
Bonner	A9	9A	7B
Bonneville	B1	1P	8B
Boundary	B2	2P	9B
Butte	B3	3P	10B
Camas	B4	4P	1C
Canyon	B5	5P	2C
Caribou	B6	6P	3C
Cassia	B7	7P	4C
Clark	B8	8P	5C
Clearwater	B9	9P	6C
Custer	H1	1H	7C
Elmore	H2	2H	E
Franklin	H3	3H	1F
Fremont	H4	4H	2F
Gem	H5	5H	1G
Gooding	H6	6H	2G
Idaho	H7	7H	I
Jefferson	H8	8H	1J
Jerome	H9	9H	2J
Kootenai	K1	1K	K
Latah	K2	2K	1L
Lemhi	K3	3K	2L
Lewis	K4	4K	3L
Lincoln	K5	5K	4L
Madison	K6	6K	1M
Minidoka	K7	7K	2M
Nez Perce	K8	8K	N
Oneida	K9	9K	1O
Owyhee	R1	1R	2O
Payette	R2	2R	1P
Power	R3	3R	2P
Shoshone	R4	4R	S
Teton Twin	R5	5R	1T
Falls	R6	6R	2T
Valley	R7	7R	V
Washington	R8	8R	W

County License plate prefixes: before 1932, a straight numerical system was used with no county prefix. In 1932 and 1933, the letters A, B, H, K, and R were used with the numerals 1 through 9 as county prefixes. From 1934 through 1942, the same prefixes were used except that the B was changed to a P. In 1945 the county prefix designation was started.

Pictures and slogans have appeared on Idaho license plates off and on, as follows:

1913-1927: none

- 1928: "Idaho Potatoes;" number printed over background picture of potato.
- 1929-1939: none
- 1940: "50 Years Statehood" across top "1890 Idaho 1940" across bottom.
- 1947: Skier between county & plate number "Vacation Wonderland" across bottom.
- 1948-1949: Colored potato decal between numbers; "World Famous Potatoes" across bottom.
- 1950-1952: none
- 1953: "World Famous Potato" across bottom.
- 1954-1955: none
- 1956: "World Famous Potato" across bottom.
- 1957- "Famous Potatoes" across bottom.
- 1983- Graphic mountain scene across top.
- 1987-1990: Optional red/white/blue centennial plates with "1890 Idaho 1990" across top and "Centennial" across bottom.