

MOTORCYCLES

1971 and Subsequent Year Model Motorcycles

Beginning with 1971 year models, the frame number must be shown as the vehicle identification number on all applications for certificate of title covering 1971 and subsequent year model motorcycles; and thereafter, the certificates of title issued for 1971 and subsequent year model motorcycles must follow such vehicles' frames. Therefore, a certificate of title is required to transfer the ownership of all 1971 and subsequent year model motorcycle frames. A bill of sale may be used to transfer the ownership of all 1971 and subsequent year model motorcycle motors.

1970 and Prior Year Model Motorcycles

1970 and prior year model motorcycles were titled using either the motor or frame number as the identifying number. When the component parts of a motorcycle (motor and frame) are disassembled and sold separately, the certificate of title covering such vehicle must be surrendered as the bill of sale for the component part on which is located the identifying number under which the vehicle was titled. A bill of sale may be used to sell the remaining component part, and such bill of sale must show the description of the vehicle from which the component part was removed and the title number under which such vehicle was titled. Also, the bill of sale must contain a statement, such as "This motor was removed from a vehicle which was titled under the frame number," thereby indicating that the component part was not titled under its identification number and that the title is therefore not required. In the event the frame number and motor number are identical, the certificate of title must be used to transfer ownership of the frame.

In the event it is necessary for the applicant to assign his certificate of title to transfer the component part under which the vehicle is titled but the remaining component part is to be retained for further use, the applicant may submit a statement of fact executed on the Rebuilt Vehicle Statement, Form VTR-61, or otherwise substantiating the fact that he owned, for example, the motor and that the certificate of title recorded the frame number and was used to transfer the ownership of such frame. The affidavit must show the description of the vehicle from which the motor was removed and the title number under which such vehicle was titled.

Rebuilt and Assembled Motorcycles

The following must be included in any application for title covering a motorcycle when the transaction involves a change of either the motor or frame or the assembling of both:

- Application for Texas Certificate of Title, Form 130-U.
- Evidence of ownership covering the motor and frame. Depending on the year model of the motorcycle (as indicated above), such evidence may be a certificate of title, bill of sale, or an affidavit establishing ownership in the applicant's name. Any bill of sale or an affidavit must show the identification number of the component part being transferred; and it must also show the description of the vehicle from which such component part was removed and the title number under which such vehicle was titled.
- Pencil tracing of both the motor number and the frame number of the vehicle involved, regardless of whether the change of one or the other or the assembling of both has occurred, indicating on each pencil tracing whether such pencil tracing is of the motor number or frame number. This is necessary to ensure that the proper title record is located, since title may have been established under either number.
- Rebuilt Vehicle Statement, Form VTR-61, showing thereon a detailed explanation as to what was done in relation to the changing or assembling of component parts of the vehicle for which title is sought.

- Photograph of the vehicle, if the evidence covering the motor and the evidence covering the frame is assigned to the applicant.
- If an assigned number is obtained, the Notice of Assigned Number or Installation of Reassigned Vehicle Identification Number, Form VTR-68-N.
- If an assigned number is obtained, a photocopy of the Application for Assigned or Reassigned Number, Form VTR-68-A.

A rebuilt or assembled motorcycle is one that is assembled from the two component parts (motor and frame). The frame number must be shown as the vehicle identification number on all motorcycles rebuilt or assembled in 1971 and subsequent years. If an identifying number was not placed on the frame by the manufacturer or if the manufacturer's identification number on the frame has been removed, changed, or obliterated, an assigned vehicle identification number must be obtained.

The certificate of title for a 1971 or subsequent year model motorcycle must cover the frame; and the certificate of title for a 1970 or prior year model motorcycle may cover either the motor or the frame, depending on whether the vehicle was titled under the motor number or the frame number. Therefore, the following situations will occur when a component part is changed or when a motorcycle is assembled:

- A title in the name of the applicant is presented to the tax collector covering the frame (titled under frame number), and a bill of sale or an assigned certificate of title recording the motor number is presented as evidence for the motor. In such instances, an application for corrected title must be filed to record the "reconstructed" remark. The application must show the same vehicle description as recorded on the title covering the frame. Even though the vehicle description will be unchanged on the subsequent title issued, microfilm records will be corrected to reflect the new motor number of the motor installed. If an assigned certificate of title is used as a bill of sale for a motor, the title should be marked "motor only" and attached to the title transaction. Such title will then be canceled.
- A title in the name of the applicant is submitted for the motor, and a bill of sale is surrendered for the frame. In this instance, the transaction will be handled as a frame change, and an application for corrected title must be filed to correct the description of vehicle. The make, year model, and identifying number must be the same as shown on the frame.
- A title in the name of the applicant is submitted covering the motor, and an assigned certificate of title is surrendered for the frame. In this case, the title covering the frame must be transferred into the applicant's name. The transaction must be handled as a "reconstructed," and title covering the motor should be marked "Retained Motor Only" and attached to the transaction for cancellation.
- If the evidence of ownership covering each component (motor and frame) is assigned to the applicant, the transaction will be handled as a "Rebuilt" or "Assembled." A photograph of the vehicle must be attached to the title transaction; and if the photograph reveals that the finished product represents an established "make" of motorcycle, the application for title will be processed as a "Rebuilt" showing the make, year model, and identification number of the frame. If the photograph reveals that the finished product does not represent an established "make" of motorcycle or if the frame was not manufactured by an established motorcycle manufacturer, the make must be shown as "Assembled" and the year model shown as the year in which the vehicle was assembled.