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Special Report Road Tax

PARKER'S GUIDE TO ROAD TAX

Road Tax: What's changing?

The price of UK car tax is changing following the 2011 Budget.

The cost of Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) or car tax will rise by the cost of inflation from April 1, 2011.

However, cars that emit less than 130g/km of CO₂ will continue to pay zero first year road tax (so-called showroom tax), while cars emitting less than 100g/km CO₂ will also pay zero road tax.

Cars in road tax bands B and C will continue to pay £20 and £30 a year road tax respectively, while all other cars face higher bills for road tax.

As well as the new car tax costs, new car buyers must pay a one-off first-year '**showroom tax**'. This means buyers have to pay up to £1,000 in the first year of purchase for cars with high emissions, while people who buy a new car with emissions lower than 130g/km of CO₂ will pay nothing in the first year.

The number of tax bands increased from seven to 13 in 2009, with increased penalties for the most polluting cars, followed by further changes in April 2010.

Greener drivers are rewarded with lower tax bills, but owners of high-emission cars will be hit hard.

How road tax is calculated

Whereas car tax on all models registered before 1st March 2001 is based on engine size, cars registered on or after that date are taxed according to their emissions.

So, for older cars, there's one rate for engines smaller than and including 1549cc and one for engine sizes larger than 1549cc.

With newer models, annual car tax rates are based on cars' green credentials and currently there are 13 tax bands. Cars in band A are greener (and therefore cheaper to tax) than band M.

Essentially, the lower the emissions, the cheaper the tax disc.

You can find your car's emission information in the log book (also called a V5 document) or in our **facts and figures** section.

Road tax changes

The current car tax rules came into force in two stages from March 2009-April 2010.

In March 2009 the number of tax bands increased from seven to 13 categories and range from bands A to M.

Car tax. Functional English detailed reading

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Road tax from April 2011-2012

Updated 23 March 2011, following the Budget

Tax band	CO2 emissions (g/km)	Annual rate
A	Up to 100	FREE
B	101-110	£20
C	111-120	£30
D	121-130	£95
E	131-140	£115
F	141-150	£130
G	151-165	£165
H	166-175	£190
I	176-185	£210
J	186-200	£245
K	201-225	£260
L	226-255	£445
M	Over 255	£460

Please note: All cars registered between March 2001 and March 2006 that produce more than 225g/km CO₂, will temporarily join Band K in 2009 and 2010.

All cars emitting less than 100g/km CO₂ are tax exempt.

Buyers of newly registered, polluting models must also pay a one-off first-year tax – which could cost as much as £1000 – while eco-friendly drivers are gifted tax exemption instead.

This could be a very costly tax for some UK drivers.

Owners of new cars releasing less than 130/gkm CO₂ do not have to pay car tax in the first year.

How much car road tax do I have to pay?

It can be very difficult to work out how much your next few tax discs will cost.

The car tax system is complex. Tax bands and rates will change next April and Government websites are tricky to understand.

Let Parker's car tax calculator figure it out for you.

All you have to do is tell us what car you drive and we'll do the hard work. Our helpful tool is quick and easy to use, working out how much tax you must pay. It even breaks rates down into half-year and annual payments and adds the first-year registration fee on for you.

How much will you pay? Try [Parker's car tax calculator](#)

Information from <http://www.parkers.co.uk/News/Road-tax/Guide-to-tax-changes/> (accessed Aug 31. 2011)

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You will need to read parts of the text in detail in order to answer most of these questions.

1. What type of text is this?
2. What is the main heading?
3. List three sub-headings.
4. Identify 3 ways the layout helps you to locate information.
5. What information does the table give you?
6. When did the car tax system change?
7. Which cars will have to pay more and how much will they have to pay?
8. How will buyers of lower emission cars benefit?
9. Summarise the main point in the paragraph subtitled: How road tax is calculated.
10. Where can you find details about your car's emission?
11. How many bands did the tax bands increase by?
12. How much tax will a driver have to pay for a car in tax band H?
13. Will it be easy to figure out the amount of car road tax you have to pay?
14. How can Parker's help you to work out your tax?



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Level 1-2 Functional Skills English mapping

Coverage and range statements provide an indication of the type of content candidates are expected to apply in functional contexts. Relevant content can also be drawn from equivalent (school) National Curriculum levels and the Adult Literacy standards. ✓ indicates the main coverage and range skills that are (or can be) covered in this resource. However, these will vary with the student group and how the resource is used by the teacher.

Reference: Ofqual (2009), *Functional Skills criteria for English: Entry 1, Entry 2, Entry 3, level 1 and level 2*. <http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/>

Level 1 Reading Read and understand a range of straightforward texts
skill standard:

Coverage and range statements

- Identify the main points and ideas and how they are presented in a variety of texts ✓ Q2, Q3, Q5, Q8, Q9, Q13, Q14.
- Read and understand texts in detail ✓ Q6, Q7, Q8, Q10, Q11, Q12
- Utilise information contained in texts
- Identify suitable responses to texts ✓ Q14

Level 2 Reading Select, read, understand and compare texts and use them to
skill standard: gather information, ideas, arguments and opinions

Coverage and range statements

- Select and use different types of texts to obtain and utilise relevant information
- Read and summarise, succinctly, information and ideas from different sources ✓ Q9
- Identify the purposes of texts and comment on how meaning is conveyed ✓ Q1, Q3
- Detect point of view, implicit meaning and/or bias
- Analyse texts in relation to audience needs and consider suitable responses ✓ Q4

** This resource also covers many adult literacy curriculum
<http://www.excellencegateway.org.uk/sflcurriculum> elements.