



Driver and Vehicle  
Licensing Agency

INS197

# Driving licence photo renewal

Why you need to renew the photo  
on your licence every 10 years,  
and how to do it.



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

# Faces change

It's surprising just how much your appearance can change over 10 years.

If the photo on your licence is more than 10 years old it could be difficult to recognise you, losing all the benefits of the photocard driving licence.

You must renew the photo on your licence before it runs out because it is only valid for 10 years. You must also keep your personal details (name and address) up to date. If you fail to do either of these, **you may have to pay a £1000 fine.**

- ✓ You **do need** to send in your existing photocard and its paper counterpart
- ✗ There is **no need** to retake your driving test
- ✗ Unless your name has changed, you **do not need** to send in identity documents with your application
- ✗ You **do not need** to have your photo signed by anyone
- Your new licence will normally run out ten years from the date we issue it, unless you are over sixty or hold a medical licence

**You can drive before you receive your new licence as long as:**

- ✗ You are not disqualified from driving
- ✗ You have not been refused a licence for medical reasons or for failing to comply with medical enquiries
- ✗ You would not have been refused a licence for medical reasons (if you are unsure, check with your doctor)
- ✓ You keep to any special conditions which apply to the licence

# How to renew the photo on your licence in **5 easy steps**.

## **Step 1** Your photo

Get a new passport style photo of yourself. This must meet our required photo standards.

## **Step 2** Your licence

Find both parts of your driving licence, the photocard and the paper counterpart (or tell us on the form why you cannot send these back).

## **Step 3** The form

Fill in the form – do not forget to update it with any changes to your name or address.

## **Step 4** Payment

Enclose a cheque or postal order payable to DVLA, Swansea to cover the cost of your updated driving licence.

## **Step 5** Send your application back to us

Return all of the above and, if applicable, identity documents in the enclosed envelope.

The expiry date of your photo is shown in section 4b of your photocard (unless you hold a medical licence or were aged over 60 when your last licence was issued – in these cases, we will contact you when your photo needs to be renewed).



## What happens next?

You should normally receive your new licence within 15 working days of us receiving your application.

**Directgov**

Public services all in one place

[www.direct.gov.uk/photorenewal](http://www.direct.gov.uk/photorenewal)

An executive agency of the  
Department for  
**Transport**