

Instructions for Form 2290

(Rev. July 2003)

Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Return

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code.



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

General Instructions

Reminder

Form 2290-EZ, Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Return for Filers With a Single Vehicle

You may be able to use Form 2290-EZ, instead of Form 2290, to pay the tax (\$550.00) on a single highway motor vehicle registered, or required to be registered, in your name with a taxable gross weight of more than 75,000 pounds (Category V).

Form 2290-EZ is simple to complete. To order call 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676) or visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov.

Purpose of Form

Note: See page 6 for definitions of the terms used in these instructions.

Use **Form 2290** to:

- Figure and pay the tax due on highway motor vehicles used during the period with a taxable gross weight of 55,000 pounds or more.
- Figure and pay the tax due on a vehicle for which you completed the suspension statement on another Form 2290 if that vehicle later exceeded the mileage use limit during the period. See **Suspended vehicles exceeding the mileage use limit** on page 3.
- Figure and pay the tax due if during the period the taxable gross weight of a vehicle increases and the vehicle falls into a new category. See the instructions for line 3 on page 3.
- Claim suspension from the tax when a vehicle is expected to be used 5,000 miles or less (7,500 miles or less for agricultural vehicles) during the period.
- Claim a credit for tax paid on vehicles that were destroyed or stolen or used 5,000 miles or less (7,500 miles or less for agricultural vehicles).
- Report acquisition of a used taxable vehicle for which the tax has been suspended.

Use **Schedule 1 (Form 2290)**:

- To report **all** vehicles for which you are reporting tax and those that you are reporting suspension of the tax by category and vehicle identification number (VIN).
- As proof of payment to register your vehicle(s) in any state. Use the Schedule 1 stamped and returned to you by the IRS for this purpose.

Use **Form 2290-V**, Payment Voucher, to accompany your check or money order. Form 2290-V is used to credit your heavy highway vehicle use tax payment to your account.

Who Must File

You must file Form 2290 and Schedule 1 for the July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004, period if a taxable highway motor vehicle is registered, or required to be registered, in your name under state, District of Columbia, Canadian, or Mexican law at the time of its first use during the period.

You may be an individual, corporation, partnership, or any other type of organization (including nonprofit, charitable, educational, etc.).

Dual registration. If a taxable vehicle is registered in the name of both the owner and another person, the owner is liable for the tax. This rule also applies to dual registration of a leased vehicle.

Dealers. Any vehicle operated under a dealer's tag, license, or permit is considered registered in the name of the dealer.

Used vehicle. If you acquire and register or are required to register a used taxable vehicle in your name during the tax period, you must keep as part of your records, proof showing whether there was a use of the vehicle or a suspension of the tax during the period before the vehicle was registered in your name. The evidence may be a written statement signed and dated by the person (or dealer) from whom you purchased the vehicle.

If the vehicle was first used during the tax period while registered in the name of the previous owner, the previous owner owes the tax. If the previous owner pays the tax, you, the new owner, do not owe the tax for that tax period. A copy of Schedule 1 (Form 2290) stamped by the IRS is proof of payment. Because the previous owner was the first user of the vehicle during the tax period, the previous owner is liable for the total tax owed for the entire tax period. If the previous owner does not pay the tax and you use the vehicle before the end of the tax period, you are also liable for the total tax for the entire tax period to the extent not paid by the previous owner. In that case, you must file Form 2290 and pay the tax by the last day of the month after the month notification is received from the IRS that the tax has not been paid in full by the previous owner.

When To File

A separate Form 2290 must be filed for each month a taxable vehicle is first used on public highways.

The following rules on filing apply whether you are paying the tax or reporting suspension of the tax.

IF, in this period, the vehicle is first used during ...	THEN use the tax tables on ...	AND file by ...
July	Page 2, col. (1) of Form 2290	August 31¹
A month after July	Page 8 of the instructions	The last day of the month following the month of first use ¹

¹ File by this date regardless of when state registration for the vehicle is due.

Note: If any due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, file by the next business day.

Example. John uses a taxable vehicle on July 1, 2003. John must file Form 2290 by September 2, 2003, for the period beginning July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004. To figure the tax, John would use the amounts in column (1) on page 2 of Form 2290.

John purchases a new, taxable vehicle on January 2, 2004. The vehicle is first used in January. John must file another Form 2290 reporting the new vehicle by March 1, 2004, for the period beginning July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004. To figure the tax, John would use Table I on page 8 of the instructions.

Extension of time to file. You may request an extension of time to file your return by writing to the Internal Revenue Service Center, Cincinnati, OH 45999-0031. In your letter, you must fully explain the cause of the delay. Except for taxpayers abroad, the extension may be for no more than 6 months. An extension of time to file does not extend the time to pay the tax. If you want an extension of time to pay, you must request that separately.

Where To File

Mail Form 2290 to:

Form 2290 with full payment
(or 1st installment
payment only)

Internal Revenue Service
P.O. Box 105421
Atlanta, GA 30348-5421

Form 2290 without payment due
or using EFTPS for payment or
2nd-4th installment payments

Internal Revenue Service
Cincinnati, OH 45999-0031

Private Delivery Services

You can use certain private delivery services designated by the IRS to meet the "timely mailing as timely filing/paying" rule for tax returns and payments. The most recent list of designated private delivery services was published by the IRS in September 2002. This list includes only the following:

- Airborne Express (Airborne): Overnight Air Express Service, Next Afternoon Service, and Second Day Service.
- DHL Worldwide Express (DHL): DHL "Same Day" Service and DHL USA Overnight.
- Federal Express (FedEx): FedEx Priority Overnight, FedEx Standard Overnight, FedEx 2Day, FedEx International Priority, and FedEx International First.
- United Parcel Service (UPS): UPS Next Day Air, UPS Next Day Air Saver, UPS 2nd Day Air, UPS 2nd Day Air A.M., UPS Worldwide Express Plus, and UPS Worldwide Express.

The private delivery service can tell you how to get written proof of the mailing date.



Private delivery services cannot deliver items to P.O. boxes. You must use the U.S. Postal Service to mail any item to an IRS P.O. box address.

Recordkeeping

Keep records for all taxable highway vehicles registered in your name for at least 3 years after the date the tax is due or paid, whichever is later. They must be available at all times for inspection by the IRS. Also keep copies of all returns and schedules you have filed. Keep your records even if a vehicle is registered in your name for only a portion of a period. If the tax is suspended on a highway motor vehicle for a period because its use on public highways during the period did not exceed 5,000 miles (7,500 miles for agricultural vehicles), the owner must keep the records at least 3 years after the end of the period to which the suspension applies.

Records for each vehicle should show:

1. A detailed description of the vehicle, including the VIN.
2. The weight of loads carried by the vehicle in the same form as required by any state in which the vehicle is registered or required to be registered.
3. The date you acquired the vehicle and the name and address of the person from whom you acquired it.
4. The first month of each period in which a taxable use occurred and any prior month in which the vehicle was used in the period while registered in your name, with proof that the prior use was not a taxable use.
5. The date the vehicle was sold or transferred and the name and address of the purchaser or transferee. If it was not sold, the records must show how and when you disposed of it.
6. If the tax is suspended for a vehicle, keep a record of actual highway mileage. For an agricultural vehicle, keep accurate records of the number of miles it is driven on a farm. See **Part II. Statement in Support of Suspension** on page 4.

Penalties and Interest

The law provides penalties for failing to file returns or pay taxes when due. There are also penalties for filing false or fraudulent returns. These penalties are in addition to the interest charge on late payments. The penalty for filing a return late or paying the tax late will not be imposed if you can show reasonable cause for not filing (or paying) on time. If you file after the due

date (including extensions), attach an explanation to the return to show reasonable cause.

How To Get Forms and Publications

Personal Computer

You can access the IRS website 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at **www.irs.gov**:

- Download forms, instructions, and publications.
- See answers to frequently asked tax questions.
- Search publications on-line by topic or keyword.
- Send us comments or request help by e-mail.
- Sign up to receive local and national tax news by e-mail.

You can also reach us using File Transfer Protocol at ftp.irs.gov.

CD-ROM

Order **Pub. 1796**, Federal Tax Products on CD-ROM, and get:

- Current year forms, instructions, and publications.
- Prior year forms, instructions, and publications.
- Frequently requested tax forms that may be filled in electronically, printed out for submission, and saved for recordkeeping.

- The Internal Revenue Bulletin.

Buy the CD-ROM on the Internet at **www.irs.gov/cdorders** from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) for \$22 (no handling fee) or call **1-877-CDFORMS** (1-877-233-6767) to buy the CD-ROM for \$22 (plus \$5 handling fee).

Phone

You can order forms, publications, and automated information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by phone. Call **1-800-TAX-FORM** (1-800-829-3676) to order current and prior year forms, instructions, and publications. You should receive your order within 10 days.

Walk-in

You can pick up some of the most requested forms, instructions, and publications at many IRS offices, post offices, and libraries. Some IRS offices, libraries, city and county government offices, credit unions, grocery stores, office supply stores, and copy centers have an extensive collection of products available to photocopy or print from a CD-ROM.

Prior Period Forms

If you need a Form 2290 for a period prior to July 2003, specify the prior period. For example, to order Form 2290 for a taxable vehicle first used in January 2002, specify the return for the period "July 1, 2001, through June 30, 2002."

Form 2290 Call Site

You can get immediate help with your Form 2290 questions by calling the Form 2290 call site. The hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., local time.

IF you are calling from...	THEN use this number...
The United States	866-699-4096 (toll free)
Canada or Mexico	859-669-5733 (not toll free)

The assistor will have access to your Form 2290 account information. Have your Form 2290 and information about your filing available when you call. For help with other returns filed, taxes paid, etc., call 1-800-829-1040 for individual returns or 1-800-829-4933 for business returns.

Unresolved Tax Issues

If you have attempted to deal with an IRS problem unsuccessfully, you should contact the Taxpayer Advocate. The Taxpayer Advocate independently represents your interests and concerns within the IRS by protecting your rights and resolving problems that have not been fixed through normal channels.

While Taxpayer Advocates cannot change the tax law or make a technical tax decision, they can clear up problems that

resulted from previous contacts and ensure that your case is given a complete and impartial review.

Your assigned personal advocate will listen to your point of view and will work with you to address the concerns. You can expect the advocate to provide:

- A “fresh look” at a new or on-going problem.
- Timely acknowledgment.
- The name and phone number of the individual assigned to your case.
- Updates on progress.
- Timeframes for action.
- Speedy resolution.
- Courteous service.

When contacting the Taxpayer Advocate, you should provide the following information:

- Your name, address, and employer identification number.
- The name and telephone number of an authorized contact person and the hours he or she can be reached.
- The type of tax return and year(s) involved.
- A detailed description of the problem.
- Previous attempts to solve the problem and the office that had been contacted.
- A description of the hardship you are facing (if applicable).

You may contact a Taxpayer Advocate by calling a toll-free number, **1-877-777-4778**. Persons who have access to TTY/TDD equipment may call 1-800-829-4059 and ask for Taxpayer Advocate assistance. If you prefer, you may call, write, or fax the Taxpayer Advocate office in your area. See **Pub. 1546**, The Taxpayer Advocate Service of the IRS, for a list of addresses and fax numbers.

Specific Instructions

Name and Address

The first time you file Form 2290, enter your name and address. Include the suite, room, or other unit number after the street address. Each period after that, the IRS will mail you a Package 2290 with your information preprinted on the form. If you receive a preprinted form, check your information. Make any corrections on the form. If your address has changed, check the **Address change** box on Form 2290.

P.O. box. If the Post Office does not deliver mail to the street address and you have a P.O. box, show the box number instead of the street address.

Canadian or Mexican address. If your address is in Canada or Mexico, enter the information in the following order: city, province or state, and country. Follow the country’s practice for entering the postal code. Do not abbreviate the country name.

Final return. If you no longer have vehicles to report on, file a final return. Check the **Final return** box on Form 2290, sign the return, and mail it to the IRS. The IRS will stop mailing Form 2290 to you.

Employer Identification Number (EIN)

If the preprinted EIN on the form is wrong or you did not receive a form with preprinted information, enter the correct number. If you do not have an EIN, use **Form SS-4**, Application for Employer Identification Number, to apply for one. Form SS-4 has information on how to apply for an EIN by mail or by telephone.

Part I. Figuring the Tax

Line 1

The period begins July 1, 2003, and ends June 30, 2004.

If the vehicle(s) is first used after July, enter the year and month the vehicle(s) was first used. For instance, if the vehicle(s) is first used in December 2003, enter “200312”, if the first use is in March 2004, enter “200403”.

Line 2

To figure the tax on line 2, complete the **Tax Computation** on page 2 of Form 2290. You need to know the taxable gross

weight of each vehicle to determine its category. See **Determining Taxable Gross Weight** on page 7.

Tax Computation

Column 1—Annual tax. Use the tax amounts listed in column 1(a) for a vehicle used during July.

Use the tax amounts listed in column 1(b) for logging and Canadian/Mexican vehicles. For more information on these vehicles, see page 7.

Column 2—Partial-period tax. If the vehicle is first used after July, the tax is based on the number of months remaining in the period. See page 8, Table I, for the partial-period tax. Enter the tax in column 2(a) for the applicable category.

For logging and Canadian/Mexican vehicles, see page 8, Table II, for the partial-period tax. Enter the tax in column 2(b) for the applicable category.

Column 3. Enter the number of vehicles for categories A-V in the applicable column. Add the number of vehicles in columns (3a) and (3b), categories A-V, and enter the combined number on the total line in column 3. For category W, enter the number of suspended vehicles in the applicable column.

Column 4. Multiply the applicable tax amount times the number of vehicles. Add all amounts in a category and enter the result in column 4. Then, add the tax amounts in column 4 for categories A-V, and enter the total tax amount.

Suspended vehicles exceeding the mileage use limit. Once a suspended vehicle exceeds the mileage use limit, the tax becomes due. **Mileage use limit** means the use of a vehicle on public highways 5,000 miles or less (7,500 miles or less for agricultural vehicles). The mileage use limit applies to the total mileage a vehicle is used during a period, regardless of the number of owners.

Report the tax for the whole period on Form 2290, line 2. **Do not** complete Part II of Form 2290 or Part II of Schedule 1. Figure the tax on page 2 of Form 2290 based on the month the vehicle was first used in the period. At the top of the return, write the word “Amended” and the month in which the mileage use limit was exceeded. File Form 2290 and Schedule 1 by the last day of the month following the month in which the mileage use limit was exceeded.

Line 3

Complete line 3 **only** if the taxable gross weight of a vehicle increases during the period and the vehicle falls in a new category. You must file another Form 2290 and pay the additional tax for the remainder of the period. For instance, an increase in maximum load customarily carried may change the taxable gross weight. File Form 2290 and Schedule 1 by the last day of the month following the month in which the taxable gross weight increased.

Figure the additional tax as shown below. Attach a copy of the following computation for each vehicle.

1. Enter the month the taxable gross weight increased . . . _____
2. From page 2 of Form 2290, determine the new taxable gross weight category. Next, go to page 8 of the instructions. Find the month entered on line 1 above. Read down the column to the new category; this is the new tax. Enter the amount here \$ _____
3. On page 8, find the tax under that month for the previous category reported. Enter the amount here . . . \$ _____
4. Additional tax. Subtract line 3 from line 2. Enter the additional tax here and on line 3 of Form 2290 \$ _____



If the increase in taxable gross weight occurs in July after you have filed your return, use the amounts on page 2 of Form 2290 for the new category instead of page 8 of the instructions.

Line 4

Complete line 4 **only** if you are claiming a credit for tax paid on a vehicle that was either:

- Destroyed or stolen before June 1 and not used during the remainder of the period or
- Used during the prior period 5,000 miles or less (7,500 miles or less for agricultural vehicles).

The amount claimed on line 4 cannot exceed the tax reported on lines 2 and 3. Any excess credit must be claimed as a refund using **Form 8849**, Claim for Refund of Excise Taxes, and **Schedule 6**, Other Claims. Also use Schedule 6 to make a claim for an overpayment due to a mistake in tax liability previously reported on Form 2290.



A credit, lower tax, exemption, or refund is not allowed for:

- An occasional light or decreased load.
- A discontinued or changed use of the vehicle.
- The sale of a vehicle.

Information to be submitted. Attach an explanation detailing the facts for each credit.

For vehicles destroyed or stolen include: the VIN, the date of the accident or theft, and the computation of the amount claimed. See **Figuring the credit** below. A vehicle is destroyed when it is damaged by accident or other casualty to such an extent that it is not economical to rebuild.

Figuring the credit. Use the partial-period tax tables on page 8 and follow the steps below:

1. Figure the number of months of use. Start counting from the first day of the month in the period in which the vehicle was first used to the last day of the month in which it was destroyed or stolen.
2. Find the number of months of use in the table on page 8. The months are shown in parentheses at the top of the table next to each month.
3. Find the taxable gross weight category of the vehicle.
4. Find where the category and months of use meet. This is the partial-period tax.
5. The difference between the annual tax and the partial-period tax is the amount that can be claimed as a credit. Enter the credit amount on line 4 of the **next** Form 2290 required to be filed. Attach this computation to the return.

Installment payment. If you are paying in installments, the credit may be less than the amount figured in 5 above because you cannot make a claim for unpaid installment amounts. If you still owe tax, include an explanation with the installment notice and reduced payment. If you do not owe or have overpaid, include an explanation with the installment notice. You may use Schedule 6 (Form 8849) to make a claim for refund instead of claiming a credit on Form 2290.

Vehicle used less than the mileage use limit. If the tax has been paid for a period on a vehicle that is used 5,000 miles or less (7,500 miles or less for agricultural vehicles), the person who paid the tax may make a claim for the credit. Claim a credit on line 4 of the first Form 2290 filed for the next period.

You may use Schedule 6 (Form 8849) to make a claim for refund instead of claiming a credit on Form 2290. Form 8849 **cannot** be filed until after June 30 of the period for this claim.

Part II. Statement in Support of Suspension

Line 7

Complete line 7 to suspend the tax on vehicles expected to be used less than the mileage use limit during a period.

You must also:

- Enter the total number of tax-suspended vehicles in category W, column (3), on page 2 of Form 2290 and
- List the vehicles on which the tax is suspended in Part II of Schedule 1. See the Schedule 1 instructions below.

Line 8

If in the prior period, line 7 of Form 2290 was completed, check the box on line 8a to verify that the vehicles were used less than the mileage use limit for that period. If any of the vehicles listed as suspended in the prior period exceeded the mileage use limit, list the vehicle identification numbers for those vehicles on line 8b. Attach a separate sheet if needed.

Line 9

If in the prior period, line 7 of Form 2290 was completed and the tax-suspended vehicles were sold or otherwise transferred, complete line 9.

Sales. If you sell a vehicle while under suspension, a statement must be given to the buyer and must show the seller's name, address, and EIN; VIN; date of the sale; odometer reading at the beginning of the period; odometer reading at the time of sale; and the buyer's name, address, and EIN. The buyer must attach this statement to Form 2290 and file the return by the last day of the month following the month the vehicle was purchased.

If, after the sale, the use of the vehicle exceeds the mileage use limit (including the highway mileage recorded on the vehicle by the former owner) for the period, and the former owner has provided the required statement, the new owner is liable for the tax on the vehicle. If the former owner has not furnished the required statement to the new owner, the former owner is also liable for the tax for that period. See **Suspended vehicles exceeding the mileage use limit** on page 3.

Third Party Designee

If you want to allow an employee of your business or another person to discuss your Form 2290 with the IRS, check the "Yes" box in the **Third Party Designee** section of the return. Also, enter that person's name, phone number, and any five digits that person chooses as his or her personal identification number (PIN). The designation must specify an individual and may not refer to your payroll office or a tax preparation firm.

By checking the "Yes" box, you are authorizing the IRS to call the designee to answer any questions that may arise during the processing of your return. You are also authorizing the designee to:

- Give the IRS any information that is missing from your return,
- Call the IRS for information about the processing of your return or the status of your payment(s), and
- Respond to certain IRS notices that you have shared with the designee about math errors and return preparation. The notices will not be sent to the designee.

You are not authorizing the designee to bind you to anything (including additional tax liability) or otherwise represent you before the IRS. If you want to expand the designee's authorization, see **Pub. 947**, Practice Before the IRS and Power of Attorney.

Signature

Sign the return. Returns filed without a signature will be sent back to you for signing. An unsigned return is not considered filed.

Schedule 1 (Form 2290)

Complete both copies of Schedule 1 and file them with your return. Your return may be rejected if Schedule 1 is not attached to Form 2290. A copy of Schedule 1 will be stamped and returned to you.

Note: If you want a copy of a prior-period Schedule 1 returned to you, you must send a written request to the Internal Revenue Service Center, Cincinnati, OH 45999-0031.

Name and address. The first time you file, enter your name and address on Schedule 1 exactly as shown on Form 2290. See **Name and Address** on page 3.

Part I. Enter by category the VIN of each vehicle for which you are reporting tax. If you need more space, attach separate lists. Be sure to write your name and EIN on each list you attach.

Part II. Enter the VIN of each vehicle for which you are claiming suspension from the tax. If you need more space, attach separate lists. Be sure to write your name and EIN on each list you attach.

Note: Instead of completing Parts I and II, you may attach a statement to Schedule 1 that lists the VINs by category. You must attach two copies of the statement. Be sure to write your name and EIN on each statement you attach.

Part III. Complete as follows:

- Enter on line **a**, the total number of taxable vehicles that you reported on Form 2290, page 2, column (3), categories A-V.
- Enter on line **b**, the total number of taxable vehicles that you reported on Form 2290, page 2, column (3), category W.

Proof of payment for state registration. Generally, states will require verification of payment of the tax for any taxable vehicle before they will register the vehicle.

Use the stamped copy of Schedule 1 as proof of payment when:

- Registering vehicles with the state or
- Entering a Canadian or Mexican vehicle into the United States.

If you do not have the stamped copy, you may use a photocopy of Form 2290, Schedule 1, and both sides of your canceled check as proof of payment.

No proof of payment is required for a newly purchased vehicle, if you present to the state a copy of the bill of sale showing that the vehicle was purchased within the last 60 days. However, you must file a return and pay any tax due. See **When To File** on page 1.

When To File on page 1.

A limited number of states have agreed to participate in an alternate proof of payment program with the IRS. In those states, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) may forward your return to the IRS if certain requirements are met. If you give your Form 2290 (with voucher and payment) to your DMV to be forwarded to the IRS, no further proof of payment is needed to register your vehicle. Contact your local DMV to see if your state participates in this program.

If you give the DMV your Form 2290 to forward, your return is not considered filed until the IRS receives it. You are responsible for any penalties or interest if the return is filed late or lost by the DMV.

How To Pay the Tax

There are two methods to pay the tax:

- By check or money order using the payment voucher or
- By Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS).

You may pay the tax in full with your Form 2290, or pay the tax in as many as four equal installments if your Form 2290 is filed on time.

How To Make Your Payment

By check or money order. If you use this method, you must also complete the payment voucher. See **Payment voucher** below.

- Do not send cash. Make your check or money order payable to the United States Treasury. Write your name, address, EIN, "Form 2290", and the date (as entered in Box 3) on your payment.
- Detach the voucher and send it with the Form 2290, both copies of Schedule 1, and your payment. See **Where To File** on page 2.
- Do not staple your payment to the voucher or Form 2290.

Payment voucher. If you did not receive a preprinted payment voucher, complete **Form 2290-V**, Payment Voucher. Even if you elect to pay the tax in installments, you must use Form 2290-V for your first installment payment that is due when you file Form 2290. If you have your Form 2290 prepared by a third party, provide this payment voucher to the return preparer.

Box 1. Enter your EIN. If you do not have an EIN, see page 3.

Box 2. Enter the amount you are paying with Form 2290.

Box 3. Enter the same date that you entered on Form 2290, Part I, line 1.

Box 4. Enter your name and address exactly as shown on Form 2290. Print your name clearly.

By EFTPS. Using EFTPS is voluntarily, but you must enroll in EFTPS before you can use it. To get more information or to enroll in EFTPS, call 1-800-555-4477 or 1-800-945-8400, or visit the EFTPS website at www.eftps.gov. If you make your payment using EFTPS, **do not** include the payment voucher. Mail Form 2290 to the Internal Revenue Service, Cincinnati, OH 45999-0031.

Paying on time. For EFTPS payments to be on time, you must initiate the transaction at least one business day before the date the payment is due.

Paying in Installments

If you file on time, you may pay the tax due in installments. The first installment payment is due when Form 2290 is filed. For payments by EFTPS, see paying on time above. However, if the vehicle is first used in April, May, or June, you cannot pay in installments.

Record of Installment Payments (see page 6 for installment due dates)				
Installment number	(a) Date	(b) Check or money order number	(c) Amount paid	(d) Cumulative total paid (add amounts in col. (c) through the applicable line)
1				
2				
3				
4				

To figure when to pay, use the following table.

(a) IF the first use is in ...	(b) THEN the number of installments is...	(c) AND the 1st installment is due by the last day of...	(d) AND the other installments are due by the last day of...
July	4	Aug.	Dec., Mar., June
Aug.	4	Sep.	Dec., Mar., June
Sep.	4	Oct.	Dec., Mar., June
Oct.	3	Nov.	Mar., June
Nov.	3	Dec.	Mar., June
Dec.	3	Jan.	Mar., June
Jan.	2	Feb.	June
Feb.	2	Mar.	June
Mar.	2	Apr.	June

How to figure the installment payment. Divide the amount on line 5 (Form 2290) by the number of installments shown in column (b) from the table above. Pay this amount by the due dates shown in columns (c) and (d). Enter the installment amount due on line 6 and make your first installment payment when the Form 2290 is filed. Fill in the **Record of Installment Payments** on page 5 for your records.

After the first installment, the IRS will send you a notice of each installment before it is due. Return your installment payment with that notice. If you do not get a notice for the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th installment payment, continue to make your payments. If you are paying by check or money order, send it with the required information. **Do not:**

- Complete a payment voucher or
- Prepare another Form 2290 or send a copy of the original you filed.

Mail your 2nd, 3rd, or 4th installment payment to the **Internal Revenue Service, Cincinnati, OH 45999-0031**.



If you pay in installments and later sell the vehicle, you are still liable for the full tax and must pay any remaining installments.

Late payments. If you pay an installment late, the whole amount of the unpaid tax becomes due and is payable upon notice and demand from the IRS.

Definitions

Taxable Vehicles

Highway motor vehicles that have a taxable gross weight of 55,000 pounds or more are taxable.

A **highway motor vehicle** includes any self-propelled vehicle designed to carry a load over public highways, whether or not also designed to perform other functions. Examples of vehicles that are designed to carry a load over public highways include trucks, truck tractors, and buses. Generally, vans, pickup trucks, panel trucks, and similar trucks are not subject to this tax because they have a taxable gross weight less than 55,000 pounds.

A **vehicle** consists of a chassis, or a chassis and body, but does not include the load. It does not matter if the vehicle is designed to perform a highway transportation function for only a particular type of load, such as passengers, furnishings, and personal effects (as in a house, office, or utility trailer), or a special kind of cargo, goods, supplies, or materials. It does not matter if machinery or equipment is specially designed (and permanently mounted) to perform some off-highway task unrelated to highway transportation except to the extent discussed below. See **Vehicles not considered highway motor vehicles** below.

Use means the use of a vehicle with power from its own motor on any public highway in the United States.

A **public highway** is any road in the United States that is not a private roadway. This includes Federal, state, county, and city roads.

Exemptions. To be exempt from the tax, a highway motor vehicle must be used **and** actually operated by:

- The Federal Government,
- The District of Columbia,
- A state or local government,
- The American National Red Cross,
- A nonprofit volunteer fire department, ambulance association, or rescue squad,
- An Indian tribal government but only if the vehicle's use involves the exercise of an essential tribal government function, or
- A mass transportation authority if it is created under a statute that gives it certain powers normally exercised by the state.

Vehicles not considered highway motor vehicles.

Generally, the following kinds of vehicles are not considered highway vehicles.

1. Specially designed mobile machinery for nontransportation functions. A self-propelled vehicle is not a highway vehicle if it consists of a chassis that:

a. Has permanently mounted to it machinery or equipment used to perform certain operations (construction, manufacturing, drilling, mining, timbering, processing, farming, or operations similar to any of these) if the operation of the machinery or equipment is unrelated to transportation on or off the public highways,

b. Has been specially designed to serve only as a mobile carriage and mount for the machinery or equipment, whether or not the machinery or equipment is in operation, and

c. Because of its special design, could not, without substantial structural modification, be used as part of a vehicle designed to carry any other load.

2. Vehicles designed for off-highway transportation. A self-propelled vehicle is not a highway vehicle if:

a. The vehicle is designed primarily to carry a specific kind of load (other than over the public highway) for certain operations (construction, manufacturing, mining, processing, farming, drilling, timbering, or similar operations), and

b. The vehicle's design to carry this load substantially limits or impairs its use over public highways. To determine if the vehicle's use is substantially limited or impaired, you may take into account whether the vehicle may travel at regular highway speeds, requires a special permit for highway use, is overweight, or is too tall or too wide for regular highway use.

However, for purposes of item **2b**, equipment that is attached to the vehicle and used for loading, unloading, storing, vending, or handling is equipment associated with moving the load over public highways even though it may be used off highway.

Taxable Gross Weight

The taxable gross weight of a vehicle (other than a bus) is the total of:

1. The actual unloaded weight of the vehicle fully equipped for service,

2. The actual unloaded weight of any trailers or semitrailers fully equipped for service customarily used in combination with the vehicle, and

3. The weight of the maximum load customarily carried on the vehicle and on any trailers or semitrailers customarily used in combination with the vehicle.

Actual unloaded weight of a vehicle is the empty (tare) weight of the vehicle.

A trailer or semitrailer is treated as **customarily used** in connection with a vehicle if the vehicle is equipped to tow the trailer or semitrailer.

Fully equipped for service includes the body (whether or not designed for transporting cargo (such as a concrete mixer)); all accessories; all equipment attached to or carried on the vehicle for use in its operation or maintenance; and a full supply of fuel, oil, and water. The term does **not** include the driver, any

equipment (not including the body) mounted on, or attached to, the vehicle, for use in handling, protecting, or preserving cargo, or any special equipment (such as an air compressor, crane, or specialized oilfield equipment).

Buses

The taxable gross weight of a bus is its actual unloaded weight fully equipped for service plus 150 pounds for each seat provided for passengers and driver.

Determining Taxable Gross Weight



The weight declared for registering a vehicle in a state may affect the taxable gross weight used to figure the tax.

State registration by specific gross weight. If the vehicle is registered in any state that requires a declaration of gross weight in a specific amount, including proportional or prorated registration or payment of any other fees or taxes, then the vehicle's taxable gross weight must be no less than the highest gross weight declared for the vehicle in any state. If the vehicle is a tractor-trailer or truck-trailer combination, the taxable gross weight must be no less than the highest combined gross weight declared.

State registration by gross weight category. If the vehicle is registered in any state that requires vehicles to be registered on the basis of gross weight, and the vehicle is not registered in any state that requires a declaration of specific gross weight, then the vehicle's taxable gross weight must fall within the highest gross weight category for which the vehicle is registered in that state.

State registration by actual unloaded weight. If the vehicle is registered only in a state or states that base registration on actual unloaded weight, then the taxable gross weight is the total of the three items listed under **Taxable Gross Weight** on page 6.

Special permits. In determining a vehicle's taxable gross weight, do not consider weights declared to obtain special temporary travel permits. These are permits that allow a vehicle to operate:

1. In a state in which it is not registered,
2. At more than a state's maximum weight limit, or
3. At more than the weight at which it is registered in the state.

However, special temporary travel permits do not include permits that are issued for your vehicle if the total amount of time covered by those permits is more than 60 days or (if issued on a monthly basis) more than 2 months during a taxable year.

Logging Vehicles

A vehicle qualifies as a logging vehicle if:

1. It is used exclusively during the period to transport products harvested from a forest,
2. The products are transported to and from a point within the forest, and
3. It is registered as a highway motor vehicle used in the transportation of harvested forest products under the laws of the state in which the vehicle is, or is required to be, registered. A special tag or license plate identifying the vehicle as used in the transport of harvested products is not required for the vehicle to be considered a logging vehicle.

Products harvested from the forested site may include timber that has been processed for commercial use by sawing into lumber, chipping, or other milling operations if the processing occurs prior to transportation from the forested site.

Canadian/Mexican Vehicles

These are vehicles that have a base registration in Canada or Mexico. Base registration means registered in Canada or Mexico and not registered in the United States other than a proportional registration under a proration agreement.

Agricultural Vehicles

An agricultural vehicle is any highway motor vehicle that is:

1. Used (or expected to be used) primarily for farming purposes and
2. Registered (under state laws) as a highway motor vehicle used for farming purposes for the entire period. A special tag or license plate identifying the vehicle as used for farming is not required for it to be considered an agricultural vehicle.

A vehicle is used primarily for farming purposes if more than half of the vehicle's use (based on mileage) during the period is for farming purposes (defined below).

Do not take into account the number of miles that the vehicle is used on the farm when determining if the 7,500-mile limit on the public highways has been exceeded. Keep accurate records of the miles that a vehicle is used on a farm.

Farming purposes means the transporting of any farm commodity to or from a farm, or the use directly in agricultural production.

Farm commodity means any agricultural or horticultural commodity, feed, seed, fertilizer, livestock, bees, poultry, fur-bearing animals, or wildlife. A farm commodity does not include a commodity that has been changed by a processing operation from its raw or natural state.

Example. Juice extracted from fruits or vegetables is not a farm commodity for purposes of the suspension of tax on agricultural vehicles.

A vehicle is considered **used for farming purposes** if it is used in an activity that contributes in any way to the conduct of a farm. Activities that qualify include clearing land, repairing fences and farm buildings, building terraces or irrigation ditches, cleaning tools or farm machinery, and painting. But a vehicle will not be considered used for farming purposes if used in connection with operations such as canning, freezing, packaging, or other processing operations.

Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. Section 4481 requires that the use of certain types of highway motor vehicles be taxed. Form 2290 is used to determine the amount of tax you owe. Section 6011 requires you to provide the requested information. Section 6109 requires you to provide your taxpayer identification number. Routine uses of tax information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation, and to cities, states, and the District of Columbia for use in administering their tax laws. We may also disclose this information to Federal and state agencies to enforce Federal nontax criminal laws and to combat terrorism. If you fail to provide this information in a timely manner, you may be subject to penalties and interest.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by section 6103.

The time needed to complete and file Form 2290 and Schedule 1 will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is: **Recordkeeping**, 42 hr., 4 min.; **Learning about the law or the form**, 18 min.; **Preparing, copying, and sending the form to the IRS**, 58 min.

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to the Tax Forms Committee, Western Area Distribution Center, Rancho Cordova, CA 95743-0001. **Do not** send the tax form to this address. Instead, see **Where To File** on page 2.

Partial-Period Tax Tables

Note: These tax tables only apply to vehicles first used after July of the period.

- Find the category line for the vehicle in **Table I** or **Table II**. The categories are listed in the **Tax Computation** table on page 2 of Form 2290.
- Find the month the vehicle was first used on public highways.
- Read down the column. The amount where the category line and the month column meet is the tax due.
- Enter the amount in column 2 on page 2 of Form 2290.

Table I Vehicles Except Logging or Canadian/Mexican (enter in column 2(a))

CATEGORY	AUG (11)	SEPT (10)	OCT (9)	NOV (8)	DEC (7)	JAN (6)	FEB (5)	MAR (4)	APR (3)	MAY (2)	JUNE (1)
A	\$ 91.67	\$ 83.33	\$ 75.00	\$ 66.67	\$ 58.33	\$ 50.00	\$ 41.67	\$ 33.33	\$ 25.00	\$16.67	\$ 8.33
B	111.83	101.67	91.50	81.33	71.17	61.00	50.83	40.67	30.50	20.33	10.17
C	132.00	120.00	108.00	96.00	84.00	72.00	60.00	48.00	36.00	24.00	12.00
D	152.17	138.33	124.50	110.67	96.83	83.00	69.17	55.33	41.50	27.67	13.83
E	172.33	156.67	141.00	125.33	109.67	94.00	78.33	62.67	47.00	31.33	15.67
F	192.50	175.00	157.50	140.00	122.50	105.00	87.50	70.00	52.50	35.00	17.50
G	212.67	193.33	174.00	154.67	135.33	116.00	96.67	77.33	58.00	38.67	19.33
H	232.83	211.67	190.50	169.33	148.17	127.00	105.83	84.67	63.50	42.33	21.17
I	253.00	230.00	207.00	184.00	161.00	138.00	115.00	92.00	69.00	46.00	23.00
J	273.17	248.33	223.50	198.67	173.83	149.00	124.17	99.33	74.50	49.67	24.83
K	293.33	266.67	240.00	213.33	186.67	160.00	133.33	106.67	80.00	53.33	26.67
L	313.50	285.00	256.50	228.00	199.50	171.00	142.50	114.00	85.50	57.00	28.50
M	333.67	303.33	273.00	242.67	212.33	182.00	151.67	121.33	91.00	60.67	30.33
N	353.83	321.67	289.50	257.33	225.17	193.00	160.83	128.67	96.50	64.33	32.17
O	374.00	340.00	306.00	272.00	238.00	204.00	170.00	136.00	102.00	68.00	34.00
P	394.17	358.33	322.50	286.67	250.83	215.00	179.17	143.33	107.50	71.67	35.83
Q	414.33	376.67	339.00	301.33	263.67	226.00	188.33	150.67	113.00	75.33	37.67
R	434.50	395.00	355.50	316.00	276.50	237.00	197.50	158.00	118.50	79.00	39.50
S	454.67	413.33	372.00	330.67	289.33	248.00	206.67	165.33	124.00	82.67	41.33
T	474.83	431.67	388.50	345.33	302.17	259.00	215.83	172.67	129.50	86.33	43.17
U	495.00	450.00	405.00	360.00	315.00	270.00	225.00	180.00	135.00	90.00	45.00
V	504.17	458.33	412.50	366.67	320.83	275.00	229.17	183.33	137.50	91.67	45.83

Table II Logging or Canadian/Mexican Vehicles (enter in column 2(b))

A	\$ 68.75	\$ 62.49	\$ 56.25	\$ 50.00	\$ 43.74	\$ 37.50	\$ 31.25	\$ 24.99	\$ 18.75	\$12.50	\$ 6.24
B	83.87	76.25	68.62	60.99	53.37	45.75	38.12	30.50	22.87	15.24	7.62
C	99.00	90.00	81.00	72.00	63.00	54.00	45.00	36.00	27.00	18.00	9.00
D	114.12	103.74	93.37	83.00	72.62	62.25	51.87	41.49	31.12	20.75	10.37
E	129.24	117.50	105.75	93.99	82.25	70.50	58.74	47.00	35.25	23.49	11.75
F	144.37	131.25	118.12	105.00	91.87	78.75	65.62	52.50	39.37	26.25	13.12
G	159.50	144.99	130.50	116.00	101.49	87.00	72.50	57.99	43.50	29.00	14.49
H	174.62	158.75	142.87	126.99	111.12	95.25	79.37	63.50	47.62	31.74	15.87
I	189.75	172.50	155.25	138.00	120.75	103.50	86.25	69.00	51.75	34.50	17.25
J	204.87	186.24	167.62	149.00	130.37	111.75	93.12	74.49	55.87	37.25	18.62
K	219.99	200.00	180.00	159.99	140.00	120.00	99.99	80.00	60.00	39.99	20.00
L	235.12	213.75	192.37	171.00	149.62	128.25	106.87	85.50	64.12	42.75	21.37
M	250.25	227.49	204.75	182.00	159.24	136.50	113.75	90.99	68.25	45.50	22.74
N	265.37	241.25	217.12	192.99	168.87	144.75	120.62	96.50	72.37	48.24	24.12
O	280.50	255.00	229.50	204.00	178.50	153.00	127.50	102.00	76.50	51.00	25.50
P	295.62	268.74	241.87	215.00	188.12	161.25	134.37	107.49	80.62	53.75	26.87
Q	310.74	282.50	254.25	225.99	197.75	169.50	141.24	113.00	84.75	56.49	28.25
R	325.87	296.25	266.62	237.00	207.37	177.75	148.12	118.50	88.87	59.25	29.62
S	341.00	309.99	279.00	248.00	216.99	186.00	155.00	123.99	93.00	62.00	30.99
T	356.12	323.75	291.37	258.99	226.62	194.25	161.87	129.50	97.12	64.74	32.37
U	371.25	337.50	303.75	270.00	236.25	202.50	168.75	135.00	101.25	67.50	33.75
V	378.12	343.74	309.37	275.00	240.62	206.25	171.87	137.49	103.12	68.75	34.37