



California Lost Vehicle Title Replacement

If your vehicle title is lost, stolen, or damaged, you can apply for a duplicate title through the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Use this checklist to prepare your application.

QUICK ANSWER

To replace a lost California vehicle title, complete Form REG 227 (Application for Duplicate or Paperless Title) and submit it in person at any CA DMV office with valid ID and the duplicate title fee. If there is an active lienholder on the vehicle, the DMV may issue the duplicate title to the lienholder rather than directly to you.

KEY FACTS

State	California
Agency	California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
Process	See official source
Notary required	Not specified
Bill of sale	Not specified
Odometer disclosure	Not specified
Last reviewed	May 10, 2026

QUICK REFERENCE

NOTARY Not specified	BILL OF SALE Not specified	ODOMETER Not specified	INSPECTION Not specified
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PRINTABLE CHECKLIST

Required checklist

- ☐ **Government-issued photo ID** REQUIRED
Required to verify your identity.
- ☐ **Payment for application fee** REQUIRED
Check the official state DMV for the current fee amount.
- ☐ **Form REG 227 — Application for Duplicate or Paperless Title** REQUIRED
[Form REG 227](#)
Available at any California DMV office or online.
- ☐ **Proof of vehicle ownership (registration card, if available)** CONDITIONAL

FEES

Duplicate title fee (Check DMV fee schedule for the current duplicate title fee.)

STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS

- 1 Download or obtain the state's duplicate title application form.
- 2 Complete the form with your vehicle's VIN, year, make, model, and your owner information.
- 3 Gather required ID and any supporting documents.
- 4 Submit the form and pay the duplicate title fee at a state DMV office or by mail.
- 5 Receive your duplicate title in the mail (timing varies by state).

COMMON MISTAKES

- Using the wrong form — California duplicate titles require Form REG 227, not Form REG 343 or other transfer forms.
- Not clearing an active lien first — if there is a lienholder on record, the DMV may issue the duplicate title to the lienholder rather than directly to you.



OFFICIAL SOURCES

CA DMV — Duplicate or Replacement Title

<https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/vehicle-registration/replacement-title/>

Form REG 227

<https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/file/application-for-duplicate-or-transfer-of-title-reg-227/>

California DMV

<https://www.dmv.ca.gov>

CA DMV Forms

<https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/forms/>