

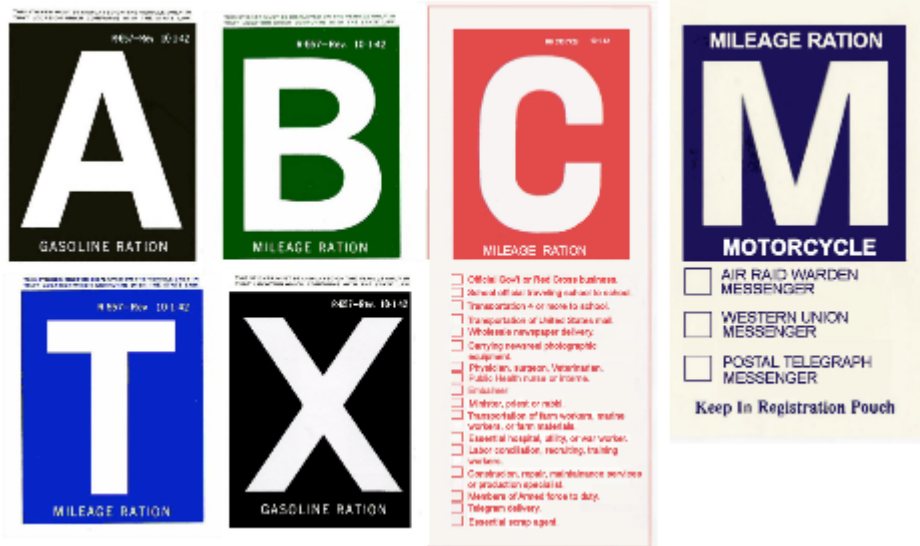
Gas Ration Stickers

If you've been in the “old car” hobby for a while, chances are that you've seen gas ration stickers in the right corner of the windshields of classic cars. When World War II broke out, the U.S. Office of Price Administration (OPA) rationed gasoline on May 15, 1942 on the east coast, and nationwide that December to assist in the war effort. This was in reaction to shortages of gasoline, and stickers were introduced to control the amount of gasoline that the public consumed.

By law, the stickers had to be affixed to the lower right side of the windshield. Most car hobbyists have seen the “A” gas ration sticker, but there were several more types issued.

The “A” sticker was the most common and was issued to the general public. To get the sticker, you had to certify that you needed gasoline and that you owned no more than 5 tires, which were also rationed during the war.

The “B” sticker was issued to business owners. It allowed them to get more fuel for their business vehicles.



The "C" sticker was issued primarily to professional people, physicians nurses, dentists, ministers, priests, Mail delivery, embalmers, farm workers, construction or maintenance workers, Soldiers and armed forces going to duty, and several others. The interesting thing about the “C” sticker is that there was a list of 17 different occupations and check boxes at the bottom of the form that the person had to check off to qualify for the sticker. In reality, the “C” sticker was probably the most common during the war, as many people tried to qualify to get more gasoline. However, after the war, most “C” sticker users scraped it off their windshield, as they didn't want the world to know their profession.

The "M" sticker was issued to motorcycle owners. This included telegraph delivery and other messenger services who used motorcycles for their business.

The "T" sticker was issued to truck drivers.

The "X" sticker was issued in special instances for high mileage type jobs such as traveling salesmen

Reproductions of many of these stickers are available, and they add to the vehicle's restoration.

Source: www.CarType.com