

FAQs on Converting a Vehicle from Private to Commercial

(also commonly referred to as Crew Cab Conversions or M1 to N1 Conversions)

What is an M1 (passenger/private) Vehicle? A vehicle designed and constructed to carry passengers and comprising no more than eight seating positions in addition to the driver's seating position; no space for standing passengers e.g. People Carriers, SUVs etc.

What is an N1 (light goods/commercial) Vehicle? A vehicle designed and constructed to carry goods with a maximum mass not exceeding 3.5 tonnes e.g. delivery vans, light trucks etc.

I want to convert my vehicle from private to commercial (M1 to N1). What do I do? If there is a physical modification required (e.g. removing seats) please contact the original manufacturer to ensure that this has no safety implications. Then contact your local Motor Tax Office (MTO) to ensure that they will accept your vehicle's change of classification. If so, they will advise you on what documentation they require. Click [here](#) for a list of local MTO contact details.

My vehicle doesn't need to be physically modified in any way. Can I just change the category? No. In order for a vehicle to be reclassified/converted from an M1 to an N1 (or private to commercial) it must meet a set of specific criteria. For example; it must meet the required height of 800mm and/or the area of 12,800cm² for 2 seat row conversions. For a full list of requirements/specifications please click [here](#).

What documentation is required to convert my vehicle from an M1 to an N1? Provided the Motor tax office agrees to your vehicle's conversion, then you will need:

- A [Masses and Dimensions](#) (Test 48) Form - completed by an Authorised Test Centre (ATC) or Suitably Qualified Individual (SQI).
- A [Declaration of Conversion](#) Form – completed by an ATC or SQI.
- An [RF111](#) Change of Particulars Form - completed by yourself.
- Your vehicle's registration certificate (log book).

Please note: any queries about completing the above forms should be directed to your local motor tax office.

Where can I find an Authorised Test Centre (ATC)? Please click [here](#) for a list of ATCs

What is a Suitably Qualified Individual (SQI)? A Suitably Qualified Individual (SQI) is someone who has:-

- An Engineering/Technical Qualification (Level 7 or higher accredited courses) or appropriate accreditation with [Engineers Ireland](#) or the [Institute of Automotive Engineer Assessors](#).
- A minimum of 5 years' experience of working in a suitable technical environment (Automotive/Engineering).
- Access to appropriate facilities and equipment to conduct the examination and complete the certification.
- Appropriate professional indemnity insurance.

I modified my vehicle and the Motor Tax office (MTO) will not reclassify my vehicle. Why is this? Not all vehicles are suitable for M1 to N1 conversion, regardless of whether they are modified or not. If your vehicle does not meet the specific requirements that would enable it to be registered as an N1, then it was never intended for use as a light goods vehicle and as such should remain as an M1 (passenger vehicle). The [NSAI](#) currently has a list of vehicles suitable for this type of conversion. For further advice please contact the NSAI on 01 8073800 or email info@nsai.ie

If I convert my vehicle from an M1 to N1, do I still bring it to the NCT to be tested? No. An N1 vehicle is classed as a commercial vehicle and therefore must be tested every year at a commercial vehicle test centre ([CVRT](#)). Please note that if your vehicle has been physically modified in any way (e.g. seats removed) to enable the conversion from M1 to N1, then you will need to present a [Modifications Report](#) at its next roadworthiness test.

What about vehicle registration tax (VRT) if I change from an M1 to N1? Please contact [The Revenue Commissioners](#) to enquire whether changes to your VRT apply following an M1 to N1 conversion.