

automobile1. [ˈɔːtəməbiːl] *n*

автомобиль

2. [ˈɔːtəməbiːl] *a*

1. автомобильный

automobile business - автомобильное дело

automobile railway car - ж.-д. автовагон, автомотриса

automobile transportation - а) автотранспорт б) автомобильные перевозки

automobile mechanic - автомеханик

2. самодвижущийся

3. [ˈɔːtəməbiːl] *v*

водить автомобиль; ездить на автомобиле

automobile

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

auto-mo-bile [automobile automobiles] *BrE* [ˈɔːtəməbiːl] *NAme* [ˈɔːtəməbiːl]*n* noun (NAme)

a car

- the automobile industry
- an automobile accident

Word Origin:late 19th cent.: from French, from **auto-** 'self' + **mobile** 'mobile'.Culture:**driving**

Americans have long had a 'love affair' with the **automobile** (*also* car), and are surprised when they meet somebody who cannot drive. Almost everybody over the age of 15 is a driver and most households have a vehicle. American life is arranged so that people can do most things from their cars. There are **drive-in** banks, post offices, restaurants, movie theatres and even some churches. In Britain the proportion of the population who are drivers is slightly less but, as in the US, many people prefer to use their car rather than public transport, because it is more convenient and because they like to be independent. In order to reduce **pollution** the government tries to discourage car ownership by making driving expensive. In particular, it puts a heavy tax on petrol and increases the annual **road tax** for cars that cause heavy pollution. **Congestion charging** is used to persuade people to avoid driving their cars in city centres.

To many people the make and quality of their car reflects their status in society, and it is important to them to get a smart new car every few years. In Britain since 2001 the **registration number** of a car shows the place and date of registration but older **number plates** can be used and a **personalized number plate** (= a registration number that spells out the owner's name or initials) may also suggest status. Many people prefer to buy a small, **economical** car, or get a **second-hand** one. Cars in the US are often larger than those in Britain and though petrol/gas is cheaper, insurance is expensive. In the US car **license plates**, commonly called **tags**, are given by the states. New ones must be bought every two or three years, or when a driver moves to another state. The states use the plates to advertise themselves: [↑]**Alabama** plates say 'The heart of Dixie' and have a small heart on them, and [↑]**Illinois** has 'The land of Lincoln'.

In Britain, before a person can get a **driving licence** they must pass an official **driving test**, which includes a written test of the [↑]**Highway Code** and a practical driving exam. Only people aged 17 or over are allowed to drive. **Learner drivers** who have a **provisional driving licence** must display an **L-plate**, a large red 'L', on their car, and be **supervised** by a qualified driver. The US has no national **driver's licence** (*AmE*), but instead licences are issued by each state. Most require written tests, an eye test and a short practical test. The minimum age for getting a licence is normally 16, although some states will issue a **learner's permit** to drivers as young as 14. Many states now apply a system of **graduated licenses** in which young drivers are first required to have an **intermediate licence** for a period of time before being given a **full licence**. An intermediate licence may, for example, prevent driving alone at particular times of the day or require the driver to take special classes if they drive badly. Americans have to get a new driver's licence if they move to another state.

In Britain people drive on the left and in the US they drive on the right. Generally British and US drivers are relatively careful and **courteous** but there is dangerous driving. In the US many of the deaths due to **traffic accidents** are caused by drivers who have drunk alcohol. **Drink-driving** (*AmE* **driving under the influence** or **driving while intoxicated**) (= driving a car after drinking alcohol) is also a serious problem in Britain. On many British roads **speed cameras** have been set up to catch drivers who go too fast. In the US the main job of state **highway patrols** is to prevent **speeding**.

Many drivers belong to a motoring organization in case their car breaks down. In Britain the main ones are the [↑]**AA** (Automobile Association) and the [↑]**RAC** (Royal Automobile Club), and in the US the largest is the [↑]**American Automobile Association**.

Example Bank:

- Compressed natural gas can be used to power automobiles.
- Learning to drive an automobile is not easy.
- automobile exports
- the influence of the automobile on American society

automobile

au **to** **mo** **bi** le /'ɔːtəmeɪbəl 'bɔːtəmoʊl-BrE " AmE " noun [countable]

[Date: 1800-1900; Language: French; Origin: auto- + mobile]



indicator BrE turn signal AmE

American English a car:

the automobile industry

automobile

Frequency Pack

12500 **4095**^{MCW}

15000 **2004**^{COCA}

RANGE: **4k** **AUTOMOBILE** 17566

automobile 4743

automobiles 2309

auto 9815

autos 699

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

3200 **7345**⁴⁷⁴³ *nn1*