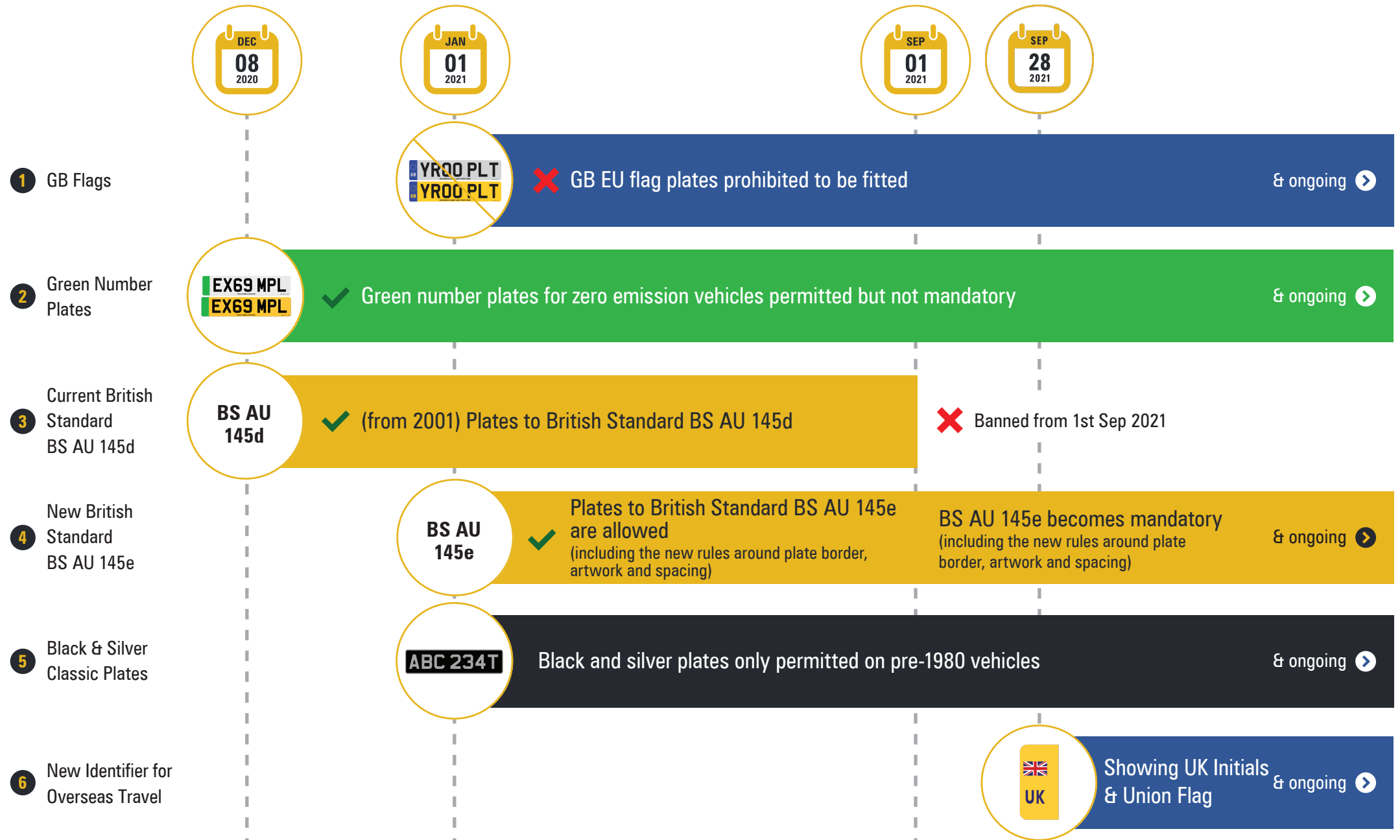


Summary of number plate changes 2020-2021

Find out more overleaf

BNMA

British Number Plate
Manufacturers Association



Summary of number plate changes 2020-2021



1 GB Flags

After 31st December 2020, the UK's Brexit transition period with the EU comes to an end. As a result, GB EU number plates (as shown above) will no longer be permitted to be fitted to vehicles from 1st January 2021.

Existing GB EU flag plates can remain on your vehicle, providing the plate was/is fitted before 1st January 2021. However, if you intend to travel to the EU in your vehicle, you will need to also display a GB oval. See point 6 for the new international identifier.

For more information, visit:
<https://www.bnma.org/news/30nov20-announcement-that-gb-eu-flags-prohibited-01jan21/>



2 Green Number Plates

From 8th December 2020, number plates with a green flash on the left hand side can be fitted to new and existing zero-emission vehicles.

The plate design must follow a particular format, please take a look at our news article for more information:
<https://www.bnma.org/news/confirmed-green-plates-permitted-from-8th-december/>



3 Current British Standard BS AU 145d

The current British Standard for number plates, BS AU 145d, is becoming obsolete and plates meeting this standard will only be legal to fit up to and including 31st August 2021.

Plates 1st September 2021 must comply with British Standard BS AU 145e, a stricter standard in terms of plate durability, readability and design.

Find out more about the plate requirements under BS AU 145e below and on our website [bnma.org](https://www.bnma.org)



4 New British Standard BS AU 145e

The new British Standard, BS AU 145e is coming in 2021.

BS AU 145e plates **can** be fitted from January 1st but **don't have** to be fitted until 1st September 2021, when the new standard becomes mandatory.

The new standard isn't so much a change from the current 'd' standard, more of a significant bolstering, with 25% more tests* and new, stricter rules on plate dimensions and design.

*The full range of tests includes; colorimetric, retroreflection, resistance to bending, resistance to solvents, thermal resistance, resistance to impact, resistance to abrasion, resistance to corrosion, resistance to weathering and opacity of the characters in near infrared.



5 Black & Silver Classic Plates

From January 1st 2021, classic and vintage black and silver number plates will not be permitted for vehicles registered on or after 1st January 1980. The plate rules no longer roll forward with the rolling historic vehicle tax classification.

Previously the number plate rules rolled-forward with the rolling Historic Vehicle tax class period, but this arrangement has been dissolved from 2021.



6 New Identifier for Overseas Travel

Vehicles travelling abroad to most countries (there are exceptions) will show the Union Flag and UK initials or a UK oval. GB ovals should be covered over and no other plates act as national identifiers for overseas travel.

Find out more in our news article:
<https://www.bnma.org/news/uk-flag-number-plate-design-confirmed-for-overseas-travel/>