TOYOTA VIN DECODER

How to use a **Toyota VIN decoder**: read any Toyota or Lexus VIN position by position, decode Camry, RAV4, Tacoma and Tundra VINs, find the plant and model year, look up the window sticker and recalls by VIN, compare **Carfax Toyota** reports, and know where to buy the history.

Free	35	$14.99
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ABOUT THIS TOYOTA VIN DECODER GUIDE

A **Toyota VIN decoder** reads the 17 characters on a Toyota or Lexus and tells you what was built, where, and for which model year: a Kentucky-built Camry hybrid, a Canadian RAV4, a Tacoma from Tijuana or a Tundra from San Antonio. This guide shows how Toyota writes its VINs, how to decode one by hand, and how to run a free **Toyota VIN lookup** online.

It is published by **CarCheckerVIN (carcheckervin.com)**, which runs a free VIN decoder and sells full vehicle history reports. Every Toyota code in these pages comes from a primary source: Toyota's own VIN-decoding filings in NHTSA's Manufacturer Information Database, NHTSA's register of Toyota manufacturer codes, or a decode in NHTSA's vPIC database. We sent 36 sample VINs to vPIC in one batch request in November 2026; 35 came back "VIN decoded clean". The sample VINs carry valid check digits, but their serial numbers are illustrative. The federal VIN rule is 49 CFR Part 565.

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FREE TOYOTA VIN DECODER

Decode a Toyota VIN while you read

Paste any 17-character Toyota or Lexus VIN into **carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/toyota** to see the year, model, trim, engine, drive type and assembly plant, plus a free preview of the vehicle's history records. No card and no sign-up. A full vehicle history report is $14.99.

How to use this guide

Buying a used Toyota

Read Chapters 1, 4, 12, 13 and 14. Decode every car on your list, then buy reports only for the finalists.

Owner or mechanic

Chapters 3, 5–10 and 11 cover engine codes, series codes, plants and the window sticker, for ordering the right parts.

Dealer or developer

Chapters 2 and 15 cover Toyota's filings, the free NHTSA API, batch decoding and bulk reports.

BUYER'S SHORTCUT

WHERE TO DECODE A TOYOTA VIN & WHERE TO BUY THE REPORT

Decoding a Toyota VIN costs nothing. Learning what happened to the car since it left Georgetown, San Antonio or Toyota City does cost something. Here is where to do each.

OUR PICK

CarCheckerVIN · www.carcheckervin.com

- **Free Toyota VIN decoder:** year, model, trim, engine, drive, plant
- **Free history preview** for the same VIN, no credit card
- **Full vehicle history report: $14.99**, no subscription
- **Packs:** 3 for $35.99, 5 for $54.99, 10 for $89.99 ($9 a report)
- Title brands, odometer readings, owner count and NMVTIS title records
- Lien and impound records, insurance total-loss records, auction sales with photos
- Open recalls, service records, factory specs and a market value estimate
- Search by VIN, by U.S. license plate, or paste a list of VINs

Decode a Toyota VIN free at carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/toyota →

Free Toyota VIN tools vs paid reports

Where	Cost	Best for
CarCheckerVIN Toyota decoder	Free; report $14.99	Specs and plant plus free damage, auction and recall counts, then the full report on the car you're serious about
NHTSA vPIC decoder	Free	Toyota's own filed data: engine code, series code, restraint layout, plant and a check-digit verdict
NHTSA recall lookup	Free	Open safety recalls on a Toyota or Lexus, by VIN or plate
NICB VINCheck	Free; 5 searches per 24 hours	Stolen-not-recovered and salvage or flood total-loss records from participating insurers
Carfax	Report widely quoted at $44.99	Service and maintenance records; often free on dealer listings

How to choose, in five checks

- [ ] **Decode first.** Year, gas or hybrid engine, drive type and plant should all match the listing.
- [ ] **On a 2023 Tundra, read the 4th character.** Toyota's filing uses it for the trim, so a TRD PRO badge on an SR5 VIN shows up at once (Chapter 8).
- [ ] **Run the free recall check** by VIN at carcheckervin.com/recall-check or nhtsa.gov/recalls.
- [ ] **Buy reports for the shortlist only** at carcheckervin.com/vehicle-history-report. A 3-pack ($35.99) costs less than one Carfax report, and many dealers include a Carfax free.
- [ ] **Inspect the winner** with an independent mechanic before you sign.

CHAPTER 1

WHAT A TOYOTA VIN DECODER TELLS YOU

A **Toyota VIN decoder** answers one question with precision: *what is this vehicle, exactly as Toyota built it?* It matches the VIN against the codes Toyota files with the U.S. government and returns the model, engine, body, drive, restraints and factory.

Decoder, lookup, check: three different jobs

Term	What it does	Toyota example
Toyota VIN decoder	Translates the 17 characters with Toyota's filed codes	2026 Camry, 2.5 L A25A-FXS hybrid, 80 Series, built in Georgetown, Kentucky
Toyota VIN lookup	Decodes the VIN, then searches records tied to it	Specs plus a summary of title, recall and history records
Toyota VIN check	Looks for problems in those records	Salvage brand, insurance total loss, odometer jump, open recall
Vehicle history report	A dated timeline of everything on record	Titles, owner count, mileage readings, liens, auction sales, service

Read straight from the VIN

- Country, maker and vehicle type: the WMI, such as `4T1` or `JTE`
- Model, body, engine and drive: the descriptor in positions 4–8
- Whether the number is valid: the check digit in position 9
- Model year: position 10
- Assembly plant: position 11, in Toyota's own code
- Production sequence: positions 12–17

Filled in from Toyota's filings

- Engine model code, such as `A25A-FKS` or `V35A-FTS`
- Rated horsepower and fuel injection type
- Hybrid motor codes, such as `1VM` or `1TM`
- Toyota series or model code, such as `GSU75L`
- Airbag and seat-belt layout, and the weight class (GVWR)
- Plant company name, city and country

Is a Toyota VIN decoder free?

Yes. Toyota must give NHTSA the information needed to decipher its VINs, and NHTSA publishes it free. You should never pay just to decode a Toyota VIN. What costs money is the vehicle's history: title, mileage, lien and total-loss records collected from states, insurers and auctions.

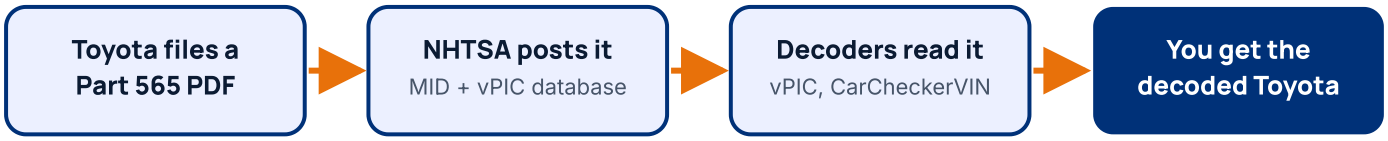
The basics every Toyota VIN follows

Every Toyota and Lexus sold in the U.S. since the 1981 model year carries a 17-character VIN under 49 CFR Part 565. The letters I, O and Q never appear, so there's no confusion with 1 and 0. In North America, position 9 is a check digit, position 10 is the model year and position 11 is the plant. For cars, and for SUVs and trucks rated at 10,000 lb or less, the last five characters are always numbers.

CHAPTER 2

WHERE TOYOTA'S VIN CODES COME FROM

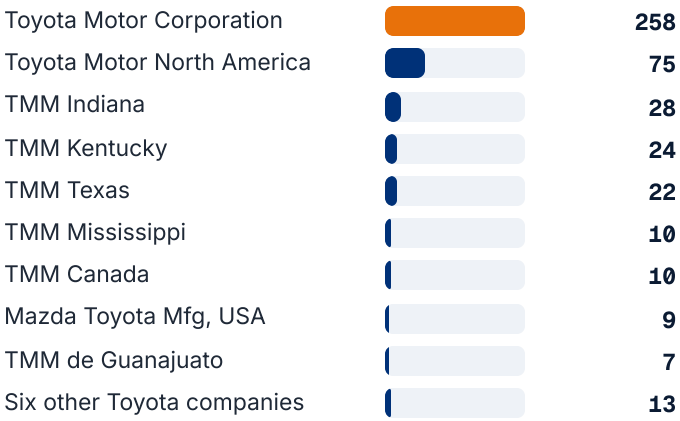
There is no secret Toyota code book. Federal law makes Toyota file its VIN coding with NHTSA, and NHTSA posts every filing online. Any honest Toyota VIN decoder is built on those documents.



The federal rule behind it

Under 49 CFR 565.16, a manufacturer must send NHTSA “the information necessary to decipher” its VINs at least 60 days before it offers the first vehicle with that coding for sale, and must file amendments when the coding changes. Manufacturer identifiers (the WMI) are assigned by SAE International under contract to NHTSA. Section 565.15 says which facts the descriptor must reveal, but leaves the choice and placement of the characters to the manufacturer.

Toyota’s filings, by company



Part 565 VIN-decoding filings listed by NHTSA's vPIC GetParts service for companies with “Toyota” in their name, January 2016 to November 2026: 456 in all. TMM = Toyota Motor Manufacturing. “Six other” = Baja California 3, California 3, Northern Kentucky 2, Turkey 2, Toyota Industries 2, France 1.

Two ways to write 4–8

One character, one meaning

Toyota's 2023 Tundra filing (No.23-008-02) gives each position its own job: 4th = trim, 5th = engine, 6th = restraints, 7th = series and drive, 8th = cab and bed. You can decode it by hand.

Five characters, one row

Toyota's 2026 Camry filing (No.26-016-00) lists whole five-character codes instead. DAACK is one complete row: sedan, 2.5 L hybrid, 184 hp, 80 Series, two-wheel drive. The filing doesn't give single letters a meaning of their own.

Because of the second style, decoding a newer Toyota by hand from an old chart can go badly wrong. Use the filing for that exact model year, or a decoder built on vPIC.

How to read a Toyota filing yourself

Open NHTSA's Manufacturer Information Database at vpic.nhtsa.dot.gov/mid, where each filing is a PDF listed under the Toyota company that filed it. The WMI tells you which company to pick: 4T1 is the Kentucky plant, 5TF the Texas plant (Chapter 3b). Match the model line and model year in the title, then read positions 1–3, 4–8, 10 and 11 from its tables.

CHAPTER 3

A TOYOTA VIN, POSITION BY POSITION

Here is a 2026 Toyota Camry hybrid decoded with Toyota's own 2026 Camry filing and NHTSA's vPIC database: front-wheel drive, 2.5-liter hybrid, built in Georgetown, Kentucky.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
4	T	1	D	A	A	C	K	1	T	U	0	1	2	3	4	5
WMI Toyota car, KY			VDS Camry hybrid, 80 Series, 2WD					Check digit	Year 2026	Plant Georgetown	Production sequence					

Position	Value	Section	Decoded meaning
1	`4`	Country code	North America, USA (first character of the WMI)
2–3	`T1`	Maker and type	“4T1”: Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Kentucky, Inc., passenger car
4–8	`DAACK`	Descriptor (VDS)	Per Toyota's filing: 4-door sedan, A25A-FXS 2.5 L four-cylinder gasoline hybrid, 184 hp, motor 1VM, restraint category 1, 80 Series, two-wheel drive, Toyota Camry
9	`1`	Check digit	Valid: vPIC returns “VIN decoded clean”
10	`T`	Model year	2026 (position 7 is a letter, so the 2010–2039 cycle applies)
11	`U`	Plant	Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Kentucky, Inc. (Georgetown)
12–17	`012345`	Sequence	Production number (illustrative in this example)

What vPIC adds to the filing

vPIC also returns an electronic CVT, GVWR Class 1C (4,001–5,000 lb), a lithium-ion battery and five seats. Restraint category 1 means belts at all seats, front and knee airbags for driver and passenger, row-1 side airbags and curtain airbags in rows 1–2.

The three sections

WMI (1–3): which Toyota company and vehicle type. **VDS (4–9):** what it is, plus the check digit. **VIS (10–17):** year, plant and serial. Try it on your car at carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/toyota.

Where to find the VIN on a Toyota



Dashboard, through the glass
Lower corner of the windshield on the driver's side



Driver’s door jamb
Certification label with VIN, build month and GVWR



Title, registration, insurance
See all locations at carcheckervin.com

POSITIONS 1–3: EVERY TOYOTA WMI

The World Manufacturer Identifier names the Toyota company that built the vehicle and the type of vehicle it is. NHTSA's vPIC register lists 34 WMIs held by companies with Toyota in their name. Here is the complete list, as of November 2026.

North American WMIs

WMI	Company (per vPIC)	Type
2T1	Toyota Motor Mfg Canada	Car
2T2	Toyota Motor Mfg Canada	MPV
2T3	Toyota Motor Mfg Canada	MPV
3TM	Toyota Motor Mfg de Baja California	Truck
3TY	Toyota Motor Mfg de Guanajuato	Truck
4T1	Toyota Motor Mfg, Kentucky	Car
4T3	Toyota Motor Mfg, Kentucky	MPV
4T4	Toyota Motor Mfg, Northern Kentucky	Car
58A	Toyota Motor Mfg, Kentucky	Car
5TB	Toyota Motor Mfg, Indiana	Truck
5TD	Toyota Motor Mfg, Indiana	MPV
5TE	Toyota Motor Mfg, California	Truck
5TF	Toyota Motor Mfg, Texas	Truck
5YF	Toyota Motor Mfg, Mississippi	Car
7MM	Mazda Toyota Mfg, USA	MPV
7MU	Mazda Toyota Mfg, USA	MPV
7SV	Toyota Motor Mfg, Texas	MPV

Japanese & European WMIs

WMI	Company (per vPIC)	Type
JT2	Toyota Motor Corporation	Car
JT3	Toyota Motor Corporation	MPV
JT4	Toyota Motor Corporation	Truck
JT5	Toyota Motor Corporation	Car
JT6	Toyota Motor Corporation	MPV
JT8	Toyota Motor Corporation	Car
JTD	Toyota Motor Corporation	Car
JTE	Toyota Motor Corporation	MPV
JTH	Toyota Motor Corporation	Car
JTJ	Toyota Motor Corporation	MPV
JTK	Toyota Motor North America	Car
JTL	Toyota Motor Corporation	MPV
JTM	Toyota Motor Corporation	MPV
JTN	Toyota Motor Corporation	Car
NMT	Toyota Motor Mfg, Turkey	Car
SB1	Toyota Motor Corporation (UK)	Car
VNK	Toyota Motor Mfg, France	Car

Source: NHTSA vPIC GetWMIsForManufacturer, November 2026. MPV = multipurpose passenger vehicle (SUVs, minivans). vPIC lists JTK under Toyota Motor North America with Japan as the country, and SB1 with the United Kingdom.

Lexus uses Toyota's WMIs

There is no separate "Lexus" company in this list. In our decodes, a Lexus ES started with 58A (Kentucky), a Lexus RX with 2T2 (Canada) and a Lexus NX with JTJ (Japan). The make comes from the descriptor, not from the first three characters.

The third character tracks vehicle type

One plant can hold several WMIs. Kentucky uses 4T1 for cars such as the Camry and 4T3 for MPVs such as the RAV4 Hybrid; Texas uses 5TF for the Tundra pickup and 7SV for the Sequoia SUV.

Reading the first character: J is Japan, 2 Canada, 3 Mexico, and 4, 5 and 7 are U.S. series here. It shows where the WMI is registered, usually but not always where the car was built; position 11 settles the factory.

POSITIONS 4–8: TOYOTA'S VEHICLE DESCRIPTOR

Characters 4 through 8 carry the facts buyers care about most: model, body, engine, drive and safety equipment. The VIN rule says *what* they must reveal. Toyota decides *how*, model by model.

What the rule requires

Vehicle type	Facts the descriptor must make decipherable (49 CFR 565.15, Table I)
Passenger car (Camry, Corolla, Prius, ES)	Make, line, series, body type, engine type, and all restraint devices and their location
MPV (RAV4, Highlander, Sienna, RX)	Make, line, series, body type, engine type, GVWR, and, at 10,000 lb or less, all restraint devices and their location
Truck (Tacoma, Tundra)	Make, model or line, series, chassis, cab type, engine type, brake system, GVWR, and, at 10,000 lb or less, all restraint devices and their location

For these vehicles position 7 must be a letter, and horsepower encoded in a VIN must be within 10 percent of the actual figure.

Style 1: the 2023 Tundra, decoded by position

Pos.	Toyota's label	Codes in the 23MY filing (No.23-008-02)
4	Trim level	**J** Limited · **K** SR · **L** SR5 · **M** 1794 · **N** Platinum · **P** TRD PRO · **V** Capstone
5	Engine type	**A** V35A-FTS 3.4 L V6, 389 hp · **B** V35A-FTS, 358 hp · **C** V35A-FTS with motor 1TM (hybrid), 389 hp as filed
6	Restraints	**5** belts at all seats; front and knee airbags for driver and passenger; side airbags row 1; curtain airbags rows 1–2
7	Series & drive	**A/B/C** 70, 71, 72 Series, two-wheel drive · **D/E/G** 75, 76, 77 Series, four-wheel drive
8	Cab, bed, make, line	**A** Double Cab, 6.5 ft bed · **B** CrewMax, 5.5 ft · **C** CrewMax, 6.5 ft · **D** Double Cab, 8.1 ft

Style 2: the 2026 Camry, decoded by whole code

VDS	Body	Engine	HP	Motor	Series	Drive
DAACK	4-door sedan	A25A-FXS 2.5 L L4, gasoline HEV	184	1VM	80 Series	Two-wheel
DBADK	4-door sedan	A25A-FXS 2.5 L L4, gasoline HEV	184	1VM+1WM	85 Series	Four-wheel

Source: Toyota 26MY VIN coding system, Toyota Camry (No.26-016-00), filed by Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Kentucky. Both rows carry restraint category 1.

Same descriptor, different country

The descriptor describes the vehicle, not the factory. Our RAV4 Hybrids share RWRFV under 4T3 (Kentucky) and JTM (Japan); our V6 Tacoma Double Cabs share CZ5AN across Texas, Tijuana and Guanajuato.

Where's the engine code?

On many Ford and GM vehicles the 8th character is the engine code. In the two Toyota filings we read, it isn't: in the Tundra filing the engine is the 5th character; in the Camry filing it is buried in the whole five-character code. A **Toyota VIN lookup** returns the engine model for you.

POSITION 9: THE CHECK DIGIT ON A TOYOTA VIN

Every decoder starts by recalculating position 9 from the other 16 characters. If the math fails on a North American Toyota, the VIN was mistyped or isn't genuine. Here is the calculation on our 2023 Tundra Limited, 5TFJA5DB4PX123456.

Step 1: give every letter its value

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	N	P	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	7	9	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Digits keep their own value. Values from 49 CFR 565.15, Table III.

Step 2: multiply by the position weight

Pos.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
VIN	5	T	F	J	A	5	D	B	4	P	X	1	2	3	4	5	6
Value	5	3	6	1	1	5	4	2	–	7	7	1	2	3	4	5	6
Weight	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	10	0	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
Product	40	21	36	5	4	15	8	20	0	63	56	7	12	15	16	15	12

Step 3: divide by 11

The products add up to **345**. Divide by 11: 345 = 31 × 11 + **4**. The remainder, 4, is the check digit, and the 9th character of 5TFJA5DB**4**PX123456 is indeed 4. NHTSA's decoder agrees: “VIN decoded clean”.

When the answer is X

A remainder of 10 is written as the letter **X**. Our 2012 Camry sample, 4T1BF1FK**X**CU345678, sums to 318, which leaves 10 after dividing by 11, so its check digit is X. An X in position 9 is normal, not a red flag.

What a check digit tells you about a Toyota

- **Typos:** nearly any single wrong character changes the result, so a mistyped VIN in an ad usually fails.
- **Made-up VINs:** a random number fails roughly 10 times in 11.
- **Not clones:** a VIN copied from a real Toyota passes perfectly, because it is real.
- **Gray-market imports:** vehicles built for other markets may not use a check digit at all.

AUTOMATIC

CarCheckerVIN validates the check digit before it decodes and tells you when a Toyota VIN doesn't add up, so you can fix the typo before you pay for anything: **carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/toyota**.

Common Toyota VIN typos

The usual suspects are S and 5, B and 8, Z and 2, and G and 6: a 5TF typed as STF fails at once. If the car's own VINs all match and the check digit still fails on a U.S.-market Toyota, find out why before you buy.

CHAPTER 3 CONT.

POSITION 10: THE TOYOTA VIN YEAR CHART

Read the 10th character and look it up below. Codes repeat every 30 years, so for cars, SUVs and pickups the 7th character picks the column.

Code	7th = digit	7th = letter	Code	7th = digit	7th = letter	Code	7th = digit	7th = letter
A	1980	2010	L	1990	2020	Y	2000	2030
B	1981	2011	M	1991	2021	1	2001	2031
C	1982	2012	N	1992	2022	2	2002	2032
D	1983	2013	P	1993	2023	3	2003	2033
E	1984	2014	R	1994	2024	4	2004	2034
F	1985	2015	S	1995	2025	5	2005	2035
G	1986	2016	T	1996	2026	6	2006	2036
H	1987	2017	V	1997	2027	7	2007	2037
J	1988	2018	W	1998	2028	8	2008	2038
K	1989	2019	X	1999	2029	9	2009	2039

Never used in position 10: I, O, Q, U, Z and 0. Under 49 CFR 565.15, the 7th-character rule applies to passenger cars and to MPVs and trucks with a GVWR of 10,000 lb or less: a digit in position 7 means 1980–2009, a letter means 2010–2039.

Toyota examples from our decodes

VIN	7th	10th	Model year & vehicle
4T1BF1**F**KX**C**U345678	F	C	2012 Camry
5TFDY5**F**17**K**X123456	F	K	2019 Tundra
5TFJA5**D**B4**P**X123456	D	P	2023 Tundra
3TYLB5**J**N2**R**T123456	J	R	2024 Tacoma
4T1DAA**C**K1**T**U012345	C	T	2026 Camry

Bold characters are positions 7 and 10. Every one of our 35 clean Toyota and Lexus decodes had a letter in position 7, as the rule requires for 2010 and later.

Model year vs build date

Toyota's filings label the code by model year ("T – 26 Model Year" in the Camry document), not calendar year, so a 2026 Camry can be built during 2025. The build month is on the door-jamb label. On trucks, vPIC adds a note that the year "may be incorrect" (Chapter 15).

Recent Toyota model years at a glance

M = 2021 **N = 2022** **P = 2023** **R = 2024** **S = 2025** **T = 2026** **V = 2027** **W = 2028** U, Z and 0 are never year codes, yet **U** sits in position 11 of every Kentucky-built Camry, so read the year from position 10 only. Chart online at **carcheckervin.com/vin-year-decoder-chart**.

CHAPTER 3 CONT.

POSITION 11: TOYOTA PLANT CODES & THE SERIAL

The 11th character names the factory, in Toyota's own code. Our decodes turned up twelve different Toyota plants across the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Japan. This is what vPIC returned for each code.

11th	Plant (per NHTSA vPIC)	Seen on in our decodes
U	Toyota Motor Mfg, Kentucky · Georgetown, KY	Camry 2012, 2019, 2020, 2026; RAV4 Hybrid 2021; Lexus ES 2019, 2020
C	Toyota Motor Mfg Canada · Cambridge, ON	RAV4 2021, 2025; Lexus RX 2019, 2023
W	Toyota Motor Mfg Canada · Woodstock, ON	RAV4 2019
X	Toyota Motor Mfg, Texas · San Antonio, TX	Tundra 2019, 2023; Tacoma 2017; Sequoia 2023
M	Toyota Motor Mfg de Baja California · Tijuana, Mexico	Tacoma 2023, 2024
T	Toyota Motor Mfg de Guanajuato · Apaseo el Grande, Mexico	Tacoma 2021, 2024
P	Toyota Motor Mfg Mississippi · Blue Springs, MS	Corolla 2026
S	Toyota Motor Mfg, Indiana · Princeton, IN	Highlander 2020; Sienna 2020
5	Toyota Motor Corporation, Tahara plant · Aichi, Japan	4Runner 2019
3	Toyota Motor Corporation, Tsutsumi plant · Toyota City, Aichi	Prius 2019; Corolla Hatchback 2019
2	Toyota Motor Kyushu · Miyawaka, Fukuoka, Japan	Lexus NX 2019
D	Toyota Industries, Nagakusa plant · Obu, Aichi, Japan	RAV4 Hybrid 2021

Plant codes belong to each manufacturer and can change between model years; always decode the full VIN rather than reading position 11 alone. Toyota's own filings confirm two of these: U for Kentucky in the 2026 Camry document, X for Texas in the 2023 Tundra document.

The same letter, two different meanings

In position 11, **T** means Guanajuato and **X** San Antonio; in position 10, T means 2026 and X would mean 2029. A Tacoma VIN ending "…R**T**123456" is a 2024 model from Guanajuato, not a 2026.

Why the plant matters on a Toyota

Toyota builds many models in more than one place. We decoded RAV4s from Cambridge, Woodstock, Georgetown and Obu, and Tacomas from San Antonio, Tijuana and Guanajuato. Parts can differ by plant, recalls are assigned by VIN range, and many buyers want to know if a car was assembled in the U.S. Position 11 answers it.

Positions 12–17: the serial

The last six characters are Toyota's production sequence. For cars, and for SUVs and trucks rated at 10,000 lb or less, the final five must be digits (49 CFR 565.15). Parts catalogs sometimes use it to mark mid-year changes. In this guide, serials such as 123456 are illustrative.

CHAPTER 4

24 TOYOTA & LEXUS VINS, DECODED

Every row was decoded by NHTSA's vPIC database in one November 2026 batch, and every one came back “VIN decoded clean”. Serials are illustrative; eleven more decodes appear in the model chapters.

VIN	Year, make, model, trim	Engine & drive	Body & plant
4T1DAACK1TU012345	2026 Toyota Camry (80 Series)	2.5 L 4-cyl hybrid, 2WD, e-CVT	Sedan · Georgetown, KY
4T1DBADK5TU023456	2026 Toyota Camry (85 Series)	2.5 L 4-cyl hybrid, 4WD, e-CVT	Sedan · Georgetown, KY
4T1G11AK6LU123456	2020 Toyota Camry SE	2.5 L 4-cyl, 4×2	Sedan · Georgetown, KY
4T1BF1FKXCU345678	2012 Toyota Camry	2.5 L 4-cyl (2AR-FE), 4×2	Sedan · Georgetown, KY
5YFB4MDE3TP123456	2026 Toyota Corolla LE	2.0 L 4-cyl, 4×2, CVT	Sedan · Blue Springs, MS
2T3P1RFV1MC123456	2021 Toyota RAV4 XLE	2.5 L 4-cyl, 4WD, 8-speed auto	SUV · Cambridge, ON
2T3W1RFV2KW123456	2019 Toyota RAV4 XLE (2WD)	2.5 L 4-cyl, 4×2, 8-speed auto	SUV · Woodstock, ON
4T3RWRFV0MU123456	2021 Toyota RAV4 XLE HV	2.5 L 4-cyl hybrid, 4WD, CVT	SUV · Georgetown, KY
2T3P1RFV5SC123456	2025 Toyota RAV4 (50 Series)	2.5 L 4-cyl, 4WD, 8-speed auto	SUV · Cambridge, ON
5TDGZRBH2LS123456	2020 Toyota Highlander XLE	3.5 L V6, 4WD	SUV · Princeton, IN
JTEBU5JR8K5123456	2019 Toyota 4Runner (trim range)	4.0 L V6, 4WD, 5-speed auto	SUV · Tahara, Japan
3TMCZ5AN7PM123456	2023 Toyota Tacoma SR5	3.5 L V6, 4WD	Pickup · Tijuana, Mexico
3TYLB5JN2RT123456	2024 Toyota Tacoma (45 Series)	2.4 L 4-cyl, 4WD	Pickup · Guanajuato, Mexico
3TYLC5LNXRT123456	2024 Toyota Tacoma (47 Series)	2.4 L 4-cyl hybrid, 4WD	Pickup · Guanajuato, Mexico
5TFCZ5AN2HX123456	2017 Toyota Tacoma (trim range)	3.5 L V6, 4WD	Pickup · San Antonio, TX
5TFJA5DB4PX123456	2023 Toyota Tundra Limited	3.4 L V6, 4WD	CrewMax · San Antonio, TX
5TFPC5DB9PX123456	2023 Toyota Tundra TRD PRO	3.4 L V6 hybrid, 4WD	CrewMax · San Antonio, TX
5TFDY5F17KX123456	2019 Toyota Tundra SR5	5.7 L V8 (3UR-FE), 4WD	CrewMax · San Antonio, TX
7SVAAABA3PX123456	2023 Toyota Sequoia (85 Series)	3.4 L V6 hybrid, 4WD	SUV · San Antonio, TX
58ABZ1B16KU123456	2019 Lexus ES 350	3.5 L V6, 4×2, auto	Sedan · Georgetown, KY
58AB21B10KU123456	2019 Lexus ES 300h	2.5 L 4-cyl hybrid, 4×2	Sedan · Georgetown, KY
2T2BZMCA0KC123456	2019 Lexus RX 350	3.5 L V6, 4WD	SUV · Cambridge, ON
2T2BAMCA2PC123456	2023 Lexus RX 350	2.4 L 4-cyl, 4WD	SUV · Cambridge, ON
JTJBARBZ6K2123456	2019 Lexus NX 300 Luxury	2.0 L 4-cyl, 4WD, 6-speed auto	SUV · Miyawaka, Japan

4WD = vPIC's “4WD/4-Wheel Drive/4×4”. Details left out were not returned. Series in parentheses = vPIC's Series field when no trim came back.

How to read a Toyota decode result

Decode your own Toyota the same way, free, at **carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/toyota**.

- **Trim:** sometimes exact (SE, Limited), sometimes a range (“L/LE/SE/XLE”), sometimes blank.
- **Series:** older decodes show Toyota model codes such as GSU75L; newer filings say “80 Series”.
- **Electrification:** hybrids show an HEV level and motor codes such as 1VM or 1TM.
- **GVWR:** the weight band, from Class 1B on a Prius to Class 2F on a Tundra.

CHAPTER 5

CAMRY VIN DECODER

Every Camry we decoded came from Georgetown, Kentucky, but Toyota rewrites the descriptor with each generation, so a **Camry VIN decoder** has to match the right year's codes.

Toyota's 2026 Camry filing: hybrid only

Toyota's 26MY Camry document (No.26-016-00, filed by Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Kentucky) lists just two descriptor codes, and both are hybrids. That makes the VIN a quick test of any listing: a 2026 Camry advertised as a non-hybrid doesn't match this filing, so ask questions.

VDS	Engine	HP	Motor	Series	Drive
DAACK	A25A-FXS 2.5 L L4, port + direct injection, gasoline HEV	184	1VM	80 Series	Two-wheel drive
DBADK	A25A-FXS 2.5 L L4, port + direct injection, gasoline HEV	184	1VM+1WM	85 Series	Four-wheel drive

The extra motor, 1WM, marks the all-wheel-drive 85 Series. Both rows list a 4-door sedan and restraint category 1.

Three Camry generations, side by side

	2012 Camry	2019 Camry	2020 Camry SE	2026 Camry
VIN	4T1BF1FKXCU345678	4T1B11HK2KU234567	4T1G11AK6LU123456	4T1DAACK1TU012345
VDS	BF1FK	B11HK	G11AK	DAACK
Engine	2AR-FE 2.5 L, 178 hp	A25A-FKS 2.5 L, 203 hp	A25A-FKS 2.5 L, 203 hp	A25A-FXS 2.5 L hybrid, 184 hp
Trim	not returned	L/LE/SE/XLE	SE	not returned
Series	ASV50L/GSV50L/AVV50L	AXVA70L/GSV70L/AXVH70L/AXVH71L	AXVA70L/GSV70L/AXVH70L	80 Series
Plant	U · Georgetown	U · Georgetown	U · Georgetown	U · Georgetown

What the Camry decodes teach

- **Trim can be exact or a range:** the 2020 pattern gave SE, the 2019 one four trims.
- **The engine code changes with the generation,** from 2AR-FE to A25A-FKS to the hybrid A25A-FXS.
- **Series codes group a generation:** "70" codes in 2019–2020, "50" codes in 2012.

Camry checks before you buy

- [ ] Position 10 matches the advertised year
- [ ] Hybrid or gas matches the badge and the decode
- [ ] AWD claims on a 2026 match the 85 Series code DBADK
- [ ] Open recalls checked by VIN: NHTSA campaign 26V511000 covers certain 2025–2026 Camry Hybrids (Chapter 12)

CAMRY

Decode a Camry free at **carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/toyota**; reports compared at **/toyota-camry-carfax-alternative**; problem years at **/toyota-camry-years-to-avoid**.

CHAPTER 6

RAV4 VIN DECODER

The RAV4 is the best example of why a **RAV4 VIN decoder** must read the whole VIN. Our five RAV4 decodes came from four factories in three countries, under three different WMIs.

VIN	Year & trim	Powertrain	Plant (WMI)
2T3W1RFV2KW123456	2019 XLE / XLE Premium 2WD	A25A-FKS 2.5 L, 203 hp, 4×2, 8-speed auto	Woodstock, ON (2T3)
2T3P1RFV1MC123456	2021 XLE	A25A-FKS 2.5 L, 203 hp, 4WD, 8-speed auto	Cambridge, ON (2T3)
4T3RWRFV0MU123456	2021 XLE HV	A25A-FXS 2.5 L hybrid, motors 3NM+4NM, 176 hp, 4WD, CVT	Georgetown, KY (4T3)
JTMRWRFV4MD123456	2021 XLE HV	A25A-FXS 2.5 L hybrid, motors 3NM+4NM, 176 hp, 4WD, CVT	Obu, Aichi, Japan (JTM)
2T3P1RFV5SC123456	2025 (50 Series)	A25A-FKS 2.5 L, 203 hp, 4WD, 8-speed auto	Cambridge, ON (2T3)

Decoded clean in vPIC, November 2026. Horsepower is the engine figure as reported to NHTSA. The Japanese hybrid's plant is listed as Toyota Industries Corporation, Nagakusa Plant.



Kentucky-built RAV4 Hybrid XLE
WMI 4T3 · plant U = Georgetown

Japan-built RAV4 Hybrid XLE
WMI JTM · plant D = Obu, Aichi

Orange: identical descriptor. Navy: the WMI and plant code are the only parts that change.

What the RAV4 decodes teach

- **Same spec, different origin.** The two hybrids share every character in positions 4–8, so they decode to the same XLE HV. Only the WMI and position 11 tell you which one was built in Kentucky.
- **Hybrid shows in the decode,** through the A25A-FXS engine code, motor codes and a CVT instead of the gas car's 8-speed automatic.
- **A blank trim isn't an error.** The 2025 pattern returned no trim; vPIC says a missing value means it has no data, not that the feature is absent.

RAV4 checks before you buy

- [ ] "Hybrid" in the ad = A25A-FXS and motor codes in the decode
- [ ] "AWD" in the ad = 4WD in the decoded drive type
- [ ] Year from position 10, not from the ad title
- [ ] Recall check by VIN, then a history report on the finalist

RAV4

Decode free at **carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/toyota**. Reports compared at **/toyota-rav4-carfax-alternative**; problem years at **/toyota-rav4-years-to-avoid**.

CHAPTER 7

TACOMA VIN DECODER

A **Tacoma VIN decoder** settles two things buyers argue about: the generation and the engine. Our eight Tacoma decodes span three plants, two generations and four powertrains.

The previous generation: one descriptor, three plants

VIN	Year & trim	Engine, drive & cab	Plant
5TFCZ5AN2HX123456	2017 SR to TRD Pro (range)	2GR-FKS 3.5 L V6, 278 hp, 4WD, Double cab, short bed	X · San Antonio, TX
3TYCZ5AN7MT123456	2021 SR5	2GR-FKS 3.5 L V6, 278 hp, 4WD, 6-speed	T · Apaseo el Grande, Gto.
3TMCZ5AN7PM123456	2023 SR5	2GR-FKS 3.5 L V6, 278 hp, 4WD	M · Tijuana, B.C.
3TYAX5GN1MT123456	2021 SR5	2TR-FE 2.7 L 4-cyl, 159 hp, 4×2, 6-speed	T · Apaseo el Grande, Gto.

The descriptor CZ5AN repeats under three WMIs (5TF, 3TY, 3TM): the same V6 Double Cab on paper, from Texas or one of two Mexican plants.

The 2024 generation: a new engine family

VIN	Series	Engine & drive	GVWR · plant
3TYKB5FN7RT123456	40 Series	T24A-FTS 2.4 L 4-cyl, 278 hp, 4×2	Class 1D · Guanajuato
3TYLB5JN2RT123456	45 Series	T24A-FTS 2.4 L 4-cyl, 278 hp, 4WD	Class 2E · Guanajuato
3TMLB5JN8RM123456	45 Series	T24A-FTS 2.4 L 4-cyl, 278 hp, 4WD	Class 2E · Tijuana
3TYLC5LNXRT123456	47 Series	T24A-FTS 2.4 L 4-cyl + motor 1TM (HEV), 275 hp as reported, 4WD	Class 2E · Guanajuato

All eight decoded clean in vPIC, November 2026. Horsepower is the engine figure reported to NHTSA. GVWR Class 1D = 5,001–6,000 lb; Class 2E = 6,001–7,000 lb (49 CFR 565.15, Table II).

What the Tacoma decodes teach

- **Engine = generation.** A 2GR-FKS V6 or 2TR-FE four-cylinder points to the previous truck; T24A-FTS points to the 2024 redesign.
- **Hybrid is visible.** The 47 Series decode lists motor 1TM and an HEV electrification level.
- **Weight class follows drive.** Our 4×2 2024 truck decoded as Class 1D; the 4WD trucks as Class 2E. GVWR matters for towing and registration.

Tacoma checks before you buy

- [ ] 4×4 badge = 4WD in the decode
- [ ] "V6" claim = 2GR-FKS in the decode (all our 2024 decodes were 2.4 L fours)
- [ ] Door-jamb label, dashboard and title VINs identical

TACOMA

Decode a Tacoma free at **carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/toyota**. Compare reports at **/toyota-tacoma-carfax-alternative**; problem years at **/toyota-tacoma-years-to-avoid**.

CHAPTER 8

TUNDRA VIN DECODER

The 2023 Tundra is the easiest Toyota to decode by hand: Toyota's filing gives each descriptor position one job, so a **Tundra VIN decoder** reads trim, engine, drive, cab and bed straight off the VIN.



4th: trim

J Limited · K SR · L SR5 · M 1794 · N Platinum · P TRD PRO · V Capstone

5th: engine

A V35A-FTS 3.4 L V6, 389 hp · B V35A-FTS, 358 hp · C V35A-FTS + motor 1TM, hybrid, 389 hp as filed

6th: restraints

5 belts at all seats; driver and passenger front and knee airbags; row-1 side airbags; curtain airbags rows 1–2

7th: series and drive

A 70, B 71, C 72 Series, two-wheel drive · D 75, E 76, G 77 Series, four-wheel drive

8th: cab and bed

A Double Cab, 6.5 ft · B CrewMax, 5.5 ft · C CrewMax, 6.5 ft · D Double Cab, 8.1 ft

Weight class

Tied to the whole 4–8 code: JA5DB is Class F (7,001–8,000 lb), LA5AB Class E (6,001–7,000 lb).

Source: Toyota Tundra VIN coding system, 23 Model Year (No.23-008-02), Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Texas.

Tundra and Sequoia decodes

VIN	Year & trim	Engine, drive & body	GVWR
5TFJA5DB4PX123456	2023 Tundra Limited	V35A-FTS 3.4 L V6, 389 hp, 4WD, CrewMax	Class 2F
5TFPC5DB9PX123456	2023 Tundra TRD PRO	V35A-FTS + 1TM hybrid, 4WD, CrewMax	Class 2F
5TFLA5AB8PX123456	2023 Tundra SR5	V35A-FTS 3.4 L V6, 389 hp, 4×2, CrewMax	Class 2E
5TFDY5F17KX123456	2019 Tundra SR5 grade	3UR-FE 5.7 L V8, 381 hp, 4WD, CrewMax	Class 2F
7SVAAABA3PX123456	2023 Sequoia (85 Series)	V35A-FTS + 1TM hybrid, 4WD, 10-speed auto	Class 2F

Catch a re-badged Tundra

Badges are cheap; VINs aren't. On a 2023 Tundra, a TRD PRO should carry **P** in position 4 and a Capstone **V**. A "TRD PRO" with an **L** there was built as an SR5. Ask why before you pay a TRD PRO price.

TUNDRA

Decode free at **carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/toyota**. Reports compared at **/toyota-tundra-carfax-alternative**; problem years at **/toyota-tundra-years-to-avoid**.

CHAPTER 9

LEXUS VIN DECODER

A **Lexus VIN decoder** works exactly like a Toyota one, because Lexus vehicles are built by Toyota companies and carry Toyota WMIs. The make, LEXUS, comes from the descriptor.

Six Lexus decodes

VIN	Year, model, trim	Powertrain	Plant (WMI)
58ABZ1B16KU123456	2019 ES 350	2GR-FKS 3.5 L V6, 301 hp, 4×2, automatic	Georgetown, KY (58A)
58ADZ1B13LU123456	2020 ES 350 Premium	2GR-FKS 3.5 L V6, 301 hp, 4×2	Georgetown, KY (58A)
58AB21B10KU123456	2019 ES 300h	A25A-FXS 2.5 L + motor 3NM, hybrid, 176 hp, 4×2	Georgetown, KY (58A)
2T2BZMCA0KC123456	2019 RX 350 Standard	2GR-FKS 3.5 L V6, 295 hp, 4WD	Cambridge, ON (2T2)
2T2BAMCA2PC123456	2023 RX 350	T24A-FTS 2.4 L 4-cyl, 275 hp, 4WD	Cambridge, ON (2T2)
JTJBARBZ6K2123456	2019 NX 300 Luxury	8AR-FTS 2.0 L 4-cyl, 4WD, 6-speed auto	Miyawaka, Fukuoka (JTJ)

Decoded clean in vPIC, November 2026. Horsepower is the engine figure reported to NHTSA; the NX decode returned no horsepower.

What the Lexus decodes teach

- **A Lexus isn't always Japanese.** Our ES sedans came from Kentucky and our RX SUVs from Ontario. Only the NX came from Japan.
- **Lexus shares Toyota engines.** The ES 350 and RX 350 use the 2GR-FKS V6 found in our Highlander and Sienna decodes; the ES 300h uses the A25A-FXS hybrid family.
- **Generation changes show in the engine.** The 2019 RX 350 decoded with a V6; the 2023 RX 350 with the T24A-FTS four-cylinder also used in the 2024 Tacoma.
- **Trim names come through.** “Premium”, “Standard” and “Luxury” appear when Toyota's data encodes them.

When a Lexus VIN won’t decode

We also tested a made-up RX pattern, 2T2HZMDAXKC123456, with a valid check digit. vPIC still recognised the maker and the Cambridge plant, but returned error codes **5** (“VIN has errors in few positions”) and **14** (unable to decode some characters), and named positions 4, 5 and 7 as unused. A passing check digit doesn't make a VIN real; the descriptor has to exist in Toyota's filing.

Lexus recalls by VIN

In NHTSA's records, Lexus recalls are filed by Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing. Campaign 23V480000, for example, covered a steering-column spiral cable on certain 2023 Lexus RX models along with several 2023 Toyotas, including the Tacoma, Corolla and Highlander. Check any Lexus at **carcheckervin.com/lexus-recall-check**.

LEXUS

Decode a Lexus free at **carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/lexus**, run a **Lexus VIN lookup** for history records, and pull the original **Lexus window sticker by VIN**.

CHAPTER 10

COROLLA, HIGHLANDER, SIENNA, 4RUNNER & PRIUS

The same method works on every Toyota. These decodes add five more plants and show the range a free Toyota VIN decoder returns, from a 96 hp hybrid engine to a 4.0-liter V6.

COROLLA VIN DECODER

Corolla: Mississippi and Japan

5YFB4MDE3TP123456: 2026 Corolla LE, 18 Series, M20A-FKS 2.0 L four-cylinder (169 hp), CVT, 4×2, built in Blue Springs, Mississippi. JTNK4RBEXK3123456: 2019 Corolla Hatchback SE/XSE, series MZEA12L, the same M20A-FKS engine, built at the Tsutsumi plant in Toyota City. One engine, two countries, two WMIs (5YF, JTN).

HIGHLANDER & SIENNA VIN DECODER

Highlander and Sienna: Princeton, Indiana

5TDGZRBH2LS123456: 2020 Highlander XLE, series GSU75L, 2GR-FKS 3.5 L V6 (295 hp), 4WD, GVWR Class 1D. 5TDYZ3DC9LS123456: 2020 Sienna minivan, 2GR-FKS V6 (296 hp), 8-speed automatic, 4×2, with the trim returned as “Q grade”. vPIC passes on whatever wording the manufacturer filed, so translate a grade code like this with the window sticker. Both carry 5TD, Indiana's MPV code.

4RUNNER VIN DECODER

4Runner: Tahara, Japan

JTEBU5JR8K5123456: 2019 4Runner with a seven-trim range (SR5 through TRD Pro), 1GR-FE 4.0 L V6 (270 hp), 5-speed automatic, 4WD, GVWR Class 2E, built at Toyota's Tahara plant. With a range that wide, the badge and the window sticker decide the trim.

PRIUS VIN DECODER

Prius: Tsutsumi, Japan

JTDKARFU1K3123456: 2019 Prius (L/LE/XLE/Limited range), 2ZR-FXE 1.8 L engine with motors 1NM+1MM, strong hybrid, CVT, GVWR Class 1B. The 96 hp figure is the engine alone, as reported to NHTSA, not the combined system output.

What 35 clean decodes teach

- **Identity is certain.** All 35 returned an exact year, make, model, engine and plant: compare those with the ad first.
- **Trim is the weak spot.** One trim, a range of up to seven, none, or a grade code: settle it with the window sticker.
- **The WMI isn't the factory.** Identical descriptors came from different plants, and Lexus models came from Kentucky and Ontario.
- **Hybrid horsepower misleads.** vPIC reports the engine's rating, not the total output on the window sticker.

CHAPTER 11

TOYOTA WINDOW STICKER & BUILD SHEET BY VIN

The VIN narrows a Toyota down to model, engine and drive. The original window sticker finishes the job: exact trim, every factory package, and the price when new. A **Toyota window sticker by VIN** lookup rebuilds it, which also settles the trim ranges in our Camry and 4Runner decodes.

The Monroney label

The Automobile Information Disclosure Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. § 1231 et seq.) requires a price label, known as the Monroney label, on new cars offered for sale. On a Toyota it typically shows:

- Model, grade (trim) and VIN
- Engine, transmission and drive
- Standard equipment by category
- Factory options and packages, each with a price
- Base price, destination charge and total MSRP
- EPA fuel economy and environment ratings
- NHTSA safety ratings, when the model is rated
- Where the vehicle was assembled
- Parts-content information, often printed alongside

Window sticker, build sheet or VIN decode?

	VIN decode	Window sticker	Build sheet
Source	Toyota's Part 565 filing	The original label, or a rebuild from build data	Toyota's factory production record
Shows	Model, engine, drive, body, plant	Trim, packages, prices, MPG	Option, paint and trim codes
Best for	Identity and plant	Proving trim and options; pricing a used Toyota	Parts matching and restoration
Cost	Free	Free lookup at carcheckervin.com	Varies by source

The Toyota build sheet

A **Toyota build sheet** is the factory's record of one vehicle: option, package, paint and interior codes. It's more technical than the sticker, and it's what a parts desk or restorer wants. The series code in a decode, such as GSU75L on our Highlander, is a handy key at a parts counter. Learn more at **carcheckervin.com/build-sheet** and **carcheckervin.com/toyota-parts-by-vin**.

What's not in the VIN

- **Packages and options:** they come from the build record, not the 17 characters.
- **Paint and interior codes:** on the door-jamb or service label, or the build record.
- **Build month:** on the door-jamb certification label.
- **Later add-ons:** anything fitted after the car left the plant, by a dealer or an owner, isn't encoded anywhere in the VIN.

TOYOTA WINDOW STICKER BY VIN

Look up a Toyota window sticker at **carcheckervin.com/toyota-window-sticker-by-vin** (Lexus: **/lexus-window-sticker-by-vin**), and read every line of the label at **carcheckervin.com/monroney-label**.

CHAPTER 12

TOYOTA RECALL BY VIN

A **Toyota recall by VIN** search tells you whether a specific car still has an open safety recall. It takes a minute, costs nothing, and the repair itself is free at a franchised Toyota or Lexus dealer.

How to check a Toyota for recalls

1. **Decode the VIN first.** Recalls are written for model years and models, so confirm the year (position 10) and the model before you trust any result.
2. **Search the full VIN.** Use NHTSA's free lookup at nhtsa.gov/recalls (by VIN or plate), or carcheckervin.com/toyota-recall-check. Recalls are assigned VIN by VIN, so two identical-looking Camrys can differ.
3. **Read the remedy and status.** Each campaign says what dealers will do and whether parts are available yet.
4. **Book the repair** with a Toyota dealer (a Lexus dealer for a Lexus), and ask a seller to complete open recalls before you buy.

Recent Toyota campaigns, from NHTSA's records

Campaign	Vehicles	Problem and remedy
26V511000	Certain 2025–2026 Camry Hybrid (508,354 reported potential population)	Instrument cluster display may fail at startup, disabling hazard lights, turn signals, seat-belt warning and smart-key reminder. Free display software update (Toyota 26TB16, 26TA16).
23V480000	Certain 2023 Corolla, Corolla Cross, Highlander, Tacoma; 2023 Lexus RX; 2023–2024 Lexus NX	A weld in the steering column's spiral cable may separate, deactivating the driver's airbag. Free inspection and replacement.
25V059000	Certain 2025 Camry Hybrid; Lexus NX and 2024–2025 RX models	Second-row center seat-belt webbing may be damaged. Dealers inspect and replace the belt assembly if needed, free.

From NHTSA recall records (api.nhtsa.gov). "Certain" means only some VINs are covered; the population is Toyota's reported figure, not confirmed defects. The remedy text lists Toyota customer service at 1-800-331-4331.

What the NHTSA lookup won't show

- Recalls more than 15 years old, unless the maker offers more
- Very new recalls that haven't been loaded yet
- Recalls from some small and ultra-luxury makers

A recall isn't a history check

A recall search says nothing about title brands, floods or mileage. Pair it with a history report, such as CarCheckerVIN's $14.99 report, which lists open recalls alongside title, odometer and total-loss records.

FREE RECALL CHECK

Check open recalls on any Toyota, Lexus or other make by VIN at **carcheckervin.com/recall-check**. For Toyota-specific campaigns and how dealers handle them, see **carcheckervin.com/toyota-recall-check**.

CHAPTER 13

TOYOTA VIN CHECK: HISTORY, TITLE & FRAUD

A perfect decode proves the number is a real Toyota VIN, not that the car is clean: a salvage-branded Tundra with a rolled-back odometer decodes like any other. A **Toyota VIN check** looks at what happened after the factory.

What a history report adds

Question	VIN decoder	Where the answer comes from
Salvage, junk, rebuilt, flood or lemon-buyback title?	–	State title records and NMVTIS title data
Odometer readings over time	–	Title, inspection and service records
Declared a total loss by an insurer?	–	Insurance total-loss records
Liens, impounds, auction sales	–	Lien, impound and auction records

The free federal checks

NICB VINCheck (nicb.org/vincheck): free, 5 searches per 24 hours per IP address; stolen-not-recovered and salvage or flood total-loss records from participating insurers, which write 92.49% of U.S. earned premium. NICB says it isn't a full history report.

NMVTIS (U.S. Department of Justice): current title state and brand, brand history, last odometer reading at titling, and total-loss, junk and salvage records, via providers listed at vehiclehistory.bja.ojp.gov.

Why mileage matters on a Toyota

NHTSA says more than 450,000 vehicles are sold each year with false odometer readings. Under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 327, a buyer who proves intent to defraud can recover three times actual damages or $10,000, whichever is greater, plus attorney's fees. Odometer disclosure doesn't apply to vehicles 20 years old or older, or model year 2010 and older, so an older Toyota can change hands with no mileage statement.

Five Toyota-specific fraud checks

1. **Hybrid claims.** A “hybrid” must decode with a hybrid engine (A25A-FXS, 2ZR-FXE) or motor codes.
2. **Truck trims.** On a 2023 Tundra, position 4 is the trim; a TRD PRO badge on an SR5 code is a red flag.
3. **Drive type.** 4×4 or AWD badges must match a decoded 4WD; a decoded 4×2 Tacoma with a 4×4 badge needs explaining.
4. **Every VIN location agrees.** Dashboard, door-jamb label and title must match exactly.
5. **Clones pass decoders.** A VIN copied from a real Toyota decodes perfectly; a history report and an inspection catch it.

DECODE + CHECK

Decode free and preview the records at **carcheckervin.com/toyota-vin-check**; the $14.99 report lays out title brands, odometer readings, liens and total losses. Owner names never appear: the Driver's Privacy Protection Act (18 U.S.C. § 2721 et seq.) limits DMV personal data to permitted uses.

CHAPTER 14

CARFAX TOYOTA REPORTS, COMPARED

A "**Carfax Toyota**" search usually means you want a Carfax on a Toyota you're about to buy, or want to know if you need one. Here is how Carfax handles a Toyota VIN, and how it compares.

CARFAX

What Carfax does with a Toyota VIN

Carfax decodes the VIN to identify the vehicle, then sells a vehicle history report on it, widely quoted at **$44.99** for a single report. Its known strength is service and maintenance records from its network of shops. Many dealers include a free Carfax on their listings because the dealer pays for it. AAA Premier members get one free Carfax a year by phone, and Classic and Plus members get a discount that varies by club. Carfax, Inc. was founded in 1984 in Virginia, is part of Mobility Global, and also offers a license-plate search. Its Buyback Guarantee pays when a report missed a DMV-issued title brand; it doesn't cover accidents, has deadlines and caps the payout.

Carfax vs CarCheckerVIN vs free tools on a Toyota

	Carfax	CarCheckerVIN	Free tools
Toyota decode	Identifies the vehicle, leads into the report	Free, with trim range, engine and plant	NHTSA vPIC: Toyota's filed data
One report costs	Widely quoted at $44.99	$14.99; from $9 each in packs	Free
Free on dealer listings	Often: the dealer pays	Free preview of records for any VIN	–
Title brands	Yes; its Buyback Guarantee covers missed DMV-issued brands	Yes, plus NMVTIS title records	NICB: insurer salvage and flood total losses
NMVTIS data	DOJ says consumers can't get NMVTIS reports from Carfax (dealers only)	Includes NMVTIS title records	NMVTIS reports via DOJ-approved providers
Service records	Its known strength	Included	–
Open recalls	Check NHTSA as well	Included	NHTSA lookup, free

When a Carfax is worth it

Take it when a dealer offers it free. On a final Toyota with a long service life, the maintenance trail can add detail. For screening several cars, it gets expensive fast.

The money math

A CarCheckerVIN 3-pack ($35.99) costs less than one Carfax report, and a 5-pack ($54.99) less than two. See **how much is a Carfax report**.

TOYOTA CARFAX ALTERNATIVES

Model-by-model comparisons: **Camry**, **RAV4**, **Tacoma** and **Tundra**. General guides: **Carfax VIN check**, **Carfax VIN decoder**, **how to get a free Carfax report** and **alternatives to Carfax**.

CHAPTER 15

TOYOTA VIN ERRORS, BULK DECODING & API

When a decoder complains about a Toyota VIN, it's usually telling you something useful. These are the messages vPIC returned in our November 2026 batch.

Code	What vPIC returned	What it means / what to do
`0`	"VIN decoded clean. Check Digit (9th position) is correct"	The VIN is valid and fully decoded. 35 of our 36 samples.
`0 + note`	Clean, plus "The Model Year decoded for this VIN may be incorrect"	Appeared on every Tacoma and Tundra we decoded, even with the year supplied. Confirm the year on the title and door label; the decode itself is fine.
`5, 14`	"VIN has errors in few positions" and unable to decode some characters	Our made-up Lexus RX pattern. The check digit passed, but positions 4, 5 and 7 weren't in Toyota's filing. Recheck the VIN on the car; a real Toyota shouldn't do this.

Blank fields aren't failures

NHTSA's own note on every batch says a missing value means it has no data for that variable, not that the feature is missing. Our 2025 RAV4 and 2024 Tacomas came back with no trim; our NX came back with no horsepower. Fill the gaps with the window sticker.

Decodes to a different Toyota?

If a valid VIN decodes to a model that isn't the vehicle in front of you, stop: it may be a listing typo or a VIN plate moved from another vehicle. Compare the dashboard, door label and title, and ask for a state VIN inspection if they disagree. Pre-1981 Toyotas and some vehicles built for other markets won't decode in a 17-character U.S. decoder at all.

Decoding Toyotas in bulk

NHTSA's free vPIC API offers single-VIN methods (`DecodeVin`, `DecodeVinValues`) and a batch method, `DecodeVINValuesBatch`, which we used to decode all 36 samples in this guide in one request. `GetWMIsForManufacturer` and `GetParts` supplied the lists in Chapters 3b and 2. NHTSA limits heavy automated traffic: send batches, cache results, and use the downloadable vPIC database for large volumes.

```
VIN: "5TFJA5DB4PX123456"    ModelYear: "2023"    Make: "TOYOTA"    Model: "Tundra"
Trim: "Limited"    Series: "75 Series"    BodyCabType: "Crew/Super Crew/Crew Max"
EngineModel: "V35A-FTS"    DisplacementL: "3.4"    EngineHP: "389"    DriveType: "4WD/4-Wheel
Drive/4x4"
GVWR: "Class 2F: 7,001 - 8,000 lb"    PlantCity: "SAN ANTONIO"    PlantState: "TEXAS"
ErrorCode: "0"    ErrorText: "0 - VIN decoded clean. Check Digit (9th position) is correct"
```

An excerpt from NHTSA's DecodeVINValuesBatch response for our Tundra sample.

FOR DEALERS & FLEETS

Paste a list of Toyota VINs on the **carcheckervin.com** homepage to decode several at once. Dealers get wholesale pricing, bulk API access and white-label reports at **carcheckervin.com/dealers**; see also **/vin-decoder-api**.

REFERENCE

TOYOTA VIN DECODER GLOSSARY

A25A-FKS / A25A-FXS
Toyota 2.5 L four-cylinder engine codes; the FXS version appears in our hybrid decodes (Camry, RAV4 Hybrid, ES 300h).

Build sheet
Toyota's factory production record of options, packages, paint and trim codes.

Certification label
The door-jamb label showing the manufacturer, build month and year, GVWR and VIN.

Check digit
Position 9; calculated from the other 16 characters to catch errors. Can be 0–9 or X.

CrewMax
Toyota's name for the larger Tundra cab; position 8 codes B and C in the 2023 filing.

Descriptor (VDS)
Positions 4–8 (plus the check digit): model, body, engine, drive, restraints.

Electrification level
vPIC field showing HEV, strong HEV, PHEV or BEV.

GVWR class
Gross vehicle weight rating band, such as Class 1C (4,001–5,000 lb) or 2F (7,001–8,000 lb).

HEV
Hybrid electric vehicle: gasoline engine plus electric motor(s).

MID
NHTSA's Manufacturer Information Database, which holds Toyota's Part 565 filings as PDFs.

Model year
Toyota's year designation in position 10 (T = 2026); not the build date.

Monroney label
The federally required new-car window sticker.

Motor code
Code for a hybrid's electric motor, such as 1VM, 1WM or 1TM.

2GR-FKS
Toyota 3.5 L V6 code in our Tacoma (pre-2024), Highlander, Sienna, ES 350 and RX 350 decodes.

MPV
Multipurpose passenger vehicle: NHTSA's class for SUVs and minivans such as the RAV4 and Sienna.

NMVTIS
National Motor Vehicle Title Information System, run by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Part 565
49 CFR Part 565, the federal VIN rule; also the name of Toyota's VIN-decoding filings.

Plant code
Position 11; Toyota's code for the factory, such as U (Georgetown) or X (San Antonio).

Restraint category
Toyota's code for the airbag and seat-belt layout in a filing.

Series
Toyota's grouping of a model, shown as codes such as GSU75L or as “80 Series”.

Serial
Positions 12–17; the production sequence number.

TMMK, TMMTX, TMMC
Short for Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky, Texas and Canada.

Trim range
A decode listing several trims for one VIN pattern, such as L/LE/SE/XLE.

VIS
Vehicle Identifier Section: positions 10–17 (year, plant, serial).

vPIC
NHTSA's Product Information Catalog and Vehicle Listing: the official decoding database and API.

V35A-FTS
Toyota 3.4 L V6 engine code in our 2023 Tundra and Sequoia decodes.

WMI
World Manufacturer Identifier: positions 1–3, such as 4T1, 5TF or JTE.

Grade
Toyota's term for trim level; one Sienna decode returned “Q grade”.

ANSWERS

TOYOTA VIN DECODER FAQ

How do I decode a Toyota VIN?

Enter all 17 characters in a Toyota VIN decoder such as carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/toyota, or read it by hand: 1–3 the Toyota company, 4–8 the vehicle, 9 check digit, 10 year, 11 plant, 12–17 serial.

Is a Toyota VIN decoder free?

Yes. Toyota's decoding data is public through NHTSA. CarCheckerVIN and NHTSA both decode free; only history reports cost money.

What does the 10th digit of a Toyota VIN mean?

The model year. R is 2024, S is 2025, T is 2026 and V is 2027. See the chart on page 10.

Does a VIN starting with J mean it was built in Japan?

J means a Japan-registered WMI, and our J-coded decodes were built there. But many Toyotas start with 2, 3, 4, 5 or 7 instead. Check position 11.

What do 4T1, 5TF and 2T3 mean?

Per vPIC: 4T1 is Toyota's Kentucky plant (cars), 5TF its Texas plant (trucks), 2T3 its Canadian plant (MPVs).

How do I use a Tacoma VIN decoder?

Decode the full VIN. A 2GR-FKS V6 or 2TR-FE engine means the previous generation; T24A-FTS means 2024 or later.

What is the 4th digit on a Tundra VIN?

On 2023 Tundras it's the trim: J Limited, K SR, L SR5, M 1794, N Platinum, P TRD PRO, V Capstone.

Why does my Toyota decode show several trims?

Several trims share one VIN pattern. The window sticker settles it.

Why does vPIC say my truck's year may be incorrect?

It added that note to every Tacoma and Tundra we decoded. Confirm the year on the title.

Can I get a Toyota window sticker by VIN?

Yes. Try carcheckervin.com/toyota-window-sticker-by-vin for packages, options and the original price.

Does a Toyota VIN show options or paint code?

No. Options come from the build record; the paint code is on the door-jamb label or build record.

How do I check a Toyota recall by VIN?

Search the VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls or carcheckervin.com/recall-check. Repairs are free at Toyota and Lexus dealers.

Is a Lexus VIN decoded the same way?

Yes. Lexus models use Toyota WMIs such as 58A, 2T2 and JTJ; the make comes from the descriptor.

What is a Toyota build sheet?

Toyota's factory record of option, paint and trim codes. More technical than the window sticker.

Does a Toyota VIN check show title problems?

A history report does: title brands, NMVTIS title records, odometer readings, insurance total losses and liens. A decoder doesn't.

Is Carfax worth it for a Toyota?

Take it free when a dealer offers it. Otherwise it's widely quoted at $44.99; CarCheckerVIN's report is $14.99.

Can I decode a Toyota by license plate?

Yes. A plate lookup finds the VIN first: carcheckervin.com/license-plate-lookup.

Where do I buy a Toyota history report?

At carcheckervin.com: free preview, then $14.99, or from $9 each in packs.

FREE TOYOTA VIN DECODER

Decode any Toyota in seconds.

Year, model, trim, engine and plant for any Toyota or Lexus, free, plus a free preview of the vehicle's history. Full report $14.99.

carcheckervin.com/vin-decoder/toyota →

Scan to decode a Toyota VIN free

Sources

- 49 CFR Part 565 (§§ 565.15, 565.16), Vehicle Identification Number requirements (ecfr.gov)
- Toyota Part 565 filings No.26-016-00 (2026 Camry) and No.23-008-02 (2023 Tundra), NHTSA Manufacturer Information Database (vpic.nhtsa.dot.gov/mid)
- NHTSA vPIC API: GetParts, GetWMIsForManufacturer and DecodeVINValuesBatch (36 VINs), Nov 2026 (vpic.nhtsa.dot.gov)
- NHTSA recall campaigns 26V511000, 23V480000, 25V059000 (api.nhtsa.gov); NHTSA recall lookup (nhtsa.gov/recalls)
- NHTSA odometer fraud; 49 U.S.C. Chapter 327
- NICB VINCheck (nicb.org/vincheck)
- U.S. DOJ / BJA, NMVTIS (vehiclehistory.bja.ojp.gov)
- Driver's Privacy Protection Act, 18 U.S.C. § 2721 et seq.
- Automobile Information Disclosure Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. § 1231 et seq.)
- Carfax price: independent pricing listings, 2026
- CarCheckerVIN prices: carcheckervin.com/pricing, Nov 2026

How we made this guide: written by CarCheckerVIN with AI assistance, from the public sources listed above; figures, prices and links checked November 2026.

More free tools at carcheckervin.com

VIN decoder	Toyota VIN lookup	Recall check
Toyota window sticker	Lexus VIN decoder	License plate lookup
NMVTIS VIN check	Carfax VIN check	Vehicle history report

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