

Early New Mexico License Plates

Newsletter #3

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How to enlarge photos that appear on NMplates.com

From time to time users of NMplates.com comment that they would like to be able to enlarge selected photos that appear on the site, and ask if we plan to implement a “click-to-enlarge” feature. Such a feature might be added at a later date but a more general capability to enlarge the photos is already in place.

If you’re viewing NMplates.com on touch screen devices such as an iPad or a smartphone, you can enlarge photos simply by stretching the images with your fingers, just as you would any other image. For example, any of our typical license plate photos can be enlarged to fill an entire iPad screen without noticeable degradation of image quality.

When using a PC, whether it be a Windows or Apple machine, first go to the photo you want to enlarge. Then, on your browser screen, find the **Menu** or **Tools** button. This is often in the upper right corner of the screen and may consist of three stacked horizontal bars (or three horizontal dots), or a gear symbol. Click this button, then select **Zoom** and set the zoom level to whatever you want. In some browsers, you first click the **View** button and then select and set the zoom level.

Because this method enlarges everything on the screen—not just a single photo—you may need to scroll horizontally and/or vertically to center the plate of interest on your screen.

When you finish, use the same procedure to return to the original zoom level which is usually set at about 100%.

With the method described here you can typically zoom to at least 300% without degradation of image quality. At this level of magnification the image is blown up to nine times its original area and small details such as the serial numbers on validation stickers can be easily read.

1965 Passenger Car base plate County Run

A recent addition to NMplates.com is a county run made up entirely from Passenger Car plates on the 1965-1971 base, which can be seen toward the bottom of the County Runs page:

<https://nmplates.com/CountyRuns.htm>

This particular type of county run is popular because of its uniformity of appearance and the fact that other than a completely mixed-year county run it is one of the least difficult to assemble (not that any of them are truly easy, of course).

Milestone at NMplates.com

As most of you know, the *Early New Mexico License Plates* book is out of print and there are no plans to print any more copies. This is partly because of the cost, but also because there is no way to keep adding photographs of newly found plates without even further increasing the cost. (The color pages are the most expensive part of the book.) The NMplates.com website solves that problem. An indication of this is that the last edition (i.e., the Fourth Edition) of the book has just shy of 2,100 photographs in it. The website recently passed the 3,100 mark, so it now has fully one thousand more photos than the book itself. Although Richard Miller and I invest considerable time and labor to accomplish this, there is no cost to the user.

The book, of course, remains the source for all of the historical and technical information on New Mexico license plates, with 429 of its 596 pages devoted to these details. So don't get rid of your copy if you have one! By the way, although the book is out of print, we have **one** copy of it left. For details, please see:

<https://nmplates.com/book.htm>