

Vietnam circulation permit checklist 2026

Oversize and overweight vehicles and heavy-haul cargo transport. Under Circular 12/2025/TT-BXD as amended by Circular 19/2026/TT-BXD (effective 1 July 2026).

1. Do you need a permit?

Yes, if once loaded the vehicle or combination exceeds AT LEAST ONE limit (Article 10):

Length	> 20 m
Width	> 2.5 m
Height from road surface	> 4.2 m (container carriers > 4.35 m)
Gross mass of vehicle and cargo	> 48 t

Limits apply to the loaded vehicle, not only to the cargo.

2. Documents to prepare (Article 23)

Vietnamese-registered vehicles

- ☐ Application form using the Appendix I or Appendix II template.
- ☐ For oversized or overweight cargo: explain why rail, inland waterway, air or sea transport is unsuitable, or why modes must be combined (Article 22).
- ☐ Road survey report using the Appendix XV template (if a survey is required, see section 4).
- ☐ Report on completed road strengthening (if strengthening is required).
- ☐ Request letter from the competent authority (defence, security, disaster or emergency cases only).

Foreign-registered vehicles: also

- ☐ Power of attorney to the Vietnamese party handling the procedure (if the foreign owner does not apply directly).
- ☐ Copies of the vehicle registration and technical inspection certificate.
- ☐ Certified Vietnamese translations of documents not in Vietnamese.

Your notes (route, dimensions, weight, planned date)

3. Where to apply, how long, how long it lasts

Issuing authority	Department of Construction of the province where the applicant is registered, or where the origin or destination lies. Valid nationwide (Article 24).
How to apply	One set via the National Public Service Portal, by post, or in person at a public administrative service centre.
Document check	In person: same day. Online or by post: within 1 working day.
Issue	Within 2 working days of a complete file. Electronic permit (paper on request).
Validity	Up to 90 days (fully upgraded route, no mandatory conditions); 30 days (route not fully upgraded, or designated lane, escort, warnings or strengthening required). Never beyond the vehicle inspection validity or the usable period of the survey report.

4. Is a road survey required? (Appendix XVI)

A survey is required if axle, axle-group or gross mass limits are exceeded, or if the vehicle (including cargo) exceeds these dimensions for the road class:

Road class	Height above	Width above
Expressway	4.75 m	3.0 m
Expressway (phased investment)	4.75 m	2.8 m
Class I road	4.5 m	3.0 m
Class II road	4.5 m	3.0 m
Class III road (lowland)	4.5 m	3.0 m
Class III road (mountain)	4.5 m	2.8 m
Class IV road (lowland)	4.35 m	2.8 m
All other roads	4.35 m	2.5 m

Passing a published restriction (including bridges) beyond the published value also requires a survey. Survey reports can be reused for 6 months (9 months on expressways and class I, II or lowland class III roads for vehicles up to 3.3 m wide) for equivalent or smaller vehicles.

5. Notes

- No permit if the cargo exceeds the vehicle's design payload, or a trailer exceeds the tractor's design towing mass (Article 22).
- Only one indivisible overweight unit per trip; follow every condition in the permit (Article 12).
- From 1 January 2027 permits carry a QR code. Permits can be revoked for breach of conditions or unrepaired damage to road structures.

GLOGIMEX handles route surveys, transport and lifting plans and circulation permit applications for project cargo in Vietnam. Send unit dimensions, weight and route to receive a transport plan.

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Source: consolidated text of Circular 12/2025/TT-BXD and Circular 19/2026/TT-BXD, Ministry of Construction of Vietnam. Summary for reference, updated 10 October 2026; please check the original texts for your specific case.