

Ownership Transfer Guide (NTSA)

How to transfer a logbook and ownership of a vehicle in Kenya.

When you buy or sell a car, the sale isn't truly finished until ownership is transferred at NTSA. Until the transfer is complete, the vehicle is still in the seller's name — which means liability, traffic penalties, parking offences and other obligations can keep falling on the registered owner. For both buyer and seller, transferring promptly protects everyone. This guide walks through the usual steps in plain English.

Before you start — what you'll both need

Have ready	✓	Notes
A TIMS / NTSA account on eCitizen (both parties)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
KRA PIN (both parties)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
National ID / passport (both parties)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The vehicle logbook	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Agreed sale details (price, vehicle particulars)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
A signed sale agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Step by step

1. The seller logs into the NTSA TIMS portal (via eCitizen) and initiates the transfer for the vehicle.
2. The seller enters the buyer's details as prompted.
3. The buyer logs into their own TIMS account and accepts the transfer request.
4. The applicable transfer fee is paid through the portal.
5. NTSA processes the transfer and issues an updated logbook in the buyer's name.

Good practice

- **Do it promptly.** Don't leave the car in the seller's name — start the transfer as soon as payment is complete.
- **Keep your paperwork.** Hold on to your signed sale agreement and any receipts in case anything is queried later.
- **Verify before you buy.** Confirm the logbook matches the seller's ID, and that the chassis and engine numbers match the car.
- **Check for a loan.** Make sure there's no outstanding loan, lien or charge registered against the vehicle.

Documents checklist

Seller provides	Logbook, ID/passport, KRA PIN, signed sale agreement
Buyer provides	ID/passport, KRA PIN, TIMS account, payment for the transfer fee

Outcome

Updated logbook issued to the buyer

Disclaimer. NTSA procedures and fees change from time to time, and your exact steps may differ. Always confirm the current process and fees on the official NTSA / eCitizen channels before you act. This is a general guide for convenience, not legal advice. Garisea is not a party to your transaction and accepts no liability for its use.

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