

### **Is my renewal deadline extended by the period of interruption (POI)?**

This depends on which IP right, and which deadline, you are referring to.

The period of interruption for trade marks and designs only extends time periods mentioned in the Trade Mark and Registered Designs Rules. Any deadlines set by the Trade Mark and Designs Acts are not extendable.

The period of interruption for patents extends all time periods mentioned in the Patents Act and Rules.

**IMPORTANT** - Please note that although the POI extends many of our renewal deadlines, we strongly encourage our customers to meet their existing deadlines where possible. If your renewal deadline falls after the POI ends this deadline will not be extended.

The table below should answer any queries you have regarding your renewal deadline.

NOTE - [temporary fee changes](#) will be in place from 30 July 2020 to 31 March 2021. These include changes to surcharges for late payment of a renewal fee.

	<b>Patents</b>	<b>Trade Marks (TM)</b>	<b>Registered Designs (RD)</b>
<i>If the end of your renewal period, 6-month surcharge period or restoration period expires within the POI does it get extended to the first non-interrupted day (30 July)?</i>	Yes	Yes	Both the end of the renewal period and restoration period are extendable by the POI.  However, the end of the 6-month surcharge period is not as this deadline is only referred to in the RD Act.
<i>If the POI extends my renewal period to the first non-interrupted day (30 July) does the 6-month surcharge period begin from the second non-interrupted day (31 July)?</i>	Yes	No, the beginning of the 6-month surcharge period is tied to the 10-year registration period set out in the TM Act which is unextendable by the TM POI provisions.	No, the beginning of the 6-month surcharge period is tied to the 5-year registration period set out in the Act which is unextendable by the Designs POI provisions.

		The 6-month surcharge period continues to run from the end of the original renewal period, but as the renewal period itself is extended the surcharge is not payable during the POI or on the first non-interrupted day.	The 6-month surcharge period continues to run from the end of the original renewal period but as the renewal period itself is extended the surcharge is not payable during the POI or on the first non-interrupted day.
<i>If my renewal was already in the 6-month surcharge period when the POI began is my monthly surcharge frozen until the first non-interrupted day (30 July)? What should I pay on either 30 or 31 July given the recently announced fee waiving period begins on 30 July?</i>	<p>Yes, the surcharge you were due to pay on 24 March has been frozen until 30 July.</p> <p>As surcharge fees are waived from 30 July until 31 March 2021, no surcharge fees are due if you renew (deadline permitting) during this period. The deadline remains 6 months from the end of the original renewal period.</p> <p>If on 31 July 2020 more than 6 months have elapsed from the end of the original renewal period, you will need to apply for restoration. The fee for restoration has been waived between 30 July and 31 March 2021.</p>	<p>N/A – the TM surcharge is a flat fee of £50 which will apply throughout the POI.</p> <p>However, as surcharge fees are reduced from 30 July until 31 March 2021, only a £1 surcharge fee is due if you renew (deadline permitting) during this period.</p> <p>If on 31 July 2020 more than 6 months have elapsed from the end of the original renewal period, you will need to apply for restoration. The fee for restoration has been waived between 30 July and 31 March 2021.</p>	<p>No – the monthly surcharge payments continue to increase throughout the POI. This is because the end of the 6-month period is not extendable by the designs POI.</p> <p>However, as surcharge fees are waived from 30 July until 31 March 2021, no surcharge fees are due if you renew (deadline permitting) during this period.</p> <p>If the 6-month surcharge period ends within the POI, the 6-month period for restoration will begin and cost £135 if applied for within the POI. If the end of the restoration period falls within the POI this is extended to the first non-interrupted day (30 July).</p>

			If your period for applying for restoration is still running on 30 July, please note that the restoration fee has been waived between 30 July and 31 March 2021.
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### **Renewal letters**

Due to the closure of our site we are currently unable to issue any letters in relation to renewals. These letters will be issued once the office re-opens. This may result in some customers experiencing shorter timeframes from receipt of their letter to the expiry of their renewal period. We therefore encourage all customers to proactively manage their renewals rather than relying on these letters.