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In the United Kingdom, vehicles use registration number as the unique identity for them. Some years back number plates for vehicles were issued by the local councils, but at present the task is being handled by the DVLA. Since registration of cars began in the United Kingdom in the year 1903, the popularity of Personalised car plates has increased dramatically and some fancy digits that can attract the viewers are changing hands for huge sums of money since many people wish to own a memorable fancy number for their vehicle.

Private number plates are vehicle registration number holders that read a word or name particular to the owner of the auto. They are a combination of letters and numerals and they are prepared according to the guideline formats specified by the DVLA. Nowadays, there are many service providers offering personalised car plates and some of them offer this service at competitive costs. These professional firms enable the owners of the car to find the right alpha-numeric combination that will be suitable for their budget as well. These companies generally have an updated database of registrations with the help of which they can enable the owners to find whether the number they are looking for has already been purchased.

Few years ago, plates with personalised digits were purchased only by businessmen as a token of their success, but nowadays, even individuals wish to go for them with a view to add finishing touch to their favorite automobile in such a way that it can stand out of the crowd. While some people purchase them for using them personally, some go for these plates to present their loved ones with an attractive plate for their new vehicle. On the other hand, some people purchase them as a means of earning money by reselling them for a higher cost. Irrespective of the purpose of purchase, the group of people going for this option is increasing these days.

Some countries are issuing vanity plates for personalizing the vehicles of that nation. These numbers are similar to that of private number plates because, they are also unique and are specific to the owner of the vehicle. However, the main difference between the two is that personalized numbers should be made with 6 or 7 characters in any order without any particular format. On the other hand, vanity plates can read anything with the restriction of DVLA that offensive and obscene words should not be used.

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