

Isle of Man Cherished Registration Numbers

Commonly asked questions

What is a Cherished Registration Number?

It is a "chosen" registration number, rather than a standard issue "next number in line".

What does it cost?

There are ten bands of fees that apply to cherished numbers. All fees are inclusive of VAT.

Once I have purchased a cherished registration number, do I keep the number automatically, even if I subsequently change vehicles?

No. Please read on for a brief explanation.

How do I obtain a Cherished Registration Number?

There are a number of ways –

- By visiting the Isle of Man Post Office website <http://gov.im/post/counters/vehicledrivinglicences> and choose from the list of available numbers then contact IOM Post Office on 698525 to confirm and retain the number(s) for 48 hours. Payment can be made at your local Post Office.
- By transferring a registration number from one vehicle to another, ie re-registering the first vehicle with another number (which might be a standard £20 issue, or another Cherished Registration number.
- By re-using a registration number from a scrapped or exported vehicle.

What if I don't want to put a Cherished Registration Number onto a vehicle straight away?

If you are not ready to use the cherished registration number immediately, it may, instead, be put on a retention certificate. You must still pay the appropriate fee for the cherished registration number but you will receive a certificate which contains your details and the registration number that you have purchased.

The certificate is valid for one year from the date of issue. The certificate can be renewed a year later if you wish at a cost of £20. However, please note that if the renewal lapses the Cherished

number reservation would not be retained in your name and it could be taken up by someone else. It is your responsibility to ensure that you don't let the reservation lapse.

The Reserved Number Certificate is an important document and should be kept in a safe place. The certificate will not be replaced if it is lost. When you are ready to put the number onto a vehicle the Reserved Number Certificate must be produced with the appropriate registration documents. The certificate is your proof that the registration number has already been purchased and reserved for you to use on a vehicle at a later date.

Please note that the person whose name appears on the Reserved Number Certificate must be the same as the name into which the vehicle is registered, unless the retention has been signed over to another person. There is a place on the Certificate, which can be filled in and signed as appropriate, if the retention is being signed over. The cost of this transaction is £20.

Please note that a Cherished Number can also be placed "on hold" for 48 hours only, at no cost. In order to retain the number however the appropriate fee must be paid, as outlined above.

Transferring a Cherished Number

You can transfer a cherished number plate from one vehicle to another by re-registering the first vehicle with another number (which might be a standard £20 issue, or another Cherished Registration Number). If the first vehicle has been scrapped or exported, you can simply ask to reuse the number plate. The cost for transferring cherished number plates is £70.

Where can I obtain a Reserved Number Certificate or register a vehicle with a cherished number?

The Isle of Man Post Office is the Department's agents for registering most vehicles in the Isle of Man. The contact telephone number is 698525.

By visiting the Isle of Man Post Office website <http://gov.im/post/counters/vehicledrivinglicences> and choose a registration number from the list of available numbers then contact IOM Post Office on 698525 to confirm and retain the number(s) for 48 hours.

You must complete Form C1 and take it to your local Post Office and pay the appropriate fee, which is inclusive of VAT. If you require a VAT receipt please tick the appropriate box on the form. A VAT receipt will be issued within 5 working days.

The registration of commercial vehicles over 24,000kg, public service vehicles, taxis and vehicle imported from outside England, Scotland and Wales is carried out by the Department of Infrastructure at the Sea Terminal Building in Douglas. The Department also deals with exporting and scrapping of vehicles. The contact telephone number is 686837.

It is possible to purchase a reserved number from the Department's Licensing Office. If you wish to retain a registration number at the time of scrapping or exporting a vehicle, it is important that this done at the same time otherwise it immediately becomes available for purchase and use by another person.

