

Car number plates

In New Zealand each car has an individual number plate so it can be identified.

Number plates were first introduced in 1964 using a system with two letters of the alphabet and four digits.



CR4567

In 2001 Transport New Zealand ran out of combinations when ZZ9999 was issued. A new system began using three letters and three digits.



DFJ518

How many plates were possible under the old system and how many are possible under the new system?

In New Zealand the number of new plates issued each year keeps increasing. Let's say that about 250 000 new plates are issued each year.

How long will the new system last?

What would be an option for a next "new system"?