

CHINA, an article by [Edward LAM](#) :

Nowadays, these are the meaning of the **background** colors :

- **Black** : Tax free car when imported in mainland China(for the first owner). For instance, cars owned by someone living outside mainland, consulates, ..
- **Blue** : Passenger car or Van
- **Yellow** : Vehicles that are not a car or a van (motorcycle,
- **White** : Non standard plates (army, military police, vehicles temporarily in China)

Standard plates have an Idiogram for the **Province**, then a Letter for the **City** or Region (02 for Hong-Kong and Macau) and the **serial** number. Macau and Hong-Kong Vehicles allowed to cross the border have white on black plates (limited to the Guangdong province) or red on black plates (authorized anywhere in China). A few trucks in Hong-Kong have a white on red plate (unknown meaning). Red and white on black are consulate vehicles.

Non Standard plates :

- **Army** : 1 red idiogram and 6 serial numbers on white - **Military Police** : white plate beginning with red WJ
- **Police** : white plate ending with a red idiogram
- **Temporary** registrations: 4 black idiograms over 5 black numbers.