

## **List of Formula One driver numbers**

Since the start of the  $\underline{2014}$  Formula One season, drivers have to choose an available starting number before entering their first Grand Prix.  $\underline{^{[1]}}$  Drivers carry this number throughout their Formula One career.

In 1974 a consistent race-to-race numbering system was first implemented in Formula One, based on the 1973 Constructors' Championship results. These assigned numbers were supposed to stay with their teams as long as they were part of Formula 1 or until they ran the reigning World Drivers' Champion, in which case they would swap numbers with the team previously running numbers 1 and 2. In the event of the drivers' champion not returning, no swap would take place, and number 0 would be used instead of 1—this only occurred in 1993 and 1994 with Damon Hill. A little over two decades later, in 1995, the system was changed again. The numbers would change every year, as the previous season's Constructors' Championship standings would be used to determine the order from numbers 3 and 4 downwards, with the team of the World Drivers' Champion still getting numbers 1 and 2. In 2014, it was decided to introduce the current system, where each driver gets to choose a permanent number. [2]

The FIA have also issued temporary numbers to drivers that are exceptions to this rule, for example if a driver withdraws from a race and a reserve driver takes their place then they receive a team-allocated number, this is also the case of free-practice-only drivers. Some examples of those numbers are 36 (used by Antonio Giovinazzi in two races), 40 (used by Paul di Resta in one race and Liam Lawson in another), 45 (used by André Lotterer and Nyck de Vries in one race each), 46 (used by Will Stevens in one race), 47 (used by Stoffel Vandoome in one race) and 51 (used by Pietro Fittipaldi in two races). A permanent number can only be reallocated if the driver associated with that number has not participated in a race for two entire consecutive seasons; for example, a driver picking their number for 2024 can not choose numbers which were last used in 2022 or 2023, unless the number was issued temporarily by the FIA. For instance, Jenson Button's number 22 would have been available for re-allocation in 2019 after his departure from full-time racing in 2016, but an appearance in the 2017 Monaco Grand Prix replacing Fernando Alonso (who was participating in the 2017 Indianapolis 500 on that weekend instead), meant that his number could not be reassigned until 2020 at the earliest. Yuki Tsunoda subsequently picked that number (22) for the 2021 Formula One World Championship.

The reigning Formula One World Drivers' Champion can elect to use their allocated permanent number or car number 1 during the year following their title. The first driver to exercise that right under the new regulations was <u>Sebastian Vettel</u> in 2014. The number then went unused for seven seasons, with <u>Lewis Hamilton</u> keeping his permanent number 44 after his title wins in 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020, and <u>Nico Rosberg</u> retiring after his championship win in 2016. <u>Max Verstappen</u> is using number 1 in 2022, 2023 and 2024 after his titles in 2021, 2022 and 2023. [4]

The number 17 was used by <u>Jules Bianchi</u> in 2014 before his crash at the <u>Japanese Grand Prix</u>. Following his death, the number was retired as a mark of respect. [5]

## Formula One driver numbers

The following lists all Formula One driver numbers which were claimed as permanent career numbers since the $\underline{2014}$ season.

No.	Driver	<u>2023 team</u>	First used	Last used
1	Reserved for champion <sup>[N 1]</sup>	Red Bull Racing	2014	2023
2	Stoffel Vandoorne <sup>[N 2]</sup>	_	2017	2018
	Logan Sargeant	<b>Williams</b>	2023	2023
3	Maniel Ricciardo	■ AlphaTauri	2014	2023
4	Max Chilton	_	2014	2014
	Lando Norris	McLaren McLaren	2019	2023
5	Sebastian Vettel <sup>[N 3]</sup>	_	2015	2022
6	Nico Rosberg	_	2014	2016
	<b>I</b> ♦■ Nicholas Latifi	_	2020	2022
7	<b>←</b> Kimi Räikkönen	_	2014	2021
8	Romain Grosjean	_	2014	2020
9	Marcus Ericsson	_	2014	2018
9	RAF Nikita Mazepin <sup>[N 4]</sup>	_	2021	2021
10	Kamui Kobayashi	_	2014	2014
10	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	2017	2023
11	Sergio Pérez	Red Bull Racing	2014	2023
12	Felipe Nasr	_	2015	2016
13	Pastor Maldonado	_	2014	2015
14	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	2014	2023
16	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	2018	2023
17	Jules Bianchi	Number retired <sup>[N 5]</sup>	2014	2014
18	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	2017	2023
19	Felipe Massa	_	2014	2017
20	Kevin Magnussen	Haas	2014	2023
21	Esteban Gutiérrez	_	2014	2016
21	Nyck de Vries <sup>[N 6]</sup>	■ AlphaTauri	2023	2023
22	Jenson Button	_	2014	2017
	Yuki Tsunoda	AlphaTauri	2021	2023
23	Alexander Albon	Williams	2019	2023
24	Zhou Guanyu	Alfa Romeo Racing	2022	2023
25	Jean-Éric Vergne	_	2014	2014
26	Daniil Kvyat	_	2014	2020
27	Nico Hülkenberg	Haas	2014	2023
28	₩ill Stevens <sup>[N 7]</sup>	_	2015	2015

	Brendon Hartley <sup>[N 8]</sup>	_	2017	2018		
30	Jolyon Palmer	_	2016	2017		
31	Esteban Ocon	Alpine	2016	2023		
33	Max Verstappen <sup>[N 1]</sup>	Red Bull Racing	2015	2021		
35	Sergey Sirotkin	_	2018	2018		
40	Liam Lawson	AlphaTauri	2023	2023		
44	<b>Example 1</b> Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	2014	2023		
45	André Lotterer	_	2014	2014		
47	Mick Schumacher	_	2021	2022		
53	Alexander Rossi <sup>[N 9]</sup>	_	2015	2015		
55	Carlos Sainz Jr.	<b>■</b> Ferrari	2015	2023		
63	George Russell	Mercedes	2019	2023		
77	<b>→</b> Valtteri Bottas	Alfa Romeo Racing	2014	2023		
81	Oscar Piastri	McLaren McLaren	2023	2023		
88	Rio Haryanto	_	2016	2016		
	Robert Kubica	_	2019	2021		
89	Jack Aitken	_	2020	2020		
94	Pascal Wehrlein	_	2016	2017		
98	Roberto Merhi	_	2015	2015		
99	Adrian Sutil	_	2014	2014		
	Antonio Giovinazzi <sup>[N 10]</sup>	_	2019	2021		
Sources:[8][9][10][11]						

## **Notes**

- 1. Max Verstappen exercised his right to use number 1 as the reigning world champion in 2022 and 2023.
- 2. Vandoorne used number 47 while substituting for another driver in 2016.
- 3. Vettel used number 1 when he was reigning World Champion in 2014.
- 4. Mazepin is Russian, but he competed as a neutral competitor using the designation RAF (Russian Automobile Federation), as the Court of Arbitration for Sport upheld a ban on Russia competing at World Championships. The ban was implemented by the World Anti-Doping Agency in response to state-sponsored doping program of Russian athletes. [6]
- 5. The number 17 was retired by the FIA following Bianchi's death in 2015.  $\boxed{7}$
- 6. De Vries used number 45 while substituting for another driver in 2022.
- 7. Stevens used number 46 while substituting for another driver in 2014.
- 8. Hartley used number 39 while substituting for another driver in 2017.
- 9. Rossi used number 42 while substituting for other drivers in 2014.

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