UK LAW & REGULATIONS - As found on the DVLA website 12/2011

Registering a radically altered vehicle

Registration of radically altered vehicles includes vehicles, which are altered from their original specification, but are not kit conversions.

When issuing a registration number for a radically altered vehicle the Driver and Vehicle licensing Agency (DVLA) use a points system.

To keep the original registration number your vehicle must have eight or more points. This must include the original or new and unmodified chassis, monocoque bodyshell or frame. Your vehicle will need Individual Vehicle Approval (IVA), Single Vehicle Approval (SVA) or Motorcycle Single Vehicle Approval (MSVA) if:

- it has less than eight points

- it has a second hand or altered chassis, monocoque bodyshell or frame

there is evidence that two vehicles have been welded together to form one (eg 'cut and shut')
If your vehicle passes you will be able to register your vehicle and will be given a 'Q' registration number.

What points are given to what parts

Points are only given to the original major components used and are shown in the table:

Part	Points
Chassis or monocoque bodyshell (body and chassis as one unit) (original or new*)	5 points
Suspension (front and back)	2 points
Axles (both)	2 points
Transmission	2 points
Steering assembly	2 points
Engine	1 points

*Direct replacement from the manufacturers

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring/BuyingAndSellingAVehicle/RegisteringAVehicle/RegisteringAVehicle/RegisteringAVehicle/Reg

Registering a rebuilt vehicle:

To keep the original registration number of a car that has been rebuilt you will need to use either of the following:

- the original unmodified chassis or unaltered bodyshell
- a new chassis or monocoque bodyshell (body and chassis as one unit monocoque) of the same specification as the original supported by evidence from the dealer or manufacturer (eg receipt)

You will also need to have two other major components from the original vehicle. These can be any of the following:

- suspension (front and back)
- steering assembly
- axles (both)
- transmission
- engine

If a second-hand chassis or monocoque bodyshell is used, a car or light van must pass Individual Vehicle Approval (IVA) or Single Vehicle Approval (SVA). If your vehicle passes a 'Q' prefix registration number will be allocated. If the vehicle fails it cannot be registered. A donor vehicle with a Certificate of Destruction cannot be re-registered under rebuild rules. http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring/BuyingAndSellingAVehicle/RegisteringAVehicle/RegisteringAVehicle/RegisteringAVehicle/Reg

Reconstructed classic vehicles - when they can be registered

The reconstructed classic category is intended to support the restoration of unregistered classic vehicles that are not replica or reproduction vehicles.

Reconstructed vehicles must be built from genuine period components all over 25 years old, and of the same specification. The appropriate vehicle enthusiasts club for the marque must confirm in writing that, following inspection, they confirm that the vehicle is a true reflection of that marque. The confirmation must say that it meets the above criteria and supports an application to the DVLA local office. An age-related registration number will be assigned to the vehicle based on the youngest component used.

Vehicles made up from new and used components

A 'Q' registration number will be assigned to a reconstructed vehicle made up from a mixture of newly manufactured and used components.

If the vehicle is made up from a mixture of components, it will need one of the following depending on what vehicle you are registering:

- Individual Vehicle Approval (IVA) certificate
- Single Vehicle Approval (SVA) certificate

Vehicles with a Certificate of Destruction

Vehicles with a Certificate of Destruction must never reappear as complete vehicles or be presented for registration under these guidelines.

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring/BuyingAndSellingAVehicle/RegisteringAVehicle/Regi

'Q' registration numbers have proved to be useful for consumer protection. The display of a 'Q' prefix number plate is a visible sign to a prospective buyer of the vehicle's uncertain origin. 'Q' registration numbers are issued by the DVLA to vehicles where the age or identity of the vehicle is in doubt.