REGEX CHEAT SHEET

regexguide.com/patterns/uk-ni-number.html

UK National Insurance Number

NI number — 2 letters + 6 digits + 1 letter.

```
^(?!BG|GB|NK|KN|TN|NT|ZZ)[A-CEGHJ-PR-TW-Z][A-CEGHJ-NPR-TW-Z]\d{6}[A-D]?$
```

Token-by-token breakdown

Token	Meaning
`^`	start of string (or line in multiline mode)
`(?!`	start of a negative lookahead — NOT followed by
`BG`	literal text “BG”
`|`	OR — try the alternative
`GB`	literal text “GB”
`|`	OR — try the alternative
`NK`	literal text “NK”
`|`	OR — try the alternative
`KN`	literal text “KN”
`|`	OR — try the alternative
`TN`	literal text “TN”
`|`	OR — try the alternative
`NT`	literal text “NT”
`|`	OR — try the alternative
`ZZ`	literal text “ZZ”
`)`	end of group
`[A-CEGHJ-PR-TW-Z]`	any of: A–C, “E”, “G”, “H”, J–P, R–T, W–Z
`[A-CEGHJ-NPR-TW-Z]`	any of: A–C, “E”, “G”, “H”, J–N, “P”, R–T, W–Z
`\d{6}`	exactly 6 times: digit (0–9)
`[A-D]?`	optional (zero or one): any of: A–D
`$`	end of string (or line in multiline mode)

Quick usage in 7 languages

JavaScript

```
const re = /^(?!BG|GB|NK|KN|TN|NT|ZZ)[A-CEGHJ-PR-TW-Z][A-CEGHJ-NPR-TW-Z]\d{6}[A-D]?$/;
re.test(value);
```

Python

```
import re
re.match(r"^(?!BG|GB|NK|KN|TN|NT|ZZ)[A-CEGHJ-PR-TW-Z][A-CEGHJ-NPR-TW-Z]\d{6}[A-D]?$",
value)
```

Java

```
Pattern.compile("^(?!BG|GB|NK|KN|TN|NT|ZZ)[A-CEGHJ-PR-TW-Z][A-CEGHJ-NPR-TW-Z]\\d{6}[A-D]
?$").matcher(value).matches();
```

Full breakdown, live testing & code generation: regexguide.com/patterns/uk-ni-number.html

C# / .NET	`Regex.IsMatch(value, @"^(?!BG|GB|NK|KN|TN|NT|ZZ)[A-CEGHJ-PR-TW-Z][A-CEGHJ-NPR-TW-Z]\d{6}[A-D]?$");`
Go	`regexp.MustCompile(`^(?!BG|GB|NK|KN|TN|NT|ZZ)[A-CEGHJ-PR-TW-Z][A-CEGHJ-NPR-TW-Z]\d{6}[A-D]?$`).MatchString(value)`
Ruby	`/^(?!BG|GB|NK|KN|TN|NT|ZZ)[A-CEGHJ-PR-TW-Z][A-CEGHJ-NPR-TW-Z]\d{6}[A-D]?$/.match?(value)`
PHP	`preg_match('~^(?!BG|GB|NK|KN|TN|NT|ZZ)[A-CEGHJ-PR-TW-Z][A-CEGHJ-NPR-TW-Z]\d{6}[A-D]?$~', $value);`

Common pitfalls

• **Anchored to the whole string.** This pattern uses ^ and $, so it requires the entire input to match. To find it inside a longer text, drop the anchors and use the global (g) flag.

• **Escape it correctly per language.** In Java and JavaScript strings each backslash must be doubled (\\d); in Python, Go, and C# use raw/verbatim strings so the backslashes survive.

• **Validate beyond format.** Matching the format doesn't guarantee the value is real. Confirm the uk national insurance number against a source of truth (database, API, or checksum) where it matters.