

Understanding Part Numbers

What 10 characters can tell you

If you have ever wondered how Nissan assigns part numbers, read on. Each segment of the part number has its own significance. As a rule, Nissan part numbers consist of 10 alphanumeric characters – for example, the Harness assembly here is labeled 24077-78J00

The first five characters tell where on the vehicle the part is installed, while the second five identify which vehicle the parts fit. Within those groupings, four factors provide additional information. Using our example, those four factors are:

- 240 – **Section**
- 77 – **Character**
- 78J – **Part Type**
- 00 – **Distinction**



Section Number

The first three characters form the section number, which tells you the major function of the part. In our example, “240” refers to the Harness section. If the first character in the P/N is a letter, substitute the corresponding number. For example, A would be the number 1, B is the number 2, C is the number 3, and so on.

Character Number

The next two digits make up the character number. This is used to divide major function groups into smaller classifications. There are too many to show – just remember that different character numbers indicate different sub-sections.

Part Type Number

These three characters tell what model the part was originally designed to fit. Once assigned, the part type never changes – even if the same part is later used on multiple other models. So don’t be surprised if you see that the parts for a single vehicle contain different part type numbers.

Distinction Number

The distinction number is the 2 digit code used to identify differences between similar parts. Examples include interior trim colors (such as black versus brown) or where a different material or process is used in manufacturing the same part. The four main types of distinction number are:

Type of Distinction	Number Ranges	Significance
Similarity	00-19	Indicate slight differences in parts(such as color).
	60-69	
Service	25-29	Assigned to service kits (such as brake master cylinder seal kits).
	75-79	
Material	40-45	Differences in the material(s) from which a part is manufactured
	80-85	
Processing	30-39	Indicate that assembly line procedures differ from service procedures (such as the use of sub-assemblies versus fully assembled components).
	90-94	
	50-59	