



Mark Your Property

For Home Owners – Operation Identification

HOW DOES IT WORK?

It has been found that the very display of Operation Identification stickers on a home acts as a strong deterrent to criminals. It has also been found that, in areas in which the programme has been implemented, the crime rate against unprotected homes is noticeably higher than against homes protected by Operation Identification.

Potential thieves are deterred because they know that marked items can be positively identified by the owner. They also know that “fences”, or receivers of stolen property, are reluctant to buy marked items for the same reason they are reluctant to steal them.

HOW DO YOU JOIN?

To participate in Operation Identification, simply follow these step-by-step instructions:

1. Mark Your Property

Mark your Driver's Licence Number on all your valuable property, the more prominent the better. This is best accomplished by ordering the number engraved or otherwise permanently stenciled into your computer or electronic equipment (provided that you are certain of keeping it) at the time of purchase. Alternatively you may use an electric engraver or security pen to mark new or existing items.

(Contact your Community Police Officer to borrow an electric engraver, inexpensive units are available at most hardware stores.)

2. Post Decals

Call your Community Liaison Officer once you have engraved your property to obtain your stickers.



HELPFUL HINTS

- Don't put your stickers on your doors or windows unless you have marked your property.
- Be sure to keep a record of your property, including serial numbers, in a safe place.
- For maximum deterrence, the identification number should be non-removable, readily visible and highlighted with a fluorescent marker.
- For professional results, contact a marking service, use a small stencil or carefully hand print your number using a pencil prior to tracing it with an engraver
- Be considerate, complete your marking and return the engraver within the loan agreement time.
- Items such as clothing and fine china cannot be engraved. For these articles use a security pen.

- Have a jeweller engrave your Driver's Licence Number on watches, rings and other small valuables. These, and items such as heirlooms may also be photographed for easy identification. Video tape may also be used to record details of rooms and the outside of your home. Close up images of valuable property and identification marks (if any) should be included.

CRIME PREVENTION... IT'S UP TO YOU!

Take the offensive! Operation Identification is one basic step in preventing theft. Good lighting, good locks and other security precautions should also be taken to prevent crime.

Once you have engraved your property, encourage your neighbour to do the same. The greater the programme participation in your neighbourhood, the safer your property will be!