



Nottinghamshire Police

# Crime Prevention

Advice

Protecting your  
valuables at home

To speak to us call **101** or in an emergency dial **999**



nottspolice



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[www.nottinghamshire.police.uk](http://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk)

Sign up for advice and crime alerts at [www.nottinghamshirealert.co.uk](http://www.nottinghamshirealert.co.uk)

This guide gives practical tips about marking, recording and identifying your property. If you want to find out about marking antiques, read our guide at

[www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/advice](http://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/advice)

## Take photographs of your valuables

Taking photographs of your valuables can increase the chances of property being returned to you if it is stolen and recovered

Try to take photographs of:

- Any distinguishing marks and hallmarks
- Size and dimensions
- The front and back of the object
- Make, model, and serial number(s)

## Write a description of your valuables

It is much easier to write a description while looking at an object rather than trying to remember the object if it has been stolen

- Type of object: television, mobile phone, bike etc
- Materials: wood, ceramic, glass
- Measurements: size, weight
- Markings: hallmarks, damage
- Maker: brand or manufacturer
- Date: where purchased and value

## Property marking

Property marking falls into two categories; visible and invisible. Visible is the most effective because it makes it difficult for an offender to sell on. When using any type of property marking it

is important to display signs to show that you have marked your property to deter thieves.

## Visible

**SelectaMARK** is a permanent, indelible, stencil kit. The indelible compound works on plastic paint or powder coated surfaces. It slightly melts the surface of the object and when cured leaves a permanent, visible, raised mark similar to Braille.

Another visible option to consider is a product called Cremark, which consists of a permanent marker pen and curing lacquer.

## Invisible

Invisible property marking solutions include **SelectaDNA**, **SmartWater** or **Crimestoppers Property Protector**. These products use a forensically coded solution which is applied to items.

They fluoresce under ultraviolet light and each batch of solution has its own unique forensic code. When property is recovered, if the solution is found to be on the item, it can be sent away to be tested to find the owner of the property. It is important to ensure that, if you use this type of asset marking, you register your kit, otherwise if property is stolen and recovered owners cannot be traced.

An alternative method of invisible asset marking is to use **ultra violet marker or postcode pens**. These are available in most supermarkets and stationary stores at low cost. These pens can be used to write your name and postcode on valuable assets without detracting from the value and appearance.

# PROTECT REGISTER IT

Register your property for FREE and improve your chance of getting it back if it is lost or stolen

## IMMOBILISE PROPERTY CRIME

[www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

For more information contact

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