



OPERATION IDENTIFICATION

MARKING YOUR VALUABLES

The purpose of Operation Identification is to mark and identify your valuables to discourage thieves from stealing your valuables, and help Police recover them if they are stolen.

OPTION 1: ENGRAVE

Mark all items of value with your DRIVER'S LICENSE number NOT your Social Security number. If you don't drive, you can obtain a Washington State ID card from the Department of Licensing (at any Driver's License office.) Use the following format:

WA SMITH455CM DL

STATE --- DRIVER'S LIC # ----- DRIVER'S LIC

OR

WA SMITH455CM ID

STATE -----ID CARD # ----- ID CARD

Electric engravers are available from the Shoreline Police Neighborhood Centers. Engravers are inexpensive and may also be purchased at many hardware stores. They engrave on wood, metal, and plastic.



Engraving should be located near the serial number, usually on the back or underside of the item. MARKINGS SHOULD BE DONE ON THE FRAME OR OTHER PERMANENT PART OF THE ITEM. Markings should not be placed on a removable part or part that can be easily and readily replaced.

Items that you may not wish to mark and/or do not have a suitable place to mark without affecting value should be photographed or videotaped, focusing on specific identifiable points. Store the photo(s) or tape in a safe place where you can find it later (see option 2).

OPTION 2: INVENTORY

Make an inventory of your possessions. A sample form is attached. You can make your own inventory but be sure to include: what item is (e.g. camera, TV), make, model, and serial number. You can also use photos or videotapes in conjunction with an inventory list of your possessions, and file both in a safe place or safety deposit box

OPTION 3: "INVISIBLE" MARKING

Use tiny transparent dots "etched" with a unique identification number to mark property. Once the sand grain sized dots are sprayed on an item, they provide a marking system that is invisible to the eye. Information about data dots is available at www.datadotusa.com.



FOLLOW UP

Display "OPERATION I.D." warning stickers on your home so that the potential burglar will know his or her efforts will be unrewarding. The stickers are available from the Crime Prevention Unit after your engraving or inventory have been completed. Sixty percent (60%) of the homes in your Block Watch must engrave or inventory for the block watch to qualify to get neighborhood "BLOCKWATCH" SIGNS. Contact one of the Shoreline Police Neighborhood Centers for more information:

Eastside Neighborhood Center
521 NE 165 St.
(206) 363-8424

Westside Neighborhood Center
624 NW Richmond Beach Rd.
(206) 546-3636

