

CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE

Marking Your Property

Marking Your Property is a positive way to fight crime:

- It acts as a deterrent
- It allows you to prove ownership
- You can identify your property easily if it is offered for sale
- It provides a means for the Police to identify it as stolen goods and return it to you.

There are a number of different ways to mark your property:

- Visible marker
- Invisible marker

Visible Markers

- Permanent marker pens
- Waterproof paint
- Stencils
- Engraving
- Specialised kits available on the market such as Cremark

Invisible Markers

- UV Pens
- Specialised forensic kits such as Smartwater, SelectaDNA, Red Web etc.

(UV pens and Smartwater kits are available through Warwickshire Horse Watch and Neighbourhood Watch at discounted prices).

What to Mark Your Property With:

You can put any kind of mark on your property to distinguish it from other similar items. Warwickshire Police, Warwickshire Horse Watch and Neighbourhood Watch recommend using your postcode prefixed with the number of your address, i.e. 23 B78 1XX. A post code is unique to your property, which most organisations recognise and allows the goods to be identified and returned to you. Just putting a name or symbol on the property makes it identifiable, but does not provide details to the Police of who owns the property and where it came from.

Warwickshire Police, Warwickshire Horse Watch and Neighbourhood Watch strongly advise you take a photo of all your valuables and make a note of any distinguishing marks, including where and how you have property marked it. You can then either print the photographs off and keep in a safe place, load onto your computer or keep on a memory stick. By having these records if your property is stolen you will have as much information as possible to give to the police and also pass to retailers and other organisations to help locate your property.