

# Norfolk & Suffolk Crime Prevention

## Guidance Note

### Property Security Marking



If you take the time to security mark your property, it will protect it against theft and assist the police to return your property to you if it is stolen and recovered. There are a number of ways of security marking your items, these include:

**Ultra violet (UV) or invisible marking** - UV pens put an invisible mark on your property that can only be seen under UV light.

**Engraving or etching** - Both methods are suitable for many hard surfaces and can be done using an electric engraving tool or hand engraver.

**Ceramic marking** - Ceramic marking pens are designed to mark china, glass or glazed surfaces. They do not cut or scratch the surface but do leave a permanent mark.

**Forensic marking solutions** - These are harmless solutions that contain a unique forensic code (like a fingerprint), making it easy to identify marked items. Firms that provide these marking solutions include:

Smartwater – [www.smartwater.com](http://www.smartwater.com)

For Further Crime Prevention Advice:-

For Norfolk dial 101 and ask to speak to your local Architectural Liaison Officer (ALO)

For Suffolk dial 101 and ask to speak to your local Safer Neighbourhood Team

Selectadna – [www.selectadna.co.uk](http://www.selectadna.co.uk)  
Applied DNA Sciences - [www.adnas.com](http://www.adnas.com)

### **Marking your property**

When you are marking your valuables you should include your name and the postcode of where the item is located. If you are a student studying away from home include the initials of your university, or school and your student number.

### **Photograph your valuables**

We also recommend that you take colour photographs of any valuable or unusual items, paying special attention to any distinguishing marks such as initials or crests.

Photographs should be taken against a plain background and include a ruler to give an idea of size. The police can then use these pictures in press releases and on social media to assist in recovering your items.

### **Immobilise**

Norfolk and Suffolk Police have joined forces with the online property database Immobilise to help keep property safe and reunite stolen items with their rightful owners across the county.

Many items of identifiable property are either lost or stolen each year. By taking the time to register property on the Immobilise database, people can take a positive step towards reducing the crime.

Their registered property would be identifiable to all constabularies across the country. This in turn will help the police reunite property to their lawful owners and will also help to catch criminals.

Almost any possession with a serial number can be registered for free, including:

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- Mobile phones
- iPods, other MP3 players and games consoles
- Laptops, computers and tablets
- Satellite navigation and in-car equipment
- Bicycles

Watches, jewellery, art and antiques can also be registered for a small fee. Users who upgrade can also add photos and certificates of ownership to their account.

Many items of property which are recovered from criminals are not able to be returned to their rightful owners, as without information on serial numbers or property marking police do not know who they belong to.

If you would like register your valuables visit [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

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