

SPONSOR'S MARK

FINENESS MARK










































ASSAY OFFICE MARK

# Ask if it's hallmarked

## IT'S YOUR GUARANTEE

**In the UK it is illegal to sell or describe any item as Gold, Silver, Platinum or Palladium unless it is hallmarked\***

A UK hallmark is struck by an independent assay office and guarantees the precious metal content of the item you are buying. Sellers in contravention of the law may be prosecuted and could face fines or imprisonment.

COMPULSORY MARKS		THE HALLMARK COMPRISES THREE COMPULSORY MARKS: A SPONSOR'S MARK, A FINENESS MARK AND AN ASSAY OFFICE MARK.					
Sponsor's Mark The registered mark of the company that submitted the article for hallmarking.	Fineness Mark Tells you the precious metal content, expressed in parts per thousand.				Assay Office Mark Tells you which Assay Office tested and hallmarked the article.		
	Silver	Palladium	Gold	Platinum			
	   	2009    2010   	     	   	 London  Birmingham  Sheffield  Edinburgh		
	OPTIONAL MARKS		YOU MAY SEE OPTIONAL MARKS, SUCH AS THE TRADITIONAL FINENESS SYMBOL AND THE DATE LETTER DEPICTING THE YEAR THE ITEM WAS HALLMARKED.				
	Traditional Fineness Symbols	 Sterling Silver	 Sterling Silver Scotland	 Britannia Silver	 Palladium	 Gold	 Platinum
	Date Letter	 2008	 2009	 2010	 2011	 2012	 2013
International Convention Marks	 Silver	 Palladium	 Gold	 Platinum	This mark is used by countries, including the United Kingdom, that are signatories to the International Convention on Hallmarking and is recognised by all those countries.		
Exemption Weights*	7.78 grams	1.0 gram	1.0 gram	0.5 grams			
Articles above these weights must be hallmarked							

**What should I do if my item is not hallmarked?** If you have a concern regarding hallmarking contact your local Trading Standards Authority. For more information visit [www.bis.gov.uk/britishhallmarkingcouncil](http://www.bis.gov.uk/britishhallmarkingcouncil)

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