

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	 9 carat		London Birmingham Sheffield Edinburgh					
	 Sterling		 14 carat							
	 Britannia		 18 carat							
		2010	 22 carat							
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	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
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.gov.uk/government/organisations/british-hallmarking-council](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/british-hallmarking-council)

Produced in Accordance with the Hallmarking Act 1973  
Version 5/2015  
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