



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 hallmark applied by a UK Assay Office is not proof of origin or place of manufacture of an item.

The hallmark of a UK Assay Office (whether applied by a UK Assay Office in its approved locations in or outside the UK) is proof that an item (in all its parts) is of the standard of fineness indicated by the hallmark struck on that item.

Hallmarks applied by UK Assay Offices at their approved locations within the UK are clearly differentiated from those applied by UK Assay Offices in their approved locations outside of the UK (as detailed in the table below).

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 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	Marks applied in the UK			Marks applied outside of the UK					
		2009	 9 carat		 London Birmingham Sheffield Edinburgh	 Birmingham							
	 Sterling	 	 14 carat										
	 Britannia	2010	 18 carat										
		 	 22 carat										
Exemption Weights* Articles above these weights must be hallmarked	7.78 grams	1.0 gram	1.0 gram	0.5 gram									
OPTIONAL MARKS							YOU MAY ALSO SEE OPTIONAL MARKS SUCH AS THE TRADITIONAL FINENESS SYMBOL OR THE DATE LETTER FOR THE YEAR THE ITEM WAS HALLMARKED, OR A CONVENTION MARK.						
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			
Common Control Marks (CCM) This mark is used and recognised by countries, including the UK, that are signatories to the International Convention on Hallmarking.	TYPE 1: CCM FINENESS MARKS						TYPE 2 CCM						
	 Silver	 Palladium	 Gold	 Platinum									

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

Produced in Accordance with the Hallmarking Act 1973
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