



**SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE**  
KEEPING SA SAFE

PREVENTING  
CRIME

## PROPERTY MARKING

Police encourage owners to mark their valuable property and record all details of the items. Identifiable property is more difficult for thieves to dispose of, and if caught in possession of the stolen item the marking enables police to quickly establish the owners' details. There are four effective ways to mark your property: engraving, ultra violet pen or other permanent means, or microdots.

### Engraving/Ultra-violet Pen

- Mark your valuables with your driver's licence or Proof of Age Card number preceded by the letter 'S' for South Australia e.g. 'B23456' would be 'SB23456'.
- If your property is stolen, the chances of items being returned to you by the police are increased. Ensure your address details on your driver's licence or Proof of Age Card are current.
- Mark each item in a similar area e.g. power cord entry, adjacent to serial number.

**Some items are not suitable for engraving or marking. These include jewellery, special collections, silverware, stamps or coins, paintings and antiques. These items should be photographed.**

- Use a good quality camera or digital camera and use full frame views, with a general photograph from two sides, place a ruler beside the item to give an indication of actual size.
- For jewellery, place the item on a strongly coloured background (e.g. red or dark blue).
- Take a close up photograph, if possible, to identify unique features or serial numbers of the items.
- Try to photograph items of value in your home or business "in situ" to show where they belong.
- For objects with a flat side, try to take the picture on a slight angle to avoid the flash reflecting back and creating a 'hot-shot' (reflection) in the picture.
- Store the photographs with your other valuable documents.

For further home security crime prevention information please visit [www.police.sa.gov.au](http://www.police.sa.gov.au) or contact your local police station.

South Australia Police (SAPOL) is committed to working in partnership with the community to prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime to ensure that South Australia is a safe place to live, visit and do business.

## HOME SECURITY

