



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
	800 925 Sterling 958 Britannia 999	2009 500 950 999 2010 500 950 999	375 9 carat 585 14 carat 750 18 carat 916 22 carat 990 999	850 900 950 999	London Birmingham Sheffield Edinburgh	Birmingham
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	q	r	s	t	u	v
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	w	x	y	z		
	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

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