

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 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					
	 Sterling Britannia 	2009   2010  	9 carat 14 carat 18 carat 22 carat  	   	 London  Birmingham  Sheffield  Edinburgh	 Birmingham							
<b>Exemption Weights*</b> 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.													
<b>Traditional Fineness Symbols</b>	Sterling Silver	Sterling Silver Scotland	Britannia Silver	Palladium	Gold	Platinum							
<b>Date Letter</b>	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034			
<b>Common Control Marks (CCM)</b> 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](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/british-hallmarking-council)

Produced in Accordance with the Hallmarking Act 1973  
Version 9/2025  
© British Hallmarking Council