

What is "Operation Identification?"

Operation Identification, which has proved very effective in some cities, actually has two parts. First, you mark all your easily stolen valuables so they can be identified as yours. Second, you display a sticker which tells burglars that you have done so.

The idea is based on the fact that marked valuables are very hard for the burglar to dispose of, since they can be traced back to you. In addition, if the burglar is caught with them in his possession, the marked valuables constitute solid evidence of possession of stolen goods.

The marking you should use in Operation Identification is your Florida driver's license number. This is now a permanent number which will be yours as long as you hold a Florida license. The number has been constructed according to an alpha-numeric code that immediately tells a police officer certain facts about you, including your age and sex. Thus, the policeman who stops a suspicious person carrying a portable TV set knows he is onto something if the set is marked as belonging to a 45-year-old woman and the suspect is a 20-year-old man.



Clearwater Police Department
CRIME PREVENTION UNIT
645 Pierce Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Protect your valuables with

**OPERATION
IDENTIFICATION**

Put the **Operation Identification** sticker on display in windows near front and rear doors. This tells the burglar that anything he might steal from your home will be hard or impossible to sell, and that getting caught with it in his possession would be asking for a jail sentence. It's the kind of thing that sends the burglar elsewhere.



There are several ways to mark your valuables for Operation Identification. You can use an electric engraving tool provided by one of the community-minded organizations cooperating in this Residential Burglary Prevention Program. Call your local Police or Sheriff's Department to find out where these tools are available. You may also choose to purchase one for your own use, since they are relatively inexpensive. They're available at many hardware stores. Another method is to engrave your driver's license number on valuables with a special diamond-tipped pen, also available through many hardware, department and variety stores. Whichever method you choose, check with your Police or Sheriff's Department to find out where you can get the Operation Identification stickers to display near the front and rear doors of your home.



Operation Identification acts like a fingerprint for your property, making it hard or impossible for burglars sell.

Some of the possessions you should mark

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| Television Sets | Kitchen Appliances (Mixers, Toasters, Percolators, etc.) |
| Stereo Equipment | Computers, Laptops |
| Fishing rods, reels | Golf Clubs |
| Radios (including Marine RDFs, etc.) | MP3 Players |
| Digital Cameras, Camcorders | Cell Phones |
| Car Tape/CD Players | Personal Electronics |
| Binoculars | Outboard Motors |
| Guns | Tools (Hand and Power) |
| Mag Wheels | Watches/Clocks |
| Lawn Mowers | |
| Bicycles | |

An additional precaution that is worth the time it takes is to make a list of the items you have engraved in your own Operation Identification, and keep one copy in a safe place around the house or in your office, and another copy in your safe deposit box. If you do suffer a burglary, you will quickly be able to list and describe what was taken, which will help the police or sheriff's officers in their work. With appliances, cameras and other items that have serial or identification numbers imprinted by the manufacturer, include these in your listing as a double-check on identification.