

HOUSE NUMBERS

Is Your House Number Clearly Visible from the Street?

In a true emergency, time is always of the essence. Precious minutes wasted looking for the proper location could mean the death of you or a loved one, or an increased loss of property due to fire or other situations. To help minimize the risk to you, your loved ones, and your property, your house should be properly numbered. Follow the guidelines below so that emergency responders can locate your house quickly.

House Number Guidelines



Numbers should be at least 3 inches high, preferably 4 inches or more.



Numbers should have a high contrast, using such color schemes as black numbers on a reflective white background.



House numbers should be posted at the street, visible from both directions. Responders may be coming from either direction and this will help them to arrive at your location faster.



Numbers should be mounted on a stable surface that will not be blocked by snowbanks, foliage, or newspaper boxes. Appropriate mounting locations include both sides of a mailbox, post, or wall at the end of your driveway.



Script numbers should be avoided, if possible. They are difficult to read, especially at night.



Numbers should be "numbers" and not "words" to identify your house. It is much easier to quickly look at and identify a number than it is to read a word.



Numbers should be placed on your house as well as at the end of the driveway, especially if you are close to the road or if you share a driveway with a neighbor.



Numbers should be visible at all times during the year. Remove snow during the winter months and trim back brush during the summer months.



Encourage your neighbors to keep their houses properly numbered as well as your own. This helps emergency responders find their house but will help them to find yours as well.

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House Number Examples



This is an excellent example of a mailbox number and the best choice for identifying your house for emergency service personnel. Note the high contrast and large numbers. The numbers should be on both sides of the mailbox.



House numbering is an acceptable alternative, but is more difficult for emergency service personnel to identify at night. If numbering the house, use large high contrast numbers, such as in this example.



This is an example of how a house should not be numbered.
