Inventory and Object ID

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Object ID – international standard for describing art, antiques and antiquities

Developed through the collaboration of the museum community, police and customs agencies, the art trade, insurance industry, and valuers of art and antiques

Promoted by ICOM
OBJECT ID CHECKLIST

☐ TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS
Photographs are of vital importance in identifying and recovering stolen objects. In addition to overall views, take close-ups of inscriptions, markings, and any damage or repairs. If possible, include a scale or object of known size in the image.

☐ ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

Type of Object
What kind of object is it (e.g., painting, sculpture, clock, mask)?

Materials & Techniques
What materials is the object made of (e.g., brass, wood, oil on canvas)? How was it made (e.g., carved, cast, etched)?

Measurements
What is the size and/or weight of the object? Specify which unit of measurement is being used (e.g., cm., in.) and to which dimension the measurement refers (e.g., height, width, depth).

Inscriptions & Markings
Are there any identifying markings, numbers, or inscriptions on the object (e.g., a signature, dedication, title, maker's marks, purity marks, property marks)?

Distinguishing Features
Does the object have any physical characteristics that could help to identify it (e.g., damage, repairs, or manufacturing defects)?

Title
Does the object have a title by which it is known and might be identified (e.g., The Scream)?

Subject
What is pictured or represented (e.g., landscape, battle, woman holding child)?

Date or Period
When was the object made (e.g., 1893, early 17th century, Late Bronze Age)?

Maker
Do you know who made the object? This may be the name of a known individual (e.g., Thomas Tompion), a company (e.g., Tiffany), or a cultural group (e.g., Hopi).

☐ WRITE A SHORT DESCRIPTION
This can also include any additional information which helps to identify the object (e.g., color and shape of the object, where it was made).

☐ KEEP IT SECURE
Having documented the object, keep this information in a secure place.
e-ASF work of art search

Work of art search criteria

Main criteria

* Type: 
Medium/Technique: 
Material: 
Subject/Title: 
Description: 
Artist: 

Additional criteria

Inscriptions/Markings: 
Height: (cm) 
Width: (cm) 
Diameter: (cm) 
Shape: 
Colours: 

Administrative criteria

Country of event: All 
* File number: 

Search options

Search within: Stolen objects 
Results per page: 8 
Paging: 

* Mandatory fields (please specify at least one of these fields)
TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs are of vital importance in identifying and recovering stolen objects.

In addition to overall views, take close-ups of inscriptions, markings, and any damage or repairs.

If possible,

include a scale or object of known size in the image.
recto

particular of the chin rest

particular of the scroll

verso
“OBJECT ID”
CHECKLIST

TYPE OF OBJECT
What kind of object is it (e.g.: painting, sculpture, clock, mask)?

MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES
What materials is the object made of (e.g.: brass, wood, oil on canvas)?
How was it made (e.g.: carved, cast, etched)?
MEASUREMENTS
What is the size and/or weight of the object? Specify which unit of measurement is being used (e.g.: cm., in.) and to which dimension the measurement refers (e.g.: height, width, depth)

INSCRIPTIONS AND MARKINGS
Are there any identifying markings, numbers, or inscriptions on the object (e.g.: signature, dedication, title, maker’s marks, purity marks, property marks)?
DISTINGUISHING FEATURES
Does the object have any physical characteristics that could help identify it (e.g.: damage, repairs, or manufacturing defects)?

TITLE
Does the object have a title by which it is known and might be identified?
SUBJECT
What is pictured or represented (e.g.: landscape, battle, woman holding a child)?

DATE OR PERIOD
When was the object made (e.g.: 1893, early 17th century, Late Bronze Age)?
MAKER
Do you know who made the object? This may be the name of a known individual (e.g.: Leonardo da Vinci), a company (e.g.: Tiffany), or a cultural group (e.g.: Hopi)

WRITE A SHORT DESCRIPTION
This can also include any additional information which helps to identify the object (e.g.: color and shape of the object, where it was made).

KEEP IT SECURE
Having documented the object, keep this information in a secure place.
Don’t forget:

The photograph contains the most significant information

Therefore: The quality of the photograph determines the chances of identification
Images quality is essential..........or not?
...........yes, images quality is crucial