



Information for the registration of a responsibility mark (RM)

There are few restrictions for the choice of the picture for the mark. However, according to the [Precious Metals Control Ordinance SR 941.311 Art. 64](#), the following exceptions must be respected:

The following may not be registered as responsibility marks:

- *symbols that do not meet the requirements set out in the Act or in the Ordinance;*
- *symbols that do not sufficiently differ from other symbols already registered;*
- *symbols that are in the public domain;*
- *symbols that offend against public order, common decency, federal law or state treaties;*
- *misleading symbols;*
- *official Swiss, foreign or international assay marks or hallmarks.*

According to the [Federal Precious Metals Control Act](#), the mark on the jewelry has to correspond exactly to the image registered at the Central Office of Precious Metals Control. Not every symbol is suitable for the different kinds of jewelry. With an appropriate mark it is possible to prevent delays, complaints and associated control costs while importing your goods to Switzerland.

We recommend to read the following advices carefully:

- A RM must be possible to stamp and clearly readable in a size of **0.3 – 0.5 mm**. For most jewelry, the size of **0.7 mm** is too big. For example:
 - on fine parts of jewelry such as eyelets or small ring bands
 - on curved pieces, for example ear studs
- If you affix the RM yourself with a steel stamp or with laser technic:
 - Fine details/lines require a very good embossing stamp or a very fine laser.
 - Do I have the necessary facilities and knowledge to affix the stamps?
- If the RM is affixed by the manufacturer/supplier:
 - Make sure that the manufacturer/supplier has the necessary facilities and knowledge to affix the stamps.
 - Ask for a sample.
- Check regularly whether the quality of the steel stamp is in order
 - Steel stamps can become blunt over time and the stamp images are often no longer readable in all details.

If the requirements of the Precious Metals Control Act are respected and the points above are observed, there should not be any problems with an inspection in your business or during import.