

# Serial Number and VIN Restorations

Firearm and Toolmark Section

(207) 624-7100 / <https://www.maine.gov/dps/msp/investigation-traffic/crime-lab/lab-services>



## What is Serial Number Restoration?

- If the serial number or vehicle identification number (VIN) has been obliterated (Scratched off, rusted over, etc), it may be possible to restore it to a visible condition.
- Even if the serial number plate is completely removed, there may be duplicate characters to help with tracing.

## Packaging and Collection

### VINS

- ATVs
- Motorcycles
- Snowmobiles
- Vehicles
- Electric Bikes / Scooters
  - Submit the item in its entirety.
- Contact the Crime Laboratory for submission.



### FIREARMS:

- Unload / Render Safe, if possible.
- Package securely in hand gun or long gun box.
  - Magazines or cartridges must be removed from the firearm. They can be packaged in the same box.
- Firearms recovered in water must be packaged in the same / similar water. Alert the Crime Laboratory as soon as possible.

## Common Serial Number Locations



## What is a serial number:

- A unique identifier for an item, assigned by the manufacturer.
- Must be stamped on the frame or receiver of any firearm bought or sold in the United States after 1968.