Laptop Tagging and Registration

Laptop Tagging is now **FREE** for the MIT community, and is offered at the IS&T Service Desk in E17-106.

On this page:

Q: Where and when can I have equipment tagged?
A: STOP tagging is performed at the Atlas Service Center in building E-17. If you have 5 or more computers to be tagged, please contact us and we can make arrangements to visit your department or event. For tagging of single machines, you'll find us as shown here.

Q: Is there a fee to have equipment tagged?
A: No, there is no fee per item tagged.

Q: Can I have multiple devices tagged?
A: Yes, up to 4 devices.  
**5 or more devices:** Please contact the Service Desk (helpdesk@mit.edu or 617-253-1101) to arrange a special tagging session.

Q: What devices can I have tagged?
A: The tags are primarily intended for laptop computers, and large tablets (e.g. iPads). It may be possible to tag other devices (e.g. projectors), but the device must have a flat surface of at least 3"x 3" in order to affix the tag. We generally cannot tag iPhones, digital cameras, etc.
Q: What information do I provide at the registration?
A: We will record the serial number for the device, and contact information to reach you when a stolen device is recovered.

Q: What happens if I want to sell or transfer ownership of the computer?
A: Registration information can be updated or transferred to a new owner by contacting the central registration organization at https://www.stoptheft.com/ See complete details at the page: https://www.stoptheft.com/support/securityplatefaq#usedreregister

Q: Does this registration provide any geo-tracking? Does the tag have a GPS chip?
A: No, the label provides a deterrent to thieves by identifying the device with an indelible mark, but it does not provide location tracking.

Q: Can I register a device for someone else?
A: Yes. As long as you can provide accurate contact information for the owner, anyone can register a device.

Q: Have devices been successfully recovered?
A: Yes. You may ask for the most recent instances of successful recovery when you come in to have your computer tagged!

Q: Who administers the program?
A: IS&T and Security Tracking of Office Property (STOP) of Norwalk, CT.

Q: How do I determine the serial number of a computer using the OS?
A: Find the serial number of your Mac device (via Apple.com)

Windows
Open a command prompt (by choosing the Command Prompt item from the Start menu, or typing cmd in the Start menu’s "Run" box), and type the following:

```
wmic bios get serialnumber
```

Note: Windows 8 and 8.1 users may get to the Command Prompt by right clicking on Start button, or by typing "cmd" on Start screen to search it.

Mac OS X
Open the Terminal application and type:

```
ioreg -l | grep IOPlatformSerialNumber
```

Linux
Open a shell and type:

```
sudo dmidecode -t system | grep Serial
```

Note: The user will need to have root access to the system.
See Also

- Theft Deterrents
- Internal page for IS&T Staff: [hd:Organizing Laptop Tagging and Registration]