



## House numbers and address assignment

Many public services, including the fire and police department, depend on accurate, readable house numbers to respond quickly in an emergency. So do mail carriers, UPS and Fed Ex, and the folks who deliver your pizza.

The Milwaukee code of ordinances includes requirements for address numbers to ensure that all homes and businesses are clearly marked. Numbers must be:

- At least two inches high without background, or at least three inches high, including background.
- Placed on the building in a spot that's easy to read from the street, and at the rear or side of properties that are next to alleys.

Building owners are responsible for installing and maintaining address numbers.

Address numbers are available in a variety of materials at hardware stores, both national chains and locally-owned stores. Many property owners who have older homes prefer ceramic numbers. Not all stores carry ceramic numbers, so if that's the type you're looking for, be sure to call ahead to ask whether ceramic numbers are in stock. You may wish to try the following stores:

- Fillinger Inc., 6750 N. 43<sup>rd</sup> St., 353-8433

- Wucker's Ace Hardware, 3025 S. 60<sup>th</sup> St., 541-3020
- Brady True Value, 1234 E. Brady St., 272-9919
- Reinhold Ace Hardware, 2402 W. Lisbon Ave., 344-5230
- Tippecanoe True Value, 3955 S. Howell Ave., 483-0230

When a new building is being constructed, staff at the Milwaukee Development Center assign an address to the new building when construction plans are submitted. Address assignments follow these general rules:

- Buildings on the west and south sides of streets get odd numbers.
- Buildings on the north and east sides of streets get even numbers.
- Duplexes with two front entrances are issued separate house numbers.
- Apartment buildings take one address; the owner decides how to identify individual units.
- Condos usually get individual addresses.
- Addresses for buildings on a corner are determined by which street the main entrance faces.

For more information about address assignment, call the Development Center at (414) 286-8211. At the first prompt, press "5." At the second prompt, press "3."