



Why are House Numbers Necessary?

House numbers can be the difference of life or death in an emergency. House numbers are necessary for emergency responders to quickly find your address. When you don't have house numbers, it could delay their arrival.

The numbers should be 4" tall and placed in a position to be plainly legible from the street. Check from the street to see if the position you have chosen to place the numbers is without obstructions like trees, shrubs, bushes, or decorations. The color of the numbers should be in sharp contrast with the background and be placed in a well-lit area of the front of the house. Bronze or brass numbers do not show up at night as well as some of the other colors. Do not use reflective address numbers or stickers with shiny silver numbers, especially on black, as they tend to be too bright at night under a light.

House numbers not only help emergency responders, but also makes the mail carriers, deliver drivers, guests, and service companies find your house easier.

The City of St. Joseph has adopted the International Property Maintenance Code Section 304.3 Premise Identification which has the specifications listed above.