



SAR Marking a Building

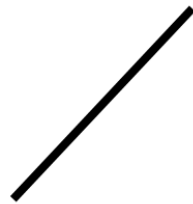
When you search a building in a disaster area a standardized marking system is used to convey information to other search teams.

These markings are used to record and display to other rescuers that a search has already been conducted there and what the results of the search were. As directed in the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National US&R Response System Recue Field Operations Guide, these search assessment markings are completed as such:

- 1) A single slash is made upon the entry of the search team into the structure. To the left of the slash, the call sign of the unit as well as the date and time of entry is recorded. This initial marking denotes that a search is ongoing, and a team is currently in the structure.
- 2) Upon exiting the structure, a second slash is made, completing the "X" near the door. This signifies to professional passersby that the search has been complete and all members of the team have left the structure accounted for.

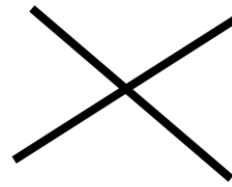
Physical Search-Interior

When you enter



Single slash
Structure or room

When you exit



Second slash
Structure or room
(Identify victims & hazards)

Search Assessment

- 3) The date and time that the team exited the structure is entered in the top part of the X.
- 4) The remaining two sections of the X are used for additional information – the right side lists any hazards in the structure and the bottom lists the number of victims/survivors in the structure, specifying how many are alive and how many dead.

