

PERMISSION PACK · FREE RESOURCE

Metal Detecting Permission Letter

A polite, ready-to-edit letter for approaching farmers and landowners without sounding pushy or unprepared.

What's inside

- ✓ Clear, practical steps you can use straight away
- ✍ Written for real UK detecting, not theory
- 📄 Plain-English guidance, checked against official sources
- ☆ Free to print, keep and share



**Written by
detectorists**



**Checked against
UK guidance**



**Free to print and
keep**

Who this letter is for

Use this letter to make a respectful first approach to a landowner, occupier or manager who has authority to grant permission. A short, courteous letter shows you are serious, organised and easy to deal with, which can help you make a considerate first impression.

Change these details before you send it

- The landowner's name (use it if you can find it, rather than “Dear Sir or Madam”).
- Your name, the area you live in, and the field or area you are asking about.
- Your telephone number and email address.

Remove any line that is not true

Only keep the insurance sentence if you actually hold cover. Never imply the landowner will make money, and never suggest you have any right to access the land. Honesty is what builds trust.

Four quick tips

- Use the owner's name where you can.
- Mention a genuine local connection if you have one.
- Keep it brief, one page is plenty.
- Follow up once, politely, if you do not hear back.

This resource is provided for general information and personal record-keeping. Rules, official guidance and access arrangements can change. Check the current requirements for the place where you intend to detect.

[Your name]
[Your address]
[Telephone] • [Email]

[Date]

Dear [Landowner's name],

My name is [name], and I am a local metal detectorist from [area]. I am writing to ask whether you would consider allowing me to metal detect on [farm, field or area, if known].

I detect responsibly and would always arrange visits in advance. I fill every hole carefully, remove any litter that is safe to handle, respect crops and livestock, close gates, and avoid any area you ask me not to enter.

[Use only if true: I have metal detecting insurance and can provide evidence of cover.]

[Use only if true: I am a member of a detecting body and can provide references.]

I would show or report finds as we agree, and would be happy to put in writing how any finds or reward should be shared. Anything that may need to be reported would be handled through the correct official process for this area.

I understand that granting access is entirely your decision and that permission can be withdrawn at any time. If you are open to discussing it, I would be grateful for a brief conversation at a time that suits you.

Thank you for considering my request.

Kind regards,

[Name]
[Telephone]
[Email]

✓ Personalise before sending

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Used the landowner's name if known | ☐ Kept it to one page |
| ☐ Named the specific field or area | ☐ Added your phone and email |
| ☐ Added a genuine local connection (if any) | ☐ Signed it |
| ☐ Removed any line that is not true | ☐ Kept a copy for yourself |

🕒 Follow-up record (one polite follow-up only)

Sent on		Method	
Reply received?	Yes ☐ No ☐	Follow-up sent on	
Outcome / notes			

Next steps if you get a yes: see the free Approach Scripts, the Private Land Permission Agreement and the Finds Split Agreement.

Get more free metal detecting guides, templates and practical advice at DetectoristWorld.com.