



NSW Police Force
www.police.nsw.gov.au

FIREARMS REGISTRY

Firearms Registration

Registration

This FACT sheet provides information on the registration requirements for firearms in NSW.

Individuals requiring possession and use of a firearm for personal or business use must be aware of their responsibilities with respect to the legislation for licensing and registration of firearms.

[What firearms are exempt from registration in NSW?](#)

NSW Police officers, prison officers and members of the armed forces, while acting in the ordinary course of their duties, are not subject to the licensing and registration provisions of the *Firearms Act 1996* (the Act).

[What about antique firearms?](#)

An antique firearm does not require registration in NSW, nor does a person require a licence or permit to possess an antique firearm. NOTE: A licence or permit will still be required to use an antique firearm. An antique revolver (percussion lock pistol equipped with a revolving cylinder) is not covered by this exemption.

An antique firearm is defined under section 6A(7) of the Act as a firearm (other than a pistol) manufactured before 1900 that is not capable of discharging breech-loaded metallic cartridges or a firearm for which ammunition is no longer commercially available.

An antique pistol is defined as a firearm manufactured before 1900 that is not capable of discharging breech loaded metallic cartridges. (See the document 'Ammunition no longer commercially available' available under 'Firearms in NSW' on the Firearms Registry website).

[How do I know that a firearm is registered?](#)

The Firearms Registry maintains a central register of all firearms registered to licence and permit holders in NSW.

When a firearm is registered, a registration certificate is issued to the owner by the Firearms Registry. The 'Firearm Registration Certificate' is proof that a firearm is registered and will have a full description of the firearm, including the serial and registration numbers as well as the name and firearms licence or permit number of the person who is the registered owner printed on the certificate.

The reverse of the registration certificate 'Firearm Disposal Advice' is completed when you dispose of your firearm.

[What do I need to acquire a firearm?](#)

Before you can purchase a firearm you must have a current firearms licence or permit and an issued Permit to Acquire a firearm (PTA).

[What do I need to acquire ammunition?](#)

To acquire ammunition you will need a firearms licence or permit authorising possession of a firearm of a type for which the ammunition is being acquired. In addition, to acquire ammunition for a handgun, you will need to produce, at the time of sale, a registration certificate or an issued PTA for a handgun that takes the type of ammunition being acquired.

[How do I obtain a Permit to Acquire?](#)

There are two application forms, a 'Permit to Acquire a Longarm' and a 'Permit to Acquire a Handgun'. You can obtain PTA application forms from your firearms dealer or shooting club.

Alternatively, you may email firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au and request the forms be posted to you. If you are emailing, you must include the number you require (one form for each firearm you wish to purchase) and whether you require Longarm and/or Handgun application forms. Please allow up to 10 days for you to receive the forms in the mail.

[When will I receive my registration certificate?](#)

When the firearms dealer finalises the purchase of your firearm, the dealer will send the 'Notice of Purchase' to the Firearms Registry.

Once received, the information on the Notice of Purchase is updated on the register of firearms with your name and address details and a registration certificate is printed and posted to you as the registered owner of the firearm.

[What if I have lost my registration certificate?](#)

If you have lost your registration certificate and your firearms licence is still current, you can request a duplicate registration certificate using the form available on the Home Page or the Firearms in NSW Page of the Firearms Registry Internet site.

There is no fee for a duplicate registration certificate.

[What if my firearm is lost or stolen?](#)

If your firearm is lost or stolen you must immediately report it to NSW Police and notify the Firearms Registry with 7 days with the particulars of the loss or theft. Notification to the Firearms Registry should be in writing and include the circumstances and date the firearm was lost or stolen and include any event number provided by police when you reported the loss or theft.



[What if I have a spare barrel for my firearm?](#)

If you are in possession of a spare barrel for a firearm, you must be authorised by a licence or permit to possess the firearm or the barrel.

If the barrel is capable of taking and discharging ammunition for a firearm in your possession, the barrel must be stamped or engraved with a number allotted by the Commissioner. Any barrel so numbered is subject to the same notification requirements as a firearm for the sale, loss or theft of the barrel.

[What requirements must be met for safekeeping of firearms?](#)

The firearms legislation requires that the Commissioner of Police is satisfied that the applicant is capable of complying with the safe storage requirements as prescribed by the Act prior to acquiring a firearm.

For detailed safe storage requirements for each type of firearm, please see the Safe Storage page on our website.

[What other requirements must be met in relation to firearms?](#)

If you change the address where the firearms are being stored you must advise the Firearms Registry within 14 days. You can notify of any change of address or licence details using the on-line form available on the Home Page of the Firearms Registry Internet site. It is an offence to fail to notify of a change of residential or safe storage address and carries a fine of \$550 for each offence.

If the new safe storage address needs to be inspected you will be contacted by local police.

[What if I move to NSW from another State?](#)

You must obtain a NSW firearms licence and register your firearms in NSW. See *FACT Sheet 'Interstate Residents Moving to NSW'* for detailed information on the process to follow.

[What if I move from NSW to another State?](#)

You must obtain a firearms licence in your State or Territory of residence and register your firearms in that State. A person who has firearms registered to their NSW licence MUST inform the NSW Firearms Registry within 14 days of becoming a permanent resident of another State or Territory and provide the interstate address. Failure to notify the NSW Firearms Registry is an offence which carries a penalty notice fine of \$220.

[What if my licence expires and I am still in possession of firearms?](#)

If your licence has expired, you no longer have an authority to possess and use firearms. You should immediately take your firearms to police or to a licensed firearms dealer who will acquire the firearms into their stock until your new licence is issued.

[Can the registration of a firearm be cancelled?](#)

Yes. In certain circumstances such as when a firearm is lost or stolen or when a licence holder moves to another State or Territory, the registration of the firearm is cancelled and the owner receives written notification of the cancellation.

[What if I am in possession of an unregistered firearm?](#)

If you are in possession of an unregistered firearm you MUST immediately surrender the firearm to police. If you wish to register the firearm in your name, you must inform the police at the time of surrender. It is at the discretion of police if they allow you to obtain a PTA to acquire the firearm via a NSW licensed firearms dealer.

RELATED INFORMATION

See Safe Storage FACT Sheets on the Safe Storage page on the Firearms Registry Internet site.

Where can I find more information?

The information provided in the FACT Sheet is for general guidance only. Applicants and permit holders should familiarise themselves with the *Firearms Act 1996* and the *Firearms Regulation 2006*, which are available on the NSW Legislation website - www.legislation.nsw.gov.au.

Firearms Registry

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Murwillumbah NSW 2484

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1300362562

Interstate

02 66708590

Fax

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