



FIREARMS REGISTRY

Transitional Arrangements - Lever Action Shotgun Re-Categorisation

This FACT sheet provides information regarding the transitional arrangements for the Lever Action Shotgun - Re-Categorisation

[What are the amendments to the re-categorisation of the Lever Action Shotgun?](#)

The *Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment Bill 2017*, which recently passed the NSW Parliament amends the *Firearms Act 1996* to provide for the updated National Firearms Agreement (NFA). The categorisation of lever action shotguns has changed in the NFA, and amendments in this bill reflect the final, nationally endorsed, NFA.

These changes will commence on 1 November 2017.

Currently, all lever action shotguns are classified as Category A firearms. The legislation will re-categorise lever action shotguns as follows:

- * Category B - Lever action shotguns with a magazine capacity of no more than five rounds.
- * Category D - Lever action shotguns with a magazine capacity of more than five rounds.

Licence holders who own a lever action shotgun/s prior to the commencement of the legislative amendment will be authorised to retain possession of their firearm/s. The transitional arrangements specify that lever action shotguns with a magazine capacity of more than five rounds are subject to grandfathering provisions. The grandfathering provisions apply only for the particular lever-action shotgun registered to the person, and only while that shotgun remains registered in their name. Grandfathering will apply only to current legitimate firearms licence holders, not to those with merely a Permit to Acquire for a lever action shotgun.

The following arrangements will occur to accommodate each circumstance.

[What if I own a lever action shotgun that has now been re-categorised as a Category B firearm \(magazine capacity of five rounds or less\)?](#)

If you are the holder of a Category B firearms licence then the firearm will be transitioned to your Category B firearms licence. You will receive an updated firearm registration certificate.

If you are not the holder of a Category B firearms licence then the NSW Police Force Firearms Registry (Firearms Registry) will notify you in writing regarding the issuance of a Category B firearms licence, fee exempt. Once this licence has been issued, the firearm will be transitioned to your Category B firearms licence and you will receive an updated firearm registration certificate.

[What if I own a lever action shotgun that has now been re-categorised as a Category D firearm \(magazine capacity of more than five rounds\)?](#)

If you are the holder of a Category D firearms licence then the firearm will be transitioned to your Category D firearms licence. You will receive an updated firearm registration certificate.

If you are not the holder of a Category D firearms licence and the holder of a Category B firearms licence the firearm will remain registered to your Category B firearms licence. You will receive an updated firearm registration certificate.

If you are not the holder of a Category B or Category D firearms licence and hold a Category A firearms licence, the Firearms Registry will notify you in writing regarding the issuance of a Category B firearms licence, fee exempt. Once this licence has been issued, the firearm will be transitioned to your Category B firearms licence and you will receive an updated firearm registration certificate.

[How long will the transitional arrangements remain in place?](#)

Once the legislative changes commence, the transitional arrangements will remain in place as long as your firearm licence/permit remains current and/or while the lever action shotgun remains registered in your name. The provisions cease if the lever action shotgun is supplied to another person, or is lost, stolen or destroyed.

[What if I have been issued a Permit to Acquire for a Category A firearm and I intended to purchase a lever action shotgun?](#)

If you have been issued a Permit to Acquire for a Category A firearm and you intend to purchase a lever action shotgun after 1 November 2017, your Permit to Acquire will no longer be able to be used. Please contact the Firearms Registry on 1300 362 562 and we will assist you in obtaining a correct Permit to Acquire.

Can I use my lever action shotgun in other States and Territories legally?

While all States and Territories have agreed to re-categorise lever action shotguns, other jurisdictions may put in place different transitional arrangements from NSW. Please check with the registry of the State or Territory you are seeking to visit to confirm their local arrangements.

Will this re-categorisation affect my safe storage requirements?

If your lever action shotgun has been re-categorised from a Category A firearm to a Category B firearm, there is no change to your existing safe storage requirements.

If your lever action shotgun has been re-categorised from a Category A firearm to a Category D firearm, as the transitional arrangements deem the lever action shotgun to be a firearm to which a category B licence applies, there is no change to your existing safe storage requirements.

Additional information regarding safe storage requirements can be located on the Firearms Registry Safe Storage webpage.

Will there be any fees involved?

There will be no fees resulting from the re-categorisation of a lever action shotgun. For example, if under the transitional arrangements, you are being issued with a Category B firearms licence, this firearms licence will be issued fee exempt.

Are there any additional requirements?

Once the legislative changes commence, the transitional arrangements apply only to the person in whose name the lever action shotgun is registered. Accordingly, you cannot lend your lever action shotgun to a person who is not authorised to possess the re-categorised firearm. For example, if you are in possession of a lever action shotgun with a magazine capacity greater than five rounds (will be categorised as a Category D firearm), you cannot lend this firearm to a person who is not authorised to possess or use a Category D firearm.

What do I need to do now?

As the re-categorisation of lever action shotguns legislative changes will commence on 1 November 2017, the Firearms Registry will contact affected firearms licence holders in writing to support this transition and identify any information required. This may include confirming the magazine capacity of your lever action shotgun. Furthermore, once your lever action shotgun/s has been appropriately re-categorised, all owners will receive an updated Firearm Registration Certificate.

All firearm licence/permit holders currently in possession of a lever action shotgun are authorised to continue to possess and use their firearms in accordance with the authority and conditions of their respective licence.

Further Information:

[National Firearms Agreement](#)

[The Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment Bill 2017](#)

Firearms Registry

Address

Locked Bag 1
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Telephone

1300362562

Interstate

02 66708590

Fax

02 66708558

Email

firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au

Website

www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms

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 associated Regulation, which are available on the NSW Legislation website - www.legislation.nsw.gov.au.



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