

Security Doors & Roller Shutters



What are security doors?

A security door is any door that is designed or adapted to provide or enhance the security or protection of property. In NSW, any door, or any other form of barrier equipment (such as roller shutters, window grilles, security fencing, etc), that performs such a function is considered to be security equipment under the provisions of the *Security Industry Act 1997* ("the Act").

How does SLED determine if a product is security equipment?

SLED may take into account a range of matters, such as the product's specifications and the way it's marketed. *For example*, a door, roller shutter, etc, that has no particular security features, but is advertised as providing security or protection, is as relevant to the provisions of the Act as a product that is made of high strength material and incorporates sophisticated locking mechanisms.

The fact that a product may, or may not, comply with Australian Standards that refer to minimum design specifications, installation or testing methods is not a significant consideration in determining whether it is security equipment.

Do I need a security licence to sell or install security equipment?

Generally, yes. With some exceptions (see next page), individuals who sell or install security doors, roller shutters or other forms of security equipment, or who provide advice about such equipment (*for example*, by assessing customers' needs and recommending appropriate products), are required to hold a Class 2B and/or a Class 2C security licence.

Why is there a licensing requirement?

You wouldn't want your security doors, shutters, grilles, alarms or locks installed by a criminal who can gather information about your house or business as a potential target. SLED conducts probity checks on all security licence applicants and holders to ensure only appropriate people are licensed to sell and install security equipment.

Class 2B – Security Seller

Authorises the licensee to:

- Sell security equipment and provide advice on its use
- Receive payment for referring a client to another licensed security operator
- Negotiate or obtain contracts to supply security equipment or security operators to carry on security activity
- Be paid to negotiate contracts on someone else's behalf to carry on security activity

Class 2C – Security Equipment Specialist

Authorises the licensee to sell, install, maintain, repair, service and provide advice in relation to security equipment. This includes working as a locksmith.

Do I need a security licence to change or repair a lock?

Yes. Although there are some exemptions from the licensing requirements (see below), you must hold a Class 2C security licence if you install, maintain, repair or service locks in the course of conducting a business or in the course of your employment.

Does a builder need a security licence to install basic security equipment when building a property?

No. A builder engaged to complete construction is exempt under the *Security Industry Regulation 2016* (the Regulation) from the requirement to hold a licence to install, or engage persons to install, basic security equipment such as locks in the course of them carrying out their building activities.

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Do handymen and other tradespeople need a security licence to install and maintain basic security equipment in a property?

No. Handymen and other tradespeople who provide home maintenance services do not need a security licence to install basic security equipment (*for example*, screwing a lock into place), in the course of providing home maintenance services.

However, builders, handymen and other tradespeople who are specifically contracted or hired to install, repair or maintain security equipment must hold a 2C security licence to do so. In addition, if they are self-employed or run their own company and provide these services, they must also hold a security Master licence.

I hold a security Master licence. Do my employees also need security licences?

Yes, if those employees are carrying on security activities. Employees of the business are not covered by the Master licence.

Businesses that employ or subcontract people to carry on security activities must hold a Master licence, which authorises the holder to provide a specific number of persons on any one day to carry on security activities. Each security operative the business provides must hold a NSW Class 1 or Class 2 security licence (Refer to the SLED website for more information on licence classes: www.police.nsw.gov.au/sled).

Any employee selling, installing, repairing or maintaining security equipment must (unless covered by one of the exemptions in the Act or the Regulation) hold their own Class 2B and/or Class 2C licence.

Why can some people sell security equipment without holding security licences?

The risks associated with the sale and installation of security equipment arise mainly from people potentially gaining access via these activities to information about their customer's assets and vulnerabilities.

These risks do not apply in circumstances where the salesperson does not need to attend, or even know, the location at which the equipment is to be installed. For this reason, both wholesalers and retail staff at hardware or department stores are generally exempt from the licensing requirements.

If you operate a business that simply sells non-customised security doors, roller shutters or other security equipment, in such a manner that a customer can self-select their desired product, pay for it at a cashier and leave with the product to independently arrange its installation, the Regulation generally provides an exemption for this type of activity. Businesses that provide product customisation and/or installation services must have a security licence.

The information provided in this Fact Sheet is for general guidance only. Applicants and licensees should familiarise themselves with the *Security Industry Act 1997* and the *Security Industry Regulation 2016*, which are available on the NSW Legislation website (www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).