

FIREARMS REGISTRY



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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. 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.

What about antique pistols / revolvers?

An antique pistol is defined as a firearm manufactured before 1900 that is not capable of discharging breech loaded metallic cartridges. An **antique revolver** means an antique firearm that is a percussion lock pistol equipped with a revolving cylinder.

If you wish to possess an antique revolver, you must hold an appropriate firearms licence or permit. If you wish to use an antique revolver you must hold a category H (sport/target shooting) licence.

However, a category H (sport/target shooting) licence does not authorise the possession or use of any such antique revolver that is a prohibited pistol.

See the [Ammunition no longer commercially available](#) document 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 display the 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.

What do I need to acquire a firearm?

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

Where can I find more information?

The information provided in the FACT Sheet is for general guidance only. Applicants and licensees 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.

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Tel: 1300 362 562

Interstate: 02 6670 8590

Email: firearms@police.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms

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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 supply, a registration certificate or an issued PTA for a handgun that takes the type of ammunition being acquired.

How do I obtain a PTA?

You can apply for a PTA a firearm online via the [NSW Police Force Community Portal](#).

To apply online, you will need:

- * A MyServiceNSW Account
- * Proof of identity documents (e.g. Driver licence and Birth Certificate)
- * Your current firearms licence or permit number
- * The full address where you will store the firearm
- * A good reason for acquiring a firearm - Select a reason from the options provided which most closely describes your purpose for acquiring the firearm
- * A current credit card (Visa or Mastercard) for payment, if applicable
- * If you hold a probationary pistol licence and are applying to acquire a handgun for sport/target shooting within the second six months of the licence, you will also need to attach your Pistol Firearms Safety Training (PPL) Completion Certificate

When will I receive my registration certificate?

The firearms dealer finalises the transaction and notifies the Firearms Registry. Upon receipt at the Firearms Registry, your details are entered as the new registered owner of the firearm on the Register of Firearms and a registration certificate is produced to you either digitally or through the mail.

If you have a Gun Safe account, the Firearms Registry will sent you an email advising that your registration certificate can be accessed digitally through the Gun Safe Customer Portal under the 'My Documents' tile. If you do not have a Gun Safe account, you will receive your registration certificate through the mail.

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 [Request for a Firearms Registration Certificate online form](#) available on the Firearms Registry website. 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.

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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 supply, 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 a change of your safe storage address online via the [NSW Police Force Community Portal](#).

It is an offence to fail to notify a change of your firearm safe storage address.

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 the [Interstate Residents Moving to NSW fact sheet](#) 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.