

FIREARMS REGISTRY



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FIREARMS COLLECTION GENUINE REASON

All persons wishing to obtain a firearms licence in NSW must have a genuine reason to obtain the licence. This fact sheet provides information on the requirements for obtaining a firearms licence for the genuine reason of Firearms Collection

What requirements must be met for this Genuine Reason?

This genuine reason applies to a person who collects firearms. The collection must have a genuine commemorative, historical, thematic or financial value and the applicant must be a current member of a collectors' society or club approved for firearms collection.

A letter of endorsement from your collectors' society or club confirming club membership and the nature of your collection must be attached to your online firearms licence application.

If the firearms collection includes post-1946 pistols, the letter of endorsement from your collectors' society or club must also confirm that you have been a member for a minimum of 12 months.

A Firearm Collector licence authorises the **possession only of firearms**, not their use.

What categories of licence are available for this Genuine Reason?

Category A, B, C, D and H.

Prohibited firearms are excluded from this category of licence, except for those firearms to which a category C or D licence applies.

Category D firearms must be rendered permanently inoperable. All other firearms manufactured after 1900 or a prohibited pistol that forms part of the collection must be rendered temporarily inoperable.

A firearms collector licence **does not authorise the possession of ammunition** for any firearm that is part of the collection. A separate permit is required to collect ammunition.

Are there any restrictions on collecting post-1946 pistols?

Yes. Generally the collection of post-1946 pistols is excluded from this licence category.

To collect pistols manufactured after 1946 as part of your firearms collection, you must have been a member of the club or society for at least 12 months AND the letter of endorsement from the secretary or other office holder of your club must confirm the collection has a genuine commemorative, historical, thematic or financial value.

Are there any requirements once I have obtained my firearms licence?

Yes. The holder of a firearms collector licence must remain a member of an approved collectors' society or club and must attend at least one meeting of the collector' society or club of which they are a member during each compliance period of 12 months.

This is a participation requirement prescribed by clause 109 of the *Firearms Regulation 2017*.

Note: A firearms collector licence authorises the display of firearms in a firearms collection at a meeting of an approved collectors' society or club.

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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Interstate: 02 6670 8590

Email: firearms@police.nsw.gov.au

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

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What about firearms in my collection?

Any Category D firearm forming part of the collection must be rendered permanently inoperable. Clause 36(3) - (5) of the *Firearms Regulation 2017* prescribes the method of rendering a Category D firearm permanently inoperable.

Any other firearm forming part of the collection that was manufactured after 1900 or a firearm that is a prohibited pistol must be rendered temporarily inoperable by removal of the bolt or firing mechanism or by use of a trigger lock.

Acquisition and disposal of category C or D firearms must be to or through a licensed firearms dealer only.

What about safe storage of firearms in the collection?

Any firearm forming part of the collection must be stored on approved premises and in accordance with the requirements of clause 36 of the *Firearms Regulation 2017*.

There are specific and very strict requirements for the safe storage of firearms in a collection which are summarised in the [Safe Storage Level Nine - Firearms Collector fact sheet](#) available on the Safe Storage page of the Firearms Registry website. Safe storage facilities must meet these requirements and will be inspected by police to ensure compliance.

Further information / related information

Firearms Registry website: www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms

NSW Police Force Community Portal: portal.police.nsw.gov.au/s/online-firearm-applications

See fact sheets:

- ['Information on obtaining a Firearms Licence in NSW'](#)
- ['Fee Schedule'](#)
- ['Safe Storage Level Nine - Firearms Collector'](#)