



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

FIREARMS REGISTRY

Ammunition Safe Storage, Purchase & Possession

Ammunition

All persons owning firearms in NSW must comply with the safe storage requirements as outlined in the Firearms Act 1996 (Act), the Firearms Regulation 2006 (Regulation) and as recommended by the Commissioner of Police.

This FACT sheet provides information on the safe storage of ammunition for a person holding an individual firearms licence.

What is ammunition?

Section 4 of the *Firearms Act 1996* defines ammunition as including:

- * any article consisting of a cartridge case fitted with a primer and a projectile, or
- * any article consisting of a cartridge case fitted with a primer and containing a propelling charge and a projectile, or
- * blank cartridges, airgun pellets, training cartridges or gas cartridges, or
- * Any other article prescribed by the regulations for the purpose of this definition.

Who can possess ammunition?

Section 65 (3) of the Act states that a person must not possess ammunition unless:

- * The person is the holder of a licence or permit for a firearm that takes that ammunition, OR
- * The person is authorised by a permit to possess that ammunition.

Section 65 (4) of the Act allows for possession of ammunition by a person carrying out duties in the business of a carrier or a warehouse operator.

Who can sell Ammunition?

Ammunition can only be sold commercially by a licensed Firearms Dealer or the holder of a Commissioner's Permit to Purchase and Sell Ammunition.

Section 65 (1) of the Act requires that a person must not sell ammunition for any firearm unless:

- * The person purchasing the ammunition is the holder of a licence or permit for a firearm which takes that ammunition, OR
- * The person purchasing the ammunition is authorised to purchase it by a permit.

The seller must sight a valid licence or permit of the buyer prior to the transaction taking place.

Section 65 (2) of the Act requires that a person must not purchase ammunition for any firearm unless:

- * The person is the holder of a licence or permit for a firearm which takes that ammunition, OR
- * The person purchasing the ammunition is authorised to purchase it by a permit.

What are the storage requirements in relation to Ammunition ?

Ammunition must be kept in a locked container, separated from the firearms - Section 40 (1)(d) of the Act. The ammunition storage may be separate altogether, or may be a separate locked compartment or receptacle within the firearms safe storage unit.

The Commissioner of Police has determined the following as the minimum standard applicable to the ammunition storage container and locking mechanisms:

The ammunition container must be:

- * Made of plastic, wood, metal or steel which is sturdy and not easily penetrable (ie cash box/ammunition box); and
- * Fitted with a lock which is either:
 1. An internal locking mechanism (ie cash box or similar) which is operated by means of a key, combination lock or other similar locking mechanism (ie pin number), OR
 2. Locked by the use of a hasp and staple (or similar) and fitted with a padlock.

NOTE: The key to the lock/padlock must not be kept within the firearms receptacle, or within the immediate vicinity.

Example of a cash box



Example of an ammunition box

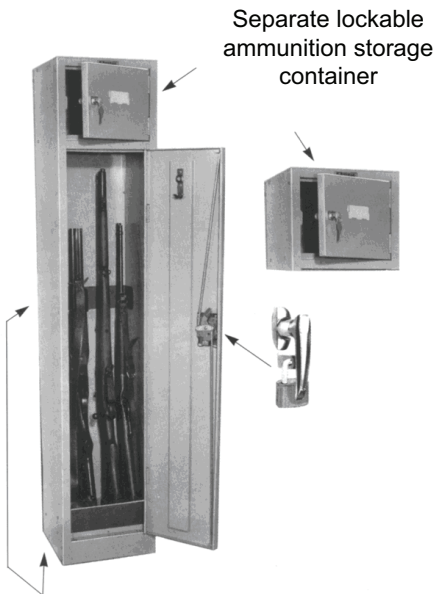


[Related Information](#)

See FACT Sheets:

'Safe Storage Level 1 - Category A & B Requirements',
'Safe Storage Level 2 - Category C, D & H Requirements',
'Transportation of Firearms'.

The Commissioner has not evaluated or approved any individual receptacles for safe storage of ammunition. However, any receptacle or lock meeting or exceeding these features is approved for the purposes of section 40(1)(d) of the Act.



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 licensees 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.



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