



IMPORTING FIREARM PARTS AND ACCESSORIES

The importation of certain firearm parts and accessories is controlled under the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956* (the Regulations). Importers must obtain permission to bring these goods into Australia.

IMPORTING PARTS

To import firearm parts into Australia, importers must first obtain written authorisation from the police firearms or weapons registry in their State or Territory or the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department.

Firearms parts include:

- a gas piston, friction assembly, action bar (including handgun slides), breech bolt or breech block
- a firearm barrel
- an assembled trigger mechanism
- a receiver (including both complete and incomplete receivers)
- something other than a complete firearm, that includes one or more of the above items.

Frames for handguns are also controlled under the Regulations and require permission to import.

Police Authorisation

To import parts for category A and B firearms, the authorisation will be in the form of a *B709A Importation of Firearms – Police Confirmation and Certification Form* (B709A Form). These firearms include:

- air and soft air rifles
- rimfire rifles (other than semi and fully automatic rimfire rifles)
- single shot, double barrel, lever action, bolt-action and certain pump-action shotguns
- single shot, repeating and semi-automatic paintball markers
- muzzle-loading firearms
- single shot, double barrel and repeating action centre-fire rifles
- break-action shotgun/rifle combinations.

To import parts for category H firearms the authorisation will be in the form of a *B709D Category H – Police Confirmation and Certification Form* (B709D Form).

Please Note

The above information does not apply to parts for certain firearms. These include:

- all semi-automatic longarms
- all automatic firearms
- handguns which are substantially the same as a sub-machine gun, a machine pistol or have a fully automatic firing capability
- any firearm that has a folding or detachable stock (and can fire with this stock removed or in the folded position)
- a firearm part that is capable of converting, either on its own or in conjunction with other parts, a single-shot or repeating action firearm to a semi-automatic or fully automatic firearm.

To import these types of firearms parts, permission must be obtained from the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department.

Attorney-General's Permission

Written permission to import must be obtained from the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department where the importation of parts for the firearms listed above is for one of the following purposes:

- government use (official purposes)
- for repair, modification, testing, training, government contract or certain other project or tender, or for use in the production of a film, for transshipment or for use by a foreign defence force in a defence-sanctioned activity (specified purposes)
- for use by professional rural pest controllers (specified person)
- the importer is a proven researcher or developer of firearms or related defence and law enforcement products and the article is being imported for the completion of a project or tender

- previously exported firearms returning to Australia (returned goods).

The original permission must be presented to Customs and Border Protection at or before importation.

SPORTS SHOOTERS

In addition to obtaining a B709D Form for handguns, the following restrictions apply to handgun barrels or magazines imported by sports shooters:

- barrels for semi-automatic pistols must have a minimum barrel length of 120mm
- barrels for revolvers and single shot handguns must be a minimum of 100mm in length
- barrels for all handguns must be of .38" calibre or less however, where barrels are being imported for use in a specially accredited sporting event they may be up to .45" calibre.

Barrel length requirements do not apply to handguns designed or adapted for competition target shooting.

These restrictions do not apply to black powder and muzzle-loading pistols and cap-and-ball percussion-fired revolvers. For further details, refer to the Importing Antique and Muzzle-Loading Firearms fact sheet.

The original permission must be presented to Customs and Border Protection at or before importation.

INTERCHANGEABLE PARTS

Where imported firearm parts are classified to two or more items in Part 2 of Schedule 6 to the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956*, the importation requirements of all relevant items must be met in respect of those parts.

Where a firearm part fits more than one category of firearm, the higher control must be satisfied. For example, an assembled trigger mechanism that fits a category B firearm requires police authorisation and an assembled trigger mechanism that fits a military type firearm requires permission from the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department. In such a case, the higher control must be satisfied and permission from the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department must be obtained by the importer.

The original permission must be presented to Customs and Border Protection at or before importation.

IMPORTING ACCESSORIES

To import firearm accessories into Australia, importers must first obtain written permission from the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department.

Firearm accessories include:

- a silencer designed or intended for use with a firearm
- a device designed to modify a firearm so as to give it a rapid fire capability

- a device capable of converting a firearm to fire in a fully automatic condition
- a folding, detachable, telescopic or collapsible stock.

Attorney-General's Permission

To import firearms accessories into Australia, written permission must be obtained from the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department. The importation of accessories must meet one of the following criteria:

- government use (official purposes)
- for repair, modification, testing, training, government contract or certain other project or tender, or for use in the production of a film, for transshipment or for use by a foreign defence force in a defence-sanctioned activity (specified purposes)
- for use by professional rural pest controllers (specified person)
- the importer is a proven researcher or developer of firearms or related defence and law enforcement products and the article is being imported for the completion of a project or tender
- previously exported firearms returning to Australia (returned goods).

The original permission must be presented to Customs and Border Protection at or before importation.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Penalty: The maximum penalty for importing firearm parts or accessories without import approval is a penalty not exceeding \$275,000, imprisonment for 10 years, or both.

To export firearm parts and accessories see the *Exporting Firearms and Related Goods* fact sheet.

CONTACTS

Contact details of the police firearms and weapon registries and the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department can be found on the *Firearms and Weapons Information Contacts* fact sheet.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For information on any Customs and Border Protection matter, contact the Customs Information and Support Centre on 1300 363 263 or email information@customs.gov.au or browse the website www.customs.gov.au