



FACT SHEET

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT IMPORTING

Regulation 4F of the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956* (the Regulations), prohibits the importation of firearms and firearms parts and accessories unless those articles are articles for which a permission to import has been granted in accordance with Schedule 6 of the Regulations. These import restrictions reflect the past agreement by all Australian governments that access to firearms be restricted to those with a genuine need to own, possess or use a firearm.

The Regulations set out the requirements for the importation of firearms, firearm accessories, firearm parts, firearms magazines and ammunition.

Under Schedule 6 of the Regulations the importation of a firearm article is subject to one of a number of tests according to the item number under which the article has been classified.

The importation of some articles does not require permission from the Attorney-General or delegate but must comply with the Police Authorisation Test. Authorisation is required to be obtained from the relevant State or Territory Firearms Registry.

If you are unsure whether your article requires police authorisation or permission from the Attorney-General or delegate, please contact the Firearms Policy Unit.

There are strict requirements detailed in Schedule 6 of the Regulations that define the 'genuine reasons' under which importation is allowed (also known as the 'import tests'). Each test has its own criteria, all of which must be met in order for import approval to be granted. In some cases, the subsequent sale of the articles is also restricted and there are also criteria for these sales.

The tests administered by the Attorney-General's Department are the:

- Official Purposes Test
- Specified Purposes Test (including film armourer, transshipment, research and development)
- Specified Person Test
- Sports Shooter Test
- International Sports Shooter Test
- Dealer Test
- Returned Goods Test

HOW TO APPLY

Applications must be made in writing to the Attorney-General's Department.

Required Documentation

Applications should include a completed application form, a letter from the applicant setting out the reasons for the importation and other relevant details, and all relevant documentation.

Please note that the Attorney General's Department will use this information in order to process your application to import firearms, firearms accessories and parts under Schedule 6 of the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956. This notice is to advise that, in the course of processing your application, the Department may disclose some of the information contained in the application and supporting documentation to relevant State, Territory and Commonwealth bodies, as well as the appropriate professional associations.

Applications can be sent by email, post or fax to:

Firearms Unit
Attorney-General's Department
3-5 National Circuit
BARTON ACT 2600

Fax: (02) 6141 5463
E-mail: firearms@ag.gov.au

It is important to note that many import permits will have conditions applying to their importation. These conditions will be written in the import permit and failure to comply with the conditions constitutes an offence under the *Customs Act 1901*.

Import permission must be received before goods arrive in Australia.