LICENSING SERVICES DIVISION
QUICK GUIDE

IMPORTING & EXPORTING:
firearms, ammunition, parts & accessories.

The movement of firearms and firearm parts and accessories in and out of Australian territory is controlled by the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service.

This guide is designed to provide information on the requirements you face when seeking to import or export firearms, ammunition, parts or accessories (whether new or currently owned) and Victoria Police's role in this process.

IMPORTING

Prior to the release of any firearms, ammunition, parts or accessories to a Victorian resident, Customs requires Victoria Police to certify either that you are appropriately licensed to receive such an item; or that the item does not require a licence to be held. There are no fees for requesting Victoria Police certification, however, applying for a permit to acquire a new firearm attracts a processing fee.

In order to receive this certification from Victoria Police, you must follow the steps listed below.

Owned firearms, ammunition, parts or accessories

To bring firearms, ammunition, parts or accessories you already own into Australia you must:

- Submit a completed 'Application for Police Confirmation for the Importation of Firearms and Parts' form 28 days prior to requiring the import permit.
- Provide Victoria Police with the full details of the firearm(s), ammunition parts, or accessories which are to be brought into Australia.

Detailed information about the specifications and quantity of the following need to be provided:

- Ammunition – for example the number of rounds, the type (e.g. Centrefire, Rimfire, Air, Shotgun or Paintball) and calibre (e.g. 38 Super, 9mmluger etc).
- Reloading – precise details of the components.
- Magazines – calibre & capacity.
- Stocks – type of material (eg. timber or synthetic).
- Barrels – calibre and length in millimetres.

Providing this information is necessary to avoid any processing delays.

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IMPORTING

New firearms, ammunition, parts or accessories

If you wish to bring new firearms, ammunition, parts or accessories into Australia you must:

- Submit a completed 'Application for Police Confirmation for the Importation of Firearms and Parts' form 28 days prior to requiring the import permit.
- Provide Victoria Police with the full details of the firearm(s), ammunition, parts, ammunition or accessories which are to be brought into Australia.
- Submit a completed Victoria Police Permit to Acquire Application form for each new firearm.

Detailed information about the specifications and quantity of the following need to be provided:

- Ammunition – for example the number of rounds, the type (e.g. Centrefire, Rimfire, Air, Shotgun or Paintball) and calibre (e.g. 38 Super, 9mmluger etc).
- Reloading – precise details of the components.
- Magazines – calibre & capacity.
- Stocks – type of material (eg. timber or synthetic).
- Barrels – calibre and length in millimetres.

Providing this information is necessary to avoid any processing delays.

Please note: If you wish to import a Category C shotgun for the purpose of clay target shooting, you must obtain written permission from the Federal Attorney General in addition to submitting a completed Victoria Police 'Application for a Permit to Acquire' form. Any ammunition, parts or accessories imported for the same purpose must also be approved by the Attorney General.

Ammunition, parts or accessories imported alongside a Category C shotgun for primary production do not require authorisation from the Attorney General.

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EXPORTING

The permission to export firearm(s), parts or accessories is issued by Customs on behalf of the Department of Defence.

If you wish to export your own firearm(s), ammunition, parts or accessories you require a 'Restricted Goods Permit' which is issued by Customs. If the exported article(s) will not be brought back into Australia, you must advise Victoria Police's Licensing Services Division and provide a copy of the relevant export documentation.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will Customs release an unregistered firearm to a licence holder other than a dealer?

No. Customs only releases unregistered firearms to Licensed Firearms Dealers (LFD). If your firearm is unregistered, you will need to nominate a Victorian LFD to act as your agent and collect your item from Customs. In this case, Victoria Police will forward the Customs Import Permit authority to the LFD and the approved Permit to Acquire to the licence holder.

Can I borrow the firearm of a friend or relative to compete in an overseas competition?

Yes, but you must provide LSD with written authorisation from the registered owner to do so in addition to a completed Application for Police Confirmation for the Importation of Firearms and Parts.

Can I import firearms, ammunition, parts or accessories for a friend or family member?

You cannot import on behalf of a third party. Customs will not release imported articles where the name on the import permit does not match the name of the importer.

Are there any limitations on what ammunition, parts and accessories I can import?

Customs will seize any stocks which are collapsible, foldable or telescopic. Only fixed, one-piece stocks are able to be imported. Licence holders may also only import ammunition, parts and accessories compatible with the firearm types that your licence authorises you to possess, carry or use.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will any officials other than Customs officials need to see my permission to import?

Certain countries do not allow firearms, ammunition, parts or accessories to be exported without proof that you have received permission from Australian authorities to import the item(s). In this case, you must provide the relevant overseas authorities with a Certified Copy of the Victorian Import Permit. If you require a Certified Copy of this permit, you will need to request it when you apply for the permit.

APPLICATION FORMS

All Victorian Police firearm forms can be accessed from Victoria Police's Licensing Services Division or via the Victoria Police website:
www.police.vic.gov.au/firearms

Forms for longarms and compatible ammunition, parts and accessories:

- Application for Police Confirmation for the Importation of Firearms and Parts (**Form B709A)**
- Application for Permit to Acquire a Longarm (**Form 337A)**

Forms for handguns and compatible ammunition, parts and accessories:

- Application for Police Confirmation for the Importation of Firearms and Parts (**Form B709D**)
- Application for Permit to Acquire a Handgun (**Form 337B**)

CONTACTS

Completed import application forms should be forwarded to:

Licensing Services Division, Victoria Police
GPO Box 2807
Melbourne Vic 3001

Licensing Services Division, Victoria Police
Level 4, Tower 3, Victoria Police Centre
637 Flinders St Melbourne Vic 3000
1300 651 645
(03) 9247 6085 (fax)
licensingservices@police.vic.gov.au

Requests for permission to export should be forwarded to:

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
GPO Box 2809
Melbourne Vic 3001

For exportation queries contact:

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
Customs House
1010 La Trobe St, Docklands Vic 3008
1300 363 263
information@customs.gov.au