



Before granting an application for a firearms licence or a permit to acquire a firearm, the Commissioner of Police must be satisfied the applicant is able to meet the storage and safety requirements of *the Firearms Act 1996*. The requirements are outlined in Part 5 of *the Act* (sections 84-87A) and within Regulations 9A - 9C and 17 - 18 of the *Firearms Regulations 2016*.

All licences are issued subject to the condition that the licensee complies with these requirements for firearms in their possession.

People in possession of firearms are required to comply with Section 84 of the Act, which is an over-arching provision requiring that all reasonable precautions are taken to ensure that firearms, firearm parts or ammunition are kept safely, not stolen or lost and do not come into the possession of a person not authorised to possess them.

In addition to the over-arching provisions of Section 84, there are specific requirements relevant to each category of firearm (A, B, C, D, H) and additional requirements for people possessing Category H firearms or if there are 10 or more firearms of any category being stored (Refer Section 85 of the Act and Regulations 9A - 9C).

As part of its responsibility to administer and enforce the legislation, Tasmania Police undertakes regular and routine inspections of licence holder storage arrangements.

The checklist template attached to this document is designed to inform licence holders of the manner in which such inspections are conducted. Licence holders are encouraged to use this tool to assess whether they comply with the storage and safe-keeping requirements.

Further information about storage requirements and the inspection process can be found at fas.police.tas.gov.au or by contacting Firearms Services on (03) 6173 2720.



Firearms Storage Inspection Checklist Template

1. Licence holders and registered firearms stored at the premises	
Questions	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How many firearms licence holders reside at the premises?• Are all registered firearms being stored at the premises present and accounted for?	<p>All firearms stored at the premises will be inspected against existing records.</p> <p>Any anomalies will be investigated.</p>

2. General security and safe-keeping requirements			
Questions	Yes	No	Notes
<p>Are all firearms, parts and ammunition being kept safely and securely? Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only authorised people can access the firearms?• Keys are not left on or near the receptacle, and are only accessible to authorised people?• Only authorised people know the alarm code?• All firearms, parts and ammunition are being stored safely?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>If unauthorised/unlicensed people are able to gain access the firearms then they are not being kept securely.</p> <p>Refer to s. 84 of the Act.</p>



3. Additional requirements for Category H or more than 10 firearms			
Questions	Yes	No	Notes
<p>Are there any Category H firearms; OR 10 or more of any category of firearm being stored at the premises?</p> <p>IF YES, assess the following:</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If NO, move onto Section 4 'The Storage Receptacle'.</i>
<p>Is the premises OR storage receptacle equipped with an electronic security device that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • designed to prevent, detect or deter any unauthorised entry; <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • capable of detecting any unauthorised entry; <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintained and in proper working order? 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Either the premises or the receptacle itself can be fitted with the device</p> <p>Any type of device must meet all 3 of these criteria or it is not compliant</p>
<p>If the electronic security device is an alarm, check:</p> <p>Is the alarm audible OR monitored?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	To be considered compliant, an alarm must be audible unless it is being monitored
<p>If the electronic security device is a visual recording devices (eg CCTV), is it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recording to a storage device any activity where the receptacle is located; <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • located away from the receptacle; <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recording images or video of sufficient quality to identify people in the vicinity of the receptacle? 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>A visual recording device must meet all 3 of these criteria or it is not compliant</p>



4. The Storage Receptacle			
Questions	Yes	No	Notes
Are all firearms and parts in a locked receptacle?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The receptacle must be kept locked.
Is the receptacle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> made of either metal or concrete? <p>If it is made of concrete, go to next question.</p> <p>If it is made of metal; is the receptacle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2mm thick or more for Cat A or B firearms <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3mm thick or more for Cat C, D or H firearms 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>If it is made of material other than metal or concrete then it is not compliant.</p> <p>Manufacturer's documentation can be checked to verify the thickness of the metal used in the construction.</p> <p>Where the thickness of the metal is in dispute, an appropriate measurement technique may be necessary in order to determine any further action required.</p>
Does the receptacle have an internal locking mechanism? AND does it have either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An internal hinging mechanism? <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A mechanism that would prevent the door from being opened if the hinges were removed while it is locked? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>If it has an external locking mechanism such as a padlock it is not compliant</p> <p>Internal hinges are compliant but if it has external hinges it must also have a mechanism that prevents the door from being opened if the hinges were removed while locked. Otherwise it is not compliant.</p>
Does the receptacle weigh less than 150kg when empty? IF YES, THEN: Is the receptacle fixed by masonry fixing bolts OR coach screws , in a manner that prevents easy removal; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at least twice to a wall AND at least twice to the floor; <p>OR</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>If a receptacle is over 150 kgs when empty it does not need to be bolted to a wall or floor.</p> <p>If it is under 150 kgs it needs to be securely affixed in the manner described so as to prevent easy removal.</p> <p>Masonry fixing bolts are used to attach to concrete or masonry</p>



Firearms Storage Inspection Checklist Template

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> at least four times to either a wall or a floor? 			whereas coach screws are used to affix to wood and metal.
In addition to the specific requirements describe above, assess whether or not the receptacle is EASILY PENETRABLE?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>A receptacle may be easily penetrable if it lacks structural integrity, joins, rust, overall construction, excessive gaps, etc.</p> <p>If it appears to meet the other requirements but nevertheless is still 'easily penetrable' then it is not compliant.</p>

5. Ammunition storage			
Questions	Yes	No	Notes
<p>Is all ammunition stored in a locked receptacle that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate from or in a separate compartment to the firearm receptacle? <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is it keyed with a different lock to the firearm receptacle? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	All ammunition must be stored separate to the firearms in the manner described. If not it is not compliant.
Is the amount of ammunition on the premises reasonable in the context of the reason for the firearms licence?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The amount of ammunition a person may possess is prescribed as the amount determined by the Commissioner. Refer to fas.police.tas.gov.au for details.
Is there more than 5kg of black powder on the premises?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	An individual cannot possess more than 5kg of black powder (for ammunition re-loading) without a SSDS permit from Workplace Standards.



6. Outcome of Inspection

The following outcomes and actions may take place as a result of a firearms storage inspection:

Finding	Outcome	Action that may be taken
No issues detected	COMPLIANT	Recorded for future reference
Issues detected – suitable for reinspection	NOT COMPLIANT	Report to licensee with issues Reinspection at later date
Issues detected – not suitable for reinspection	NOT COMPLIANT	Seizure of firearms Suspension of firearms licence Charges laid and prosecution

7. Commissioner approval of alternative storage arrangements

It should be noted that firearms licence holders may seek to apply for approval from the Commissioner of an alternative firearms storage arrangement.

The Commissioner will only approve alternative arrangements if satisfied they provide a greater standard of security than the prescribed requirements.

This provision also applies to ammunition storage arrangements.

Refer to fas.police.tas.gov.au for further information.