

A permit to acquire gives a person permission to acquire (get) a firearm. A permit is required to buy a firearm and is also required if someone is given a firearm. For specific information for acquiring a pistol, see *Information Sheet 41 Acquiring a Pistol*.

To get a permit to acquire, there are four main requirements:

- The applicant must decide which firearm is needed in order to request **that firearm**.
- The applicant must have a **firearms licence of the same category** as the firearm they request.
- The applicant must satisfy the **permit requirements** in section 60(4) of the *Firearms Act 1996* (see below for more information).
- The applicant must be able to meet the storage and safety requirements required by the *Firearms Act 1996*.

THE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS IN SECTION 60(4)(B) OF THE FIREARMS ACT 1996:

The permit requirements in section 60(4)(b) of the Act are used by Firearms Services to assess whether a person has sufficient reason and need to acquire the firearm they are asking for. Applicants should provide their explanation in their permit to acquire application. The explanation only has to be brief.

Please explain:

1. Why this firearm is needed, **and**
2. What qualities this firearm has that the firearms already owned do not have.

Note for firearms collectors:

For collectors, the appropriate question is: How will the firearm contribute to the collection?

What about firearm parts?

- A permit to acquire is not needed to obtain firearm parts.
- A person can only acquire firearm parts which are the same category as their licence.
- Only a firearms dealer is allowed to:
 - manufacture, buy or sell firearms and firearm parts; or
 - possess firearms and firearm parts for the purpose of sale, transfer, storage or testing; or
 - possess firearm parts for the purpose of manufacturing firearms; or
 - possess firearms and firearm parts for the purpose of repair in the ordinary course of business.



- Only persons with firearms dealers licences are lawfully able to mail firearms, firearm parts or ammunition to another person, and only in the following circumstances:
 - the address to which it is sent is outside Tasmania; and
 - it is sent by mail, or freight, that requires delivery in person to the addressee and his or her signature; and
 - the other person would not, because of receiving it or being in possession of it at the place to which it is sent, be guilty of any offence under any law which applies at that place; and
 - the other person holds a corresponding licence under the law of that other place.
- For these reasons, Firearms Services recommends that ordinary licence holders buy their firearm parts through a dealer and that the dealer fit the part for them.
- See *Information Sheet 42 Alter, Modify or Create a Firearm* for more information.

Permit to acquire information:

- If a person has an **heirlooms licence** (and they inherited the firearm) they still need a permit to acquire.
- Before a permit to acquire is issued, Firearms Services may request to inspect the firearm storage arrangements to ensure the applicant can store the firearm safely (and according to the rules).
- If the permit to acquire is for a licence holder's **first firearm**, there is a minimum 28 day 'cooling off period' before the permit can be granted.
- A permit to acquire (for a second or subsequent firearm) will generally take not less than 14 days to process.
- If a person is acquiring **a pistol for sport or target shooting**, they need to have been a member of an approved pistol shooting club **and** have had their Category H licence, for at least 6 months before they can acquire a pistol.
 - There is also a separate permit to acquire form to use when applying to acquire a pistol for sport or target shooting.
- A permit to acquire **expires after 90 days**. Once a permit has expired it should be destroyed. Expired permits cannot be extended or re-issued.



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