

An 'electronic security device' is a security system that sets off an alarm when someone tries to break in, or records photos or video of anyone in the vicinity of receptacles where firearms are stored.

### Do I have to have an electronic security device?

You have to have an electronic security device if:

- 10 or more firearms are being stored at the premises, or
- you have a pistol, or
- you have a dealer's licence or museum licence.

### What type of security device can I have?

There are two types of security devices to choose from:

#### AN ALARM

- audible alarm – which makes a loud noise if someone tries to break in; or
- monitored alarm – which notifies you (and/or a security company) if someone tries to break in.

#### A VISUAL RECORDING DEVICE

- which takes photos and / or video around your firearms safe so that anyone who tries to break in, can be identified.

#### AUDIBLE ALARM: IS MY ALARM LOUD ENOUGH?

Relevant factors to determine if your alarm is loud enough are:

- If your alarm went off, could your neighbours hear it and call police? **OR**
- If your alarm went off, would it make being in the same room / building as the firearm uncomfortable? **OR**
- If your alarm went off, would the person breaking in know that they had been detected?

#### MONITORED ALARM: WHAT DOES MONITORED MEAN?

- If you don't have an audible alarm, then it must be monitored at all times. This enables someone to be notified when the alarm goes off.
- You can monitor your own alarm or a security company can monitor it for you.
- The important part is that someone knows as soon **as the alarm goes off**, and can notify police.
- Notification through a mobile phone is fine.



## If you have a visual recording device

- A visual recording device has to record all activity near your firearms safe.
- It has to record the photos or video in a **separate** storage device.
  - The storage device cannot be in the 'immediate vicinity' of any firearms safe(s).
  - Ideally, the storage device is in a different room or premises.
  - If there is only one room (like a shed), then the storage device should be in a different building.
  - Storage on the internet (such as cloud storage) is fine, if the photos or video is uploaded as it is recorded and can be accessed later.

## How do I know it's good enough?

- It depends on the quality of the photos or video the device records.
- Look at the photos / video from your recording device and make sure they are clear enough that you can identify a person from the photos / video.

## For all security devices

- Check your security device at least once **every 12 months** to ensure that it is working properly. The regulations require it to be maintained in proper working order.
- Keep a note of when you test your security device, with the date and that it worked / didn't work.
- Pick a security device which works with your lifestyle.
  - It may not work for you to have to turn an alarm on every time you leave the house.
  - If you don't have good phone reception, you may not be able to monitor your own alarm (because you have to know right away if someone tries to break in).

## Frequently asked questions

### Do I have to buy a certain brand?

No. We recommend you buy one which complies with Australian Standards. If you buy one from a shop in Australia, they should be able to tell you if it complies with the standards and how it must be installed.

### Why do I have to have an electronic security device?

If you have 10 or more firearms, or a pistol, the *Firearms Act 1996* and *Firearms Regulations 2016* require you to have an electronic security device. It will make it harder for criminals to steal your firearms. Preventing criminals from accessing firearms is essential to community safety.



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