

Guideline on Prohibited, Controlled and Non-Regulated Items

This guideline is for:

- **Travellers** bringing items into Singapore
- **Online shoppers** purchasing items from overseas or local websites
- **Members of the public** who own or are considering acquiring certain items

Read this **before** you travel to Singapore, make online purchases, or acquire items that may be regulated.

Why These Controls Exist

Singapore maintains strict controls on certain items to ensure public safety and security. These items include guns, firearms, weapons, explosives, explosive precursors, noxious substances etc. The Police Regulatory Department (PRD) is the authority responsible for regulating such controlled items.

These regulations help prevent misuse of dangerous items, ensure responsible and legitimate use, and maintain a safe and secure environment for the community. Any import, possession or handling of such items without necessarily approval may constitute an offence.

Important: Online Availability Does Not Mean Legal to Import or Possess

Just because an item is available for purchase online does not mean it is legal to import into or possess in Singapore.

Many overseas and local websites sell items that are prohibited or controlled under Singapore law.

Before purchasing any item that may be regulated:

1. Check this guideline and the attached annexes
2. Visit PRD's website for more information and FAQ
3. Verify requirements with the PRD if unsure
4. Obtain necessary approvals before importing

You are responsible for ensuring compliance with Singapore's regulations.

Quick Reference: Is My Item Regulated?

Step 1: Check the attached annexes

- Found in **Annex A**? → **PROHIBITED** - Cannot import or possess
- Found in **Annex B**? → **CONTROLLED** - Need PRD approval before import
- Not listed? → Proceed to Step 2

Step 2: Even if not listed, consider:

- Could this item be used as a weapon?
- Do I have a legitimate reason to possess it?
- Could it cause public alarm?

If unsure, contact PRD at <https://www.go.gov.sg/spf-prd> before importing or purchasing an item.



Category 1: Prohibited Items - See *Annex A* for the complete list.

What Are They?

Items that **cannot be imported into or possessed in Singapore under any circumstances**. They are considered prohibited weapons or are otherwise banned under Singapore law.

Legal Consequences

Possession without lawful authority is a criminal offence punishable by imprisonment, fines, or both.

What to Do

- **If you already own one:** Surrender to the Police immediately
- **If travelling with one:** Declare it immediately to Customs/ICA officers upon arrival

Category 2: Controlled Items - See *Annex B* for the complete list.

What Are They?

Items that **require prior approval from PRD before import** into Singapore.

Legal Requirement

You must obtain approval (import licence, permit, authorisation or approval letter) from PRD **before importing**.

Importing without approval is an offence and may result in seizure, prosecution, fines and/or imprisonment.

How to Apply

Submit application to PRD before purchasing or importing:

- Visit PRD's website for application procedures: <https://www.police.gov.sg/Business-E-Services/Apply-for-Gun-Licence/Overview-of-Gun-Explosive-Weapon-Licences>
- Processing time: Typically 2- 3 weeks
- Only proceed with purchase/import after receiving written approval

Licensing Requirements

PRD evaluates applications based on:

- Legitimate need for the item
- Proposed security measures
- Intended use
- Applicant's background and suitability

Different requirements apply:

For Businesses/Entities:

- Licences issued for business operations involving controlled items
- Restricted to scope of approved business activities

For Individuals:

- Approvals granted on a case-by-case basis for specific approved activities only
- Must demonstrate clear legitimate need

Key Points for Online Shoppers

- Check **Annex B** before purchasing
- Apply for PRD approval first
- Only complete purchase after receiving approval
- Provide approval document to shipping company/courier
- Present approval to Singapore Customs / Immigration and Checkpoint Authority (ICA) upon arrival

Key Points for Travellers

- Apply for approval at least 2 weeks before travel
- Declare items to Customs/ICA upon arrival
- Present approval document when requested
- Items without approval will be seized

Category 3: Class Licensing under GEWCA

What Is It?

A simplified regulatory approach for certain controlled items used for specific approved purposes. It reduces administrative burden by allowing automatic licensing when you comply with all requirements. There is no need to apply licence or inform PRD.

How It Works

You are automatically considered licensed when you:

1. Import, Export or Use controlled items only for authorised purposes specified in the Class Licence Orders
2. Comply with all conditions in the relevant Class Licence Order
3. Meet all security and safety requirements

You can begin activities immediately without submitting applications, paying fees, or waiting for a licence.

Check the full details on specific Class Licence Orders under the GEWCA at:

<https://sso.agc.gov.sg/Act/GEWCA2021?ViewType=SI>

For Type 2 Weapon Guidelines and Papercut test video guide, check under 1.4 Application Guidelines on: <https://www.police.gov.sg/Business-E-Services/Apply-for-Weapon-and-or-Noxious-Substance-Licence>

When You Need a Regular Licence

If your use does not fall within Class Licence conditions, you must apply for a regular licence from PRD.

Consequences of Non-Compliance

Breaching Class Licence conditions may result in:

- Revocation of Class Licence privileges
- Requirement to obtain regular licence
- Seizure of items
- Prosecution

When in doubt, apply for a regular licence.

Category 4: Non-Controlled Items - See *Annex C* for the examples

What Are They?

Items that are not regulated and do not require PRD approval for import. However, possession is not unrestricted.

Requirements

You must:

1. **Have a legitimate reason** for possessing them
 - Examples: Professional use, sporting activities, household use, recreational activities
2. **Not use or intend to use them to cause harm or public alarm**

Police May Investigate If:

- You cannot explain why you possess the item
- Circumstances suggest potential misuse
- Item is carried in public without legitimate purpose or cause public alarm
- There are concerns about your intent

Best Practices:

- Keep items secured when not in use
- Transport items securely and discreetly
- Be prepared to explain legitimate purpose if questioned
- Don't carry items in public unnecessarily

Summary Checklist**Before You Buy an Item or Travel:**

- ✓ Check the attached annexes and this guideline
- ✓ Check PRD's website on GEWCA and its FAQ
- ✓ Verify regulatory requirements with PRD if unsure
- ✓ Apply for necessary approvals before purchasing or travelling
- ✓ Declare items to Customs/ICA when entering Singapore
- ✓ Keep approval documents accessible during import

Don't:

- ✗ Assume online availability means legal to import
- ✗ Rely on sellers to handle compliance
- ✗ Import without proper approval for controlled items
- ✗ Attempt to bring in prohibited items under any circumstances

Contact Information**Police Regulatory Department (PRD)**

- Website For GEWCA information and application procedures:
<https://www.police.gov.sg/Business-E-Services/Apply-for-Gun-Licence/Overview-of-Gun-Explosive-Weapon-Licences>
- For Enquiries, submit FormSG at: <https://www.go.gov.sg/spf-prd>
- Office hours contact: 6835 0000

This guideline is for general information only and does not constitute legal advice. For specific situations, please check with PRD or seek independent legal advice. Current as of 22 December 2025 and subject to change.

**LICENSING OFFICER
POLICE REGULATORY DEPARTMENT
SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE**

Annex A - List of Prohibited Items

S/N	Prohibited Items	Regulated Type	Licensable	Businesses / Entities	Individual
1.	Concealed Weapons	Offensive Weapon	No	Not allowed	
2.	Catapult	Offensive Weapon	No		
3.	Slingshot	Offensive Weapon	No		

Annex B - List of Controlled Items

✓ Only for approved activities, such as for supply to government agencies or legitimate purposes. Licence is subject to compliance with all licensing requirements, including meeting the fit and proper criteria and approval by the Licensing Officer.

S/N	Controlled Items	Regulated Type	Licensable	Businesses and Entities	Individual
1.	Revolvers	Gun	Yes	✓	Allowed only for Sports Shooting activities in a licensed shooting club and with guns kept at approved armouries only.
2.	Pistol	Gun	Yes	✓	
3.	Shotgun	Gun	Yes	✓	
4.	Rifle	Gun	Yes	✓	
5.	Machine Gun	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
6.	Sub-Machine Gun	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
7.	Starting Pistol (for sporting event)	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
8.	Howitzer	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
9.	Mortar	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
10.	Bazooka	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
11.	Tear Gas Gun	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
12.	Air Rifle	Gun	Yes	✓	Allowed only for Sports Shooting activities in a licensed shooting club and with guns kept at approved armouries only.
13.	Air Pistol	Gun	Yes	✓	
14.	Airsoft Gun	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed

S/N	Controlled Items	Regulated Type	Licensable	Businesses and Entities	Individual
15.	Gun Component Parts (e.g Gun Barrel, trigger, frame, magazine)	Gun	Yes	✓	Gun parts are allowed only for repair of licensed guns
16.	Gun Flash Suppressor	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
17.	Gun Silencer	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
18.	Paintball Gun	Gun	Yes	✓	Allow for participating in local competitions
19.	Taser Gun	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
20.	Stun Gun	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
21.	Tranquilizer Gun	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
22.	Electronics Dart Gun	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
23.	Ballistic Knife	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
24.	Spear Gun	Gun	Yes	✓	✓
25.	Digital Gun Blueprint for 3D Printer	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
26.	Musket Gun	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
27.	Deactivated Guns	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
28.	Blank Firing Guns	Gun	Yes	✓	Not allowed
29.	All types of Explosives	Explosives	Yes	✓	Not allowed
30.	All types of Ammunition	Explosives	Yes	✓	Not allowed
31.	Marine Pyrotechnics	Explosives	Yes	✓	Not allowed
32.	All Forms of Fireworks, including Firecrackers, Tube-sparklers and “Pop-Pop”	Explosives	Yes	✓	Not allowed
33.	Desensitized Explosives (DE) [Refer to Annex B1]	Explosives	Yes	✓	Not allowed

S/N	Controlled Items	Regulated Type	Licensable	Businesses and Entities	Individual
34.	Wire Sparklers (not exceeding 40cm in total length and does not contain more than 3% potassium perchlorate in composition)	Explosives	Class Licence	<p>Allowed under Guns, Explosives and Weapons Control (Dealing in Certain Lower-Risk Explosives — Class Licence) Order 2025</p> <p>Must meet Class Licence requirements and comply with all conditions.</p> <p>Any deviation will require a licence.</p>	
35.	Airbags	Explosives	Class Licence		
36.	Seatbelt Pretensioner	Explosives	Class Licence		
37.	Fire Extinguishers Igniters	Explosives	Class Licence		
38.	Explosives Powered Industrial Tools	Explosives	Class Licence		
39.	Power Cartridges	Explosives	Class Licence		
40.	Party Explosives: Party Poppers, Confetti Poppers, Christmas Crackers (explosives content less than 20mg)	Explosives	Exemption	<p>Allowed under Guns, Explosives and Weapons Control (Explosives - Exemption) Order 2025</p> <p>Must meet Exemption criteria. Any deviation will require a licence.</p>	
41.	Chlorobenzylidene Malonontrite (CS) Spray	Noxious Substance	Yes	✓	Not allowed
42.	Pepper Spray	Noxious Substance	Yes	✓	Not allowed
43.	Explosive Precursors [Refer to Annex B2]	Explosive Precursors	Yes	✓	Not allowed
44.	Arbalest	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
45.	Crossbow	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
46.	Bow With a Draw Weight of More Than 27.215 Kilograms (60 pounds)	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
47.	Hunting Arrow or Any Arrow That, If Used in The Way for Which It Is Designed or	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed

S/N	Controlled Items	Regulated Type	Licensable	Businesses and Entities	Individual
	Adapted, Is Capable Causing Hurt or Injury				
48.	Throwing Knife	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
49.	Butterfly/Gravity Knife	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
50.	Flick Knife / Switchblade	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
51.	Wasp Knife	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
52.	Throwing Stars / Shuriken	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
53.	Knuckledusters	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
54.	Shoge	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
55.	Nanchaku	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
56.	Kasari-Fundo, Kusari-Fundo Manrikigusari	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
57.	Karambit	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
58.	Sai / Jitte	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
59.	Blow Pipe & Dart	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Not allowed
60.	Bayonet	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	Allowed. Must meet licensing requirements and assessed on a case-by-case basis. These weapons if blunted are under Type 2 Weapon, Class Licence.
61.	Sword (including Kukri)	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	
62.	Spear	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	
63.	Dagger (including Dirks, Kirpans and Kris)	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	
64.	Chinese Whip/ Whip Spear	Type 1 Weapon	Yes	✓	
65.	Blunted Bayonet	Type 2 Weapon	Class Licence	Allowed under Guns, Explosives and Weapons Control (Manufacture, Trading, Supply, Carriage and Disposal of Type 2 Weapons — Class Licence) Order 2025	
66.	Blunted Sword (including Kukri)	Type 2 Weapon	Class Licence		
67.	Blunted Spear /spearhead	Type 2 Weapon	Class Licence		

S/N	Controlled Items	Regulated Type	Licensable	Businesses and Entities	Individual
68.	Blunted Dagger (including Dirks, Kirpans and Kris)	Type 2 Weapon	Class Licence	Must meet Class Licence requirements and comply with all conditions. Any deviation will require a licence.	
69.	Blunted Chinese Whip / Whip Spear	Type 2 Weapon	Class Licence		
70.	Bow & Arrow (for sporting use according to World Archery Federation international standards)	Type 2 Weapon	Class Licence		
71.	Machete / Parang	Type 3 Weapon	Exemption	Allowed under Guns, Explosives and Weapons Control (Type 3 Weapons - Exemption) Order 2025 Must meet Exemption criteria.	
72.	Diving / Hunting/ Survival Knife	Type 3 Weapon	Exemption		
73.	Scythe / Sickle Shaped Article	Type 3 Weapon	Exemption		
74.	Axe	Type 3 Weapon	Exemption		
75.	Articles of clothing intended as protection against attack, including bullet proof vests	RIER ¹	Approval Required for Import / Export	For supply to Government Entities only	Not allowed
76.	Helmets intended as protection in military combat	RIER	Approval Required for Import / Export	For supply to Government Entities only	Not allowed
77.	Toy or Replica Guns ²	RIER	Approval Required for Import / Export	Allowed only for legitimate purposes ³	Not allowed
78.	Cap Gun ⁴	RIER	Approval Required for Import / Export	Not allowed	Not allowed

¹ RIER - Regulation of Imports and Exports Regulations, Regulation of Imports and Exports Act 1995

² Items that closely resemble real gun or can be modified to look realistic are not allowed.

³ Reasons such as for personal collection or self-defence are not legitimate purposes.

⁴ Please note that the cap rolls of Cap Guns are regulated as Explosives.

S/N	Controlled Items	Regulated Type	Licensable	Businesses and Entities	Individual
79.	Toy or Replica Explosives ⁵ , Grenades, Ammunitions or Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) ⁶	RIER	Approval Required for Import / Export	For supply to Government Entities only	Allowed only for legitimate purposes.
80.	Handcuffs ⁷	RIER	Approval Required for Import / Export	For supply to Government Entities only	Not allowed
81.	Batons, T-Batons, Nightsticks, Truncheons	MOA ⁸	Approval Required for Import / Export	For supply to Government Entities only	Not allowed
82.	Night Vision / Infra-Red Goggles and Binoculars	PSIA ⁹	Licence not required for personal use	Security Equipment Service Provider Licence required for businesses providing security services for reward, which is regulated under PSIA	

⁵ Empty cartridges which could be in the form of accessories (eg. pendent, bracelet, earring, necklace, key chain etc), belt bucket, magnet, thumbtack pin, ear plug, wind chime, thumb drive, pen, stylus, etc are regulated as Replica Explosives and not allowed for importation.

⁶ Items that closely resemble real explosive device or can be modified to look realistic will not be approved.

⁷ Individual possession is not allowed. Handcuffs with release lever are not deemed as handcuffs and do not require approval from PRD.

⁸ MOA - Miscellaneous Offences (Public Order and Nuisance) Act 1906

⁹ PSIA - Private Security Industry Act 2007

Annex B1 – List of Desensitised Explosives (DE)

S/No.	Desensitised Explosives
1.	Silver Picrate, wetted with not less than 30% water, by mass
2.	Barium Azide, wetted with not less than 50% water, by mass
3.	Trinitrotoluene, wetted with not less than 10% water, by mass
4.	Trinitrotoluene wetted with not less than 30% water, by mass
5.	Trinitrobenzene, wetted with not less than 10% water, by mass
6.	Trinitrobenzene wetted with not less than 30% water, by mass
7.	Trinitrochlorobenzene wetted with not less than 10% water, by mass
8.	Sodium Dinitro-o-Cresolate, wetted with not less than 10% water, by mass
9.	Sodium Dinitro-o-Cresolate, wetted with not less than 15% water, by mass
10.	Dinitrophenol, wetted with not less than 15% water, by mass
11.	Dinitrophenolates, wetted with not less than 15% water, by mass
12.	Dinitroresorcinol, wetted with not less than 15% water, by mass
13.	Trinitrophenol, wetted with not less than 30% water, by mass
14.	Trinitrophenol wetted with not less than 10% water, by mass
15.	Ammonium Picrate, wetted with not less than 10% water, by mass
16.	Trinitrobenzoic Acid, wetted with not less than 10% water, by mass
17.	Trinitrobenzoic Acid, wetted with not less than 30% water, by mass
18.	Nitroglycerin mixture, desensitized, solid, N.O.S ¹⁰ . With more than 2% but not more than 10% Nitroglycerin, by mass
19.	Nitroglycerin mixture, desensitized, liquid, N.O.S. With not more than 30% Nitroglycerin, by mass
20.	Nitroglycerin, solution in alcohol with more than 1% but not more than 5% Nitroglycerin
21.	Nitroglycerin, solution in alcohol, with not more than 1% Nitroglycerin
22.	Sodium Picramate, wetted with not less than 20% water, by mass
23.	Zirconium Picramate, wetted with not less than 20% water, by mass

¹⁰ N.O.S – Not otherwise specified

24.	2-Amino-4,6-Dinitrophenol, wetted with not less than 20% water, by mass
25.	Urea Nitrate, wetted with not less than 20% water, by mass
26.	Urea Nitrate, wetted with not less than 10% water, by mass
27.	4-Nitrophenyl-Hydrazine, with not less than 30% water, by mass
28.	Nitroguanidine, wetted or picrite, wetted with not less than 20% water, by mass
29.	Dipicryl Sulphide, wetted with not less than 10% water, by mass
30.	1-Hydroxybenzotriazole Monohydrate
31.	Nitrostarch, wetted with not less than 20% water, by mass
32.	Nitroglycerin Mixture, desensitized, liquid, flammable, N.O.S. With not more than 30% Nitroglycerin, by mass
33.	Pentaerythrite Tetranitrate mixture, desensitized, solid, N.O.S. With more than 10% but not more than 20% PETN, by mass
34.	Desensitized explosive, liquid, N.O.S.
35.	Desensitized explosive, solid, N.O.S.
36.	Water-based semi-finished Nitrocellulose, Nitrocellulose with water (non-plasticised)
37.	Nitrocellulose solution, flammable with not more than 12.6% nitrogen, by dry mass, and not more than 55% Nitrocellulose
38.	Nitrocellulose with alcohol (not less than 25% alcohol, by mass, and not more than 12.6% nitrogen, by dry mass)
39.	Nitrocellulose with water (not less than 25% water, by mass)
40.	Nitrocellulose, with not more than 12.6% nitrogen, by dry mass, mixture with plasticizer, with pigment
41.	Nitrocellulose with water (plasticised)

Annex B2 – List of 15 Explosive Precursors

S/No.	Explosive Precursors	Exclusions ¹¹
1.	Ammonium Nitrate	a. aqueous solutions containing less than 60% weight in weight of ammonium nitrate b. any material in solid form comprising a mixture of components, one of which is ammonium nitrate, where the nitrogen content derived from ammonium nitrate is less than 28% by weight of the said mixture.
2.	Ammonium Perchlorate	-
3.	Barium Nitrate	Preparations and solutions containing less than 10%, weight in weight, of barium nitrate
4.	Guanidine Nitrate	-
5.	Hydrogen Peroxide	Preparations and solutions containing not more than 20%, weight in weight, of hydrogen peroxide
6.	Potassium Chlorate	-
7.	Potassium Nitrate	Preparations and solutions containing less than 5%, weight in weight, of potassium nitrate or a combination of both potassium nitrate and sodium nitrate
8.	Potassium Nitrite	Aqueous solutions containing less than 5% weight in weight, of potassium nitrite
9.	Potassium Perchlorate	-
10.	Sodium Chlorate	-
11.	Sodium Nitrate	Preparations and solutions containing less than 5%, weight in weight, of sodium nitrate or a combination of both sodium nitrate and potassium nitrate
12.	Sodium Nitrite	Aqueous solutions containing less than 5%, weight in weight, of sodium nitrite
13.	Sodium Perchlorate	-
14.	Perchloric Acid	-
15.	Tetranitromethane	-

¹¹ Only these EPs under exclusions will not require a licence.

Annex C - List of Non-Regulated Items (This is not an exhaustive list)

Examples of Non-Regulated Items		
1.	Domestic / Culinary / Kitchen Knife	Not regulated by Police
2.	Bomb Bags	
3.	Manual Foldable Knife / Swiss Army Knife	
4.	Children's Toy Guns	
5.	Tile Checker	
6.	Butterfly trainer (no blade within)	
7.	Ornamental Model ¹² made from empty bullet cartridges ¹³ which is permanently assembled and do not cause public alarm. The model is non-functional, and its individual components cannot be removed or dismantled.	
8.	Magician Handcuffs (with release lever)	
9.	Tripods / slings	
10.	Gun Sights / Scopes	
11.	Toy plastic or wooden swords	

¹² Ornamental models are for display and resemble recognisable objects eg. a car, an airplane etc.

¹³ It is traveller's onus of responsibility to show proof that the models are made of empty or inert cartridges. Simply claiming that the cartridges are empty or inert is not enough. If authorities cannot be convinced that the items are safe, importation will be treated as controlled item under Explosives which will result in seizure and investigation. If in doubt, travellers should refrain from importing the item.

Annex D - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)¹⁴

General Questions

Q1: I bought a foldable knife online. What should I do?

Manual foldable knives are not regulated. There is no requirement to seek approval for the import or possession.

Q2: An item is legal in other countries. Can I bring it to Singapore?

No. Each country has its own laws. Items legal elsewhere may be prohibited or controlled in Singapore. Always check Singapore's regulations first.

Q3: I'm transiting through Singapore with Firearms and Ammunitions. Do these rules apply?

Yes, the exemption criteria for transiting with firearms and ammunitions are covered under the Guns, Explosives and Weapons Control (Aviation Industry — Exemption) Order 2025. You must declare to the airline that you are travelling with firearms (and/or ammunition) in advance. If the airline permits the traveller to travel with firearms, the airline will engage the ground handling services in Changi Airport to deploy armed Auxiliary Police Officers (fees applies) to carry out the transit of the firearms in Singapore.

You must not carry in person or place the firearms into the check-in and carry-on board baggage. The firearms and ammunition must be tagged as security items and handled separately by the airline.

Q4: Can I ship items to Singapore as gifts?

Yes, but the recipient is responsible for compliance. Prohibited items will be seized. Controlled items require the recipient to have prior PRD's approval.

Q5: What happens if Customs seizes my item?

Prohibited items are permanently seized and you may face prosecution.

Controlled items without approval are seized and you may face prosecution. Re-export may be possible in some cases, subject to approval.

For Online Shoppers

Q6: I already ordered a controlled item without approval. What should I do now?

Contact PRD immediately to explain and apply for approval. Provide order and tracking details. Don't accept delivery until you receive PRD guidance.

Q7: The seller says they'll handle import requirements. Can I rely on this?

No. You as the importer are responsible for compliance. Many overseas sellers don't know Singapore's regulations. Always verify with the requirements yourself.

Q8: I bought from a local Singapore website. Is it legal?

Not necessarily. Some local sellers may operate illegally or have business licences but cannot transfer items to unlicensed individuals. Verify before purchasing.

Q9: Can I buy controlled items if I have a valid reason?

Possibly. Apply to PRD and demonstrate legitimate need. Approval is case-by-case. Reasons like "self-defence" or "personal collection" or "historical or cultural preservation" are generally insufficient for individuals.

Q10: How can I determine the chemical composition of a substance or an item?

¹⁴ A more comprehensive list of FAQ is available on PRD's website:

<https://www.police.gov.sg/Business-E-Services/Apply-for-Gun-Licence/FAQ-for-GEWCA-Regulatory-Regime>

The chemical composition can be determined by referring to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) provided for the substance or item. The SDS contained verified information about the chemical ingredients and their properties. You should obtain from the seller or manufacturer.

For Travellers

Q11: I'm bringing sports equipment for a competition. Do I need approval?

Check **Annex B**. Some sports equipment may be controlled. If controlled, apply before travelling and bring supporting documents (competition invitation, club membership).

Q12: I forgot I had a prohibited item in my luggage. What should I do?

Declare it immediately to Customs/ICA upon arrival. Voluntary declaration may be viewed favourably. Attempting to bring it through without declaration results in more serious consequences.

Q13: Can I bring replica/toy guns for my children?

Replica firearms are controlled and require PRD approval. Replica or Toy guns resembling real firearms will not be approved for import and may be seized. Check with PRD if unsure.

Q14: I'm moving to Singapore permanently. How do I bring controlled personal items?

Apply for PRD approval well in advance (at least 3 weeks). Provide relocation documentation and explain legitimate purpose for each item. Some items may not be approved even for personal use.

About Licensing and Applications

Q15: How long does approval take?

Generally 2 – 3 weeks from application and submission of all necessary supporting documents. Complex cases and incomplete submissions take longer. Apply early and don't make purchases or travel arrangements until approved.

Q16: Where can I find application procedures?

Visit PRD's website on GEWCA: <https://www.police.gov.sg/Business-E-Services/Apply-for-Gun-Licence/Overview-of-Gun-Explosive-Weapon-Licences>

Q17: I was approved for a specific purpose. Can I use the item for other purposes?

No. Approvals are granted for specific purposes only. Using items outside approved scope breaches licence conditions and may result in revocation and prosecution.

Q18: My business has a licence. Can employees take items home?

Generally no, unless specifically approved by Licensing Officer. Business licences typically restrict items to business premises and authorised personnel. Check your licence conditions or contact PRD.

Q19: How do I know if I qualify for Class Licensing?

Review the relevant Class Licence Order at <https://sso.agc.gov.sg/Act/GEWCA2021?ViewType=SI>. If your situation matches all conditions precisely, you qualify. Any deviation requires a licence.

Q20: I operate under Class Licensing. Do I need to notify PRD?

You don't need to apply for a licence but must comply with all Class Licence Order conditions. Some Orders may require record-keeping or activity notifications. Check your specific Order.

About Enforcement

Q21: What are the penalties for importing prohibited items?

Penalties vary but may include imprisonment, fines, or both. Refer to relevant legislation under the Guns, Explosives and Weapons Control Act 2021.

Q22: I saw someone selling controlled items online without mentioning licensing. Should I report this?

Yes. Provide as many details as possible (what, where, when, who) to aid investigations when report the illegal activity in Singapore.

Emergency	:	Call 999
Non-urgent matters	:	Call Police Hotline 1800-255 0000
		Use the SGSecure App
		SMS 70999
		Submit online via the I-Witness e-Service

Q23: Can I surrender an item I no longer want?

Owners are responsible for the disposal of licensed or non-regulated items in their possession.

For non-regulated items:

There is no need to surrender non-regulated items to the Police for disposal. Owners may dispose of these items themselves, but must ensure safe disposal practices:

- Wrap sharp objects securely to prevent injury to waste handlers
- Package items to avoid causing public alarm (e.g. conceal weapon-like shapes)
- Dispose at designated rubbish collection centres or through licensed disposal companies
- For large or hazardous items (e.g. metal weapons), consider engaging metal recycling companies
- Ensure disposal methods comply with NEA guidelines

For controlled items (items for which licences have been issued):

Approval from PRD is required before disposal. Licensees must:

1. Notify PRD on the intent to dispose
2. Obtain approval and disposal instructions from the licensing officer
3. Dispose of the item according to the requirements and conditions specified by PRD
4. Provide proof of disposal if required

Do not dispose of licensed items without prior PRD's approval, as this may breach licence conditions.

Getting Help

Q24: I'm still unsure if my item is regulated. Who can I ask?

Contact Police Regulatory Department (PRD)

- Website For GEWCA information, FAQ and application procedures:
<https://www.police.gov.sg/Business-E-Services/Apply-for-Gun-Licence/Overview-of-Gun-Explosive-Weapon-Licences>
- Submit enquiry via FormSG at: <https://www.go.gov.sg/spf-prd>

Provide clear photos, detailed descriptions including dimensions, materials, and intended use.
