



Australian Government

A joint Australian, state and territory
government initiative

NATIONAL FIREARMS AMNESTY

KEY FACTS

The National Firearms Amnesty runs for three months, from 1 July to 30 September 2017.

The amnesty is aimed at reducing the number of unregistered firearms in the community.

During the amnesty people can hand in unregistered firearms or firearm-related items for registration or destruction without penalty and without fear of prosecution.

It is illegal to have an unregistered firearm in Australia. All firearms must be registered.

Unregistered firearms carry risks to the Australian community—they have been proven to end up in the hands of people with criminal intent. For example, the unregistered shotgun used by Man Haron Monis during the Lindt Café Siege.

Individuals who are caught with an unregistered firearm outside the amnesty risk a fine of up to \$280,000, 14 years in jail, and a criminal record.

Examples of unregistered firearms include (but are not limited to): grey market firearms (longarms that should have been registered or surrendered during the 1996-1997 buyback, but were not), firearms handed down to family members as part of deceased estates, firearms possessed by people who do not have the appropriate type of licence, and firearms found on rural properties (having been left by previous owners).

Arrangements for the registration and destruction of firearms and firearm-related items are being managed by the states and territories.

Approved drop-off points may include police stations, mobile stations or licensed firearms dealers, depending on local arrangements.

Once individuals decide which approved drop-off point they will use, they should make contact with someone at that location to confirm safe arrangements for transporting and handling their item/s.

Amnesty participants are not obliged to provide personal details if they surrender a firearm or related item for destruction—there is a no questions asked policy.

There is no cost involved in handing in items for destruction.

The amnesty website **firearmsamnesty.ag.gov.au**, includes a purpose-built postcode finder which allows people to find their nearest drop-off point.

Further information on the arrangements in each jurisdiction is available on the website **firearmsamnesty.ag.gov.au** or by calling **1800 909 826**.