

LICENCE CATEGORIES & GENUINE REASONS TABLE

The purpose of this document is to set guidelines for what activities may legally be undertaken for each genuine reason under the Firearms Act 1996. The activities are linked to the genuine reason for which the licence was issued.

LICENCE FOR CATEGORY A OR B FIREARMS (Schedule 2 of the <i>Firearms Act 1996</i>)					
Activities in which firearms can be used	Genuine Reasons (as per legislation)				
	Sport/Target shooting	Hunting	Primary Production	Security/ Prison Guard	Official, commercial or prescribed purpose or for a purpose authorised by an Act or Reg
The arrows indicate which way to follow this table	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Sport/target shooting on an approved range	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sport/target shooting on private land (<i>in accordance with the Reg 22</i>)	✓				
Hunting game on private land (<i>must have a game licence</i>) or (<i>must have permission</i>)	✓	✓			
Hunting game on Crown Land (<i>must have a game licence</i>)		✓			
Hunting pest animals on private land (<i>must have permission</i>)	*✓	✓			
Hunting pest animals on Crown Land (<i>in accordance with Sch 2, 1 (2)</i>)	*✓	✓	✓		
Primary Production purposes (<i>on any land where primary production is carried out</i>) - (<i>must have permission</i>)			✓		
Security/Prison Guard				✓	
Official, Commercial or prescribed purpose for which licence was issued					✓

* This authorisation does not apply to the holder of a licence who has obtained that licence for the purposes of sport or target shooting if that person is using a black powder ball firing cannon.

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Frequently asked Questions for Genuine Reasons on Category A or B licence

Q. Can all Category A/B licence holders shoot on an approved range?

A. Yes. The holder is authorised to carry or use a longarm, the carriage or use of which is authorised by licence, on an approved shooting range. If one of the reasons for the licence is sport/target shooting, the holders must be a member of an approved club to compete in competition.

Q. Does legislation allow me to participate in Hunting with the reason of **Sport/Target** endorsed on my plastic licence?

A. Yes. The holder is authorised to hunt on privately owned land if, before entering that land for the purposes of hunting, the holder has obtained permission of the owner or occupier of that land to hunt on the land.

Q. Does legislation allow me to participate in shooting elsewhere with **Primary Production** endorsed on my plastic licence?

A. The holder of this licence is authorised to carry or use a longarm, the carriage or use of which is authorised by the licence, on the land of another primary producer, with the permission of the owner of the land **or** at an approved Sport/Target shooting range **or** hunt pest animals on Crown land in accordance with any Act, regulations or other instrument regulating hunting on that land.

Q. Do I need a licence to participate in **Paintball** activity within Victoria?

A. No. A Paintball Marker Licence will only be required if applicant wishes to possess or own a paintball marker.

Note: A paintball marker (i.e. paintball gun) is no longer categorised as an airgun or Category A longarm and therefore separate licences are required depending on the category of firearm(s) you wish to use.

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LICENCE FOR CATEGORY C FIREARMS (Schedule 2 (2) of the <i>Firearms Act 1996</i>)					
Circumstances in which firearms can be used	Genuine Reasons (as per legislation)				
	Primary Production	Professional Hunting	Clay Target Shooting	Possession on behalf of a junior licence (clay target shooting)	Official, commercial or prescribed purpose or for a purpose authorised by an Act or Reg
The arrows indicate which way to follow this table	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Primary Production purposes for which the licence was issued on the land of the licence holder	√				
The suppression of pest animals on any primary production land and Crown Land (in accordance with Regs 6 & 2(1)(b)(i) of Sch 2)	√				
Professional Hunter		√			
Clay Target shooting at an approved range			√		
Clay target shooting on private property (in accordance with the Regs 22) - (must have permission)			√		
Possession on behalf of a junior licence holder for clay target shooting purposes				√	
Official, Commercial or prescribed purpose for which licence was issued					√

JUNIOR LICENCE CATEGORY A/B, C & HANDGUNS – s 18 of the *Firearms Act 1996*

Juniors do not require a genuine reason to apply for a licence therefore they can receive instruction as stipulated in the Act such as primary production or hunting. However any instruction must be under the immediate supervision of an appropriately licensed person. This means that a person holding a Cat A/B sport/target shooting licence can only instruct a junior in Cat A/B sport/target shooting. Limitations regarding all junior licences including Cat C & Handguns are clearly stated in s 18 and sch 2 of the Firearms Act and r 22 of the firearms regulations. Applicable exemptions where a licence is not received are covered under schedule 3 of the Firearms Act.

LICENCE FOR CATEGORY D FIREARMS – s 12 of the *Firearms Act 1996*

This category is limited to – Professional Hunting or an official, commercial or prescribed purpose or for a purpose authorised by an Act or Regulations.

LICENCE FOR CATEGORY E FIREARMS – s 13 of the *Firearms Act 1996*

This category is limited to – an official, commercial or prescribed purpose or for a purpose authorised by an Act or Regulations for which the licence was issued.

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LICENCE FOR GENERAL CATEGORY HANDGUN (s 15 of the <i>Firearms Act 1996</i>)					
Activities in which firearms can be used	Genuine Reasons (as per legislation)				
	Sport/target shooting	Private Security Business (Armed Guard activities or cash in transit activities)	Occupation of a Security/ Prison Guard	Possession on behalf of a junior licence (general category Handgun)	Official, commercial or prescribed purpose or for a purpose authorised by an Act or Reg
The arrows indicate which way to follow this table	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Sport Target shooting on an approved range	√			√	
Practice at an approved range			√		
Private Security Business		√			
Occupation of security guard or prison guard			√		
Possession on behalf of a junior licence				√	
Official, Commercial or prescribed purpose for which licence was issued					√