

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY  
WEAPONS ACT 1991**

I, Christopher John LATHBURY, Registrar of Weapons, pursuant to Section 13(1)(b) of the Weapons Act 1991, hereby determine GUIDELINES for the security of premises in or on which dangerous or restricted weapons are kept and for the safe custody of those weapons.



Christopher John LATHBURY  
Superintendent  
Registrar of Weapons

The following security specifications shall be the minimum security requirements necessary to authorise the possession and use of dangerous or restricted weapons and to assist as a deterrent to the theft or unlawful use of such weapons.

## GUIDELINES

### LONGARMS (RIFLES & SHOTGUNS):

The minimum security container for -

- i) Longarms (the retention of 1 - 9 only), and
- ii) All restricted weapons.

are as follows;

A metal lockable container ('Brownbuilt' or similar style manufacturer) with a separate lockable metal draw or container (external or internal) suitable for the storage of ammunition and where possible firing mechanism/s (bolts).

The weapons container should be affixed to floor and/or wall in like fashion to weapons containers belowmentioned however should be affixed to wall and/or floor with a minimum of two (2) suitable bolts.

Where ammunition and firing mechanisms are stored in a lockable metal container which is not suitable for the storage of weapons, the weapon shall be secured in such a fashion that it is incapable of being discharged, by an unauthorised person, by the employment of a commercially available and key operated trigger locking mechanism or device.

### LONGARMS (10 OR MORE):

Security Container - minimum specifications only for -

- i) Longarms (the retention of 10 or more),

are as follows;

The same minimum security standards as for Pistols (the retention of 1 to 9 only). As described in the next succeeding section:

**PISTOLS :**

Security Container - Minimum specification only for -

- i) Pistols (the retention of 1 to 9 only), and
- ii) Tranquilliser pistols, are as follows;

A security container must:-

Be constructed of structural grade mild steel conforming with AS1204 grade 250, not less than three (3) millimetres thick.

Be constructed with continuous welding of all edges.

Be fitted with a door constructed of the same minimum thickness grade steel, swung on either concealed pivots, or externally mounted sealed end hinges welded to the door and body of the container, and door being flush fitting with a clearance around the door of no more than one (1) millimetre.

If hinged, have a fixed locking bar or dogging bolts, welded to the inside face of the door near the hinge edge, which engages in a rebate in the container body when the door is closed.

To be fitted with a five lever key deadbolt, or locking mechanism providing at least equivalent security. Such lock to be securely affixed to the rear face of the door by retaining screws and a metal strap overlapping, or enclosing, the locking case with each end welded to the rear door face.

Be constructed with a full length steel rebate welded to the side of the container body. Locking edge to receive the deadbolt of the locking mechanism.

The container shall be mounted on a wall or on the floor in the following manner:

When mounted onto brick, it shall be attached by at least two (2) Loxin anchor type 52mm x 16mm (dia.) 10mm thread high tensile bolts. When mounted onto concrete or stone, it shall be attached by at least two (2) 70mm x 12mm (dia.) 10mm thread Dyna type bolts and expanding anchors, internally fitted through holes in the rear and/or bottom of the container, which must conform with the manufacture's specifications.

When mounted onto wall studs or floor joists, it shall be attached in the following manner:

Flush against such timber & plaster surfaces by two (2) zinc plated hexagonal head coach screws, not less than 8mm in diameter x 50mm in length, internally fitted through holes in the rear and/or bottom of the container, which must conform with the manufacture's specifications.

Provision will be made to provide recessing of the container, timber floor/plaster wall surfaces, so as not to have air space between those surfaces and the container, i.e. rear bottom edge of container to be recessed into skirting board. This will allow the container to be secured by the minimum required 2 bolts, as described above, 1 in a wall stud and 1 in a floor joist.

### PISTOLS (10 OR MORE):

Security container - Minimum Specifications only for -

- i) Pistols (the retention of 10 or more), and
- ii) Pistol Dealers

are as follows;

For the purpose of this specification an approved safe will include standing, under-the-floor and wall types, of commercially recognised standards of manufacture and security performance. This specification does not include fire resistant only cabinets and filing draws.

Free standing and wall safes shall be constructed of at least eight (8) millimetre thickness structural grade mild steel with continuous welding, fixed locking bar or dogging bolts on the hinge edge and fitted with a 5 lever lock or other locking mechanism providing at least equivalent security, or a keyless combination lock. The door should be fitted with a maximum clearance of one (1) millimetre on all sides.

Under-the-floor safes shall consist of a container of structural grade mild steel, not less than three (3) millimetres in thickness, a substantial closure equipped with a 5 lever key lock or other locking mechanism providing at least equivalent security, or a keyless combination lock. The container and neck of the safe shall be embedded in reinforced concrete of a minimum compressive strength of 1360 kilograms and be of a minimum 495mm x 622mm dimensions.

With the exception of under-the-floor safes, all other safes shall be affixed by at least two (2) 70mm x 12mm (dia.) hole 10mm thread Dyna type bolts and expanding anchors internally fitted through holes in the rear and/or bottom of the container, into concrete or stone, which must conform with the manufacture's specifications.

### DISPLAY OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS (LONGARMS & ANTIQUE PISTOLS)

Dangerous weapons may be displayed in a lockable cabinet, of solid construction. Any glass panelling, within that structure, must meet the minimum grade requirement of 7.5mm laminated. A suitable strength stainless steel cable of minimum 3mm diameter, securely affixed at one end, to the side or bottom of that cabinet, and the other end to be affixed with a suitable strength padlock. The steel cable shall be employed so as to secure the weapon/s, in that cabinet, through the trigger guard.

No dangerous weapon shall be displayed, in a cabinet as mentioned above, where the owner or lawful occupier of those premises, where the dangerous weapons are displayed, is absent from those premises for a period of more than seventytwo (72) hours. The security of those weapons shall be the same as for weapons prescribed in these guidelines.

### DEALERS & ARMOURERS:

The Minimum security for premises required for -

- i) Dangerous or Restricted Weapons Dealers,
- ii) Armourer - Pistol Club, and
- iii) Armourer - Firearms Range, are as follows;

All perimeter doors must be of solid construction, securely hinged in stout framework and fitted with mortice or deadlocks.

All perimeter windows and roof skylights to be fitted with security grilles.

All longarms to be securely locked overnight in padlocked racks permanently attached to side walls. A suitable strength stainless steel cable of minimum 3mm diameter, shall be securely affixed at one end to the side or bottom of the rack and the other end to be affixed with a suitable strength padlock. The steel cable shall be employed so as to secure the weapons, in that rack, through the trigger guard.

An intruder alarm must be installed and should incorporate the following;

- (a) A space movement detector similar to microwave, passive infra-red or ultrasonics, to be installed to detect movement irrespective of an intruder's method of entry.
- (b) The proposed alarm system is to be connected to the mains power with a battery standby in case of power failure.
- (c) In the case of any shop-front premises, monitoring of the system shall be achieved by a Telecom landline to a private Security Company.
- (d) The alarm system shall incorporate an external noise maker which should provide the required reaction of the local residents in the event of the alarm being activated.

### OFFENCE:

#### WEAPONS ACT 1991

Section 82.(1) A licensee who lawfully has a dangerous weapon, other than a spear gun, in his or her possession shall keep the weapon in a locked container or under such conditions as to prevent another person from having access to the weapon without the specific consent of the owner.

Penalty: \$2000 or imprisonment for 12 months, or both.