

**Note:** This information sheet does not constitute legal advice and is for general information purposes only. Applicants and licensees are required to understand and comply with the *Firearms Act 1996* ("the Act") and associated Regulations, which are available on the Tasmanian legislation website – [www.legislation.tas.gov.au](http://www.legislation.tas.gov.au). This document was prepared in June 2024 based on the relevant legislation at that time.

This Information Sheet provides information about how to apply for an heirloom firearms licence.

### What is an Heirloom firearm?

An Heirloom firearm is a firearm inherited by a person from the grandparent, parent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt of that person.

### What documents are required to apply for a Firearm Heirlooms Licence?

- Proof of identity
- Sufficient proof of inheritance of the heirloom firearm/s
- Proof the firearm has been, in the prescribed manner, rendered permanently incapable of being fired. This can only be undertaken by a firearms dealer on the basis that they are the only persons who can lawfully alter a firearm.

### What are the storage requirements for Heirloom firearms

A person must take all reasonable precautions to ensure that any heirloom firearm or matched pair or set of heirloom firearms in their possession are:

- kept safely,
- not stolen or lost, and
- do not come into the possession of a person who is not authorised to possess it.

### Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

#### HOW MANY HEIRLOOM FIREARMS CAN A PERSON POSSESS ON AN HEIRLOOM LICENCE?

1-2 (One firearm or a matched pair or set of firearms).

#### WHAT WOULD BE CONSIDERED 'REASONABLE PRECAUTIONS' FOR STORING HEIRLOOM FIREARMS?

- It is the responsibility of the firearm heirlooms licence holder to satisfy the Commissioner of Police that the arrangements for the storage of their firearm/s are appropriate for the safekeeping of their heirloom firearm.
- Compliance with the storage requirements outlined in regulation 9A of the Firearms Regulations 2016 (see Information Sheets 25, 25 and 27) may provide a useful guide.



## **WHAT MAY BE CONSIDERED 'SUFFICIENT PROOF OF INHERITANCE' OF AN HEIRLOOM FIREARM/S?**

Proof of relationship to the deceased, and one or more of the following:

- A certified copy of the will;
- A letter from the solicitor administering the will; or
- A statutory declaration from the executor or administrator of the estate.

## **DOES A PERSON NEED A PERMIT TO ACQUIRE FOR HEIRLOOM FIREARMS?**

No

## **CAN A PERSON SHOOT WITH THEIR HEIRLOOM FIREARMS?**

No. A heirloom licence only allows a person to possess the firearms and they must be rendered permanently incapable of firing.

## **DO HEIRLOOM FIREARMS HAVE TO BE REGISTERED?**

Yes

## **DOES A PERSON NEED TO COMPLETE AN APPROVED FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE IF THEY APPLY FOR AN HEIRLOOM LICENCE?**

Yes

## **HOW LONG DOES THE LICENCE LAST?**

Up to 5 years, as indicated on the licence card.

**Note:** If a person inherits a firearm or matched pair or set of firearms and does not want them made permanently inoperable, they may be able to possess the firearms under an ordinary licence of the correct category. This will involve the usual licence application and / or permit to acquire process (including having a genuine reason to use / possess the firearms).



**TASMANIA POLICE** FIREARMS SERVICES  
Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management  
**Phone** (03) 6173 2720  
**Email** [firearms.services@police.tas.gov.au](mailto:firearms.services@police.tas.gov.au)

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