

# Firearm Safety

## Safe Storage

All firearms must be **unloaded** and **locked!!!!**

Store the **ammunition** separately or lock it up. It can be stored in the same locked container as the firearm.

### ***Non-restricted firearms***

- Attach a secure locking device, such as a trigger lock or cable lock (or remove the bolt) so the firearms cannot be fired; **or** lock the firearms in a container or room that is hard to break into.

An **unloaded** non-restricted firearm can be kept **unlocked**:

- Temporarily if it is needed to control animal predators in an area where a firearm can lawfully be fired (ammunition must be kept separate or locked up); **or** in a remote wilderness area (ammunition may be kept readily accessible).

### ***Restricted and prohibited firearms***

- Attach a secure locking device so the firearms cannot be fired **and** lock them in a cabinet, container or room that is hard to break into; **or** lock the firearms in a vault, safe or room that was built or modified specifically to store firearms safely.
- For an automatic firearm, also remove the bolt or bolt carrier (if removable) and lock it in a separate room that is hard to break into.
- Obtain an Authorization to Transport (call 1 800 731-4000).

## Displaying Firearms

All firearms must be **unloaded** and **locked!!!!**

**Ammunition** cannot be displayed with, or accessible to, the firearms.

### ***Non-restricted firearms***

- Attach a secure locking device to the firearms; **or** lock the firearms in a container or room that is hard to break into.

### ***Restricted and prohibited firearms***

- Attach a secure locking device to the firearms; **and** securely attach them to something that cannot be moved.
- For an automatic firearm, also remove the bolt or bolt carrier (if removable) and lock it in a separate room that is hard to break into.

## Glossary of Terms

There are three classes of firearms: non-restricted, restricted and prohibited.

**Non-restricted** firearms are ordinary rifles and shotguns, other than those referred to below.

**Restricted** firearms include:

- handguns that are not prohibited;
- semi-automatic, centre-fire rifles and shotguns with a barrel shorter than 470 mm (about 18.5 inches);
- rifles and shotguns that can be fired when their overall length has been reduced by folding, telescoping or other means to less than 660 mm (about 26 inches); and
- Firearms restricted by ***Criminal Code Regulations***.

**Prohibited** firearms include:

- handguns with a barrel length of 105 mm (about 4.14 inches) or less and handguns that discharge .25 or .32 caliber ammunition, except for a few specific ones used in International Shooting Union competitions;
- rifles and shotguns that have been **altered** by sawing or other means so that their barrel length is less than 457 mm (about 18 inches) or their overall length is less than 660 mm (about 26 inches);
- full automatics;
- converted automatics, namely full automatics that have been altered so that they fire only one projectile when the trigger is squeezed; and
- Firearms prohibited by ***Criminal Code Regulations***.

As set out in the *Firearms Act*, "firearm" means:

- A barreled weapon from which any shot, bullet or other projectile can be discharged and that is capable of causing serious bodily injury or death to a person, and includes
- Any frame or receiver of such a barreled weapon, as well as anything that can be adapted for use as a firearm.

**This fact sheet is for general information only. For legal references, please refer to the [Storage, Display, Transportation and Handling of Firearms by Individuals Regulations](#)**

Further information can be found at [www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca](http://www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca)