



# Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984

## 1984 CHAPTER 60

### PART II

#### POWERS OF ENTRY, SEARCH AND SEIZURE

##### *Entry and search without search warrant*

#### **18 Entry and search after arrest.**

- (1) Subject to the following provisions of this section, a constable may enter and search any premises occupied or controlled by a person who is under arrest for an arrestable offence, if he has reasonable grounds for suspecting that there is on the premises evidence, other than items subject to legal privilege, that relates—
  - (a) to that offence; or
  - (b) to some other arrestable offence which is connected with or similar to that offence.
- (2) A constable may seize and retain anything for which he may search under subsection (1) above.
- (3) The power to search conferred by subsection (1) above is only a power to search to the extent that is reasonably required for the purpose of discovering such evidence.
- (4) Subject to subsection (5) below, the powers conferred by this section may not be exercised unless an officer of the rank of inspector or above has authorised them in writing.
- (5) A constable may conduct a search under subsection (1) above—
  - (a) before taking the person to a police station; and
  - (b) without obtaining an authorisation under subsection (4) above, if the presence of that person at a place other than a police station is necessary for the effective investigation of the offence.

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*Status: Point in time view as at 03/02/1995. This version of this provision has been superseded.*

*Changes to legislation: Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, Section 18 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 16 August 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

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- (6) If a constable conducts a search by virtue of subsection (5) above, he shall inform an officer of the rank of inspector or above that he has made the search as soon as practicable after he has made it.
- (7) An officer who—
- (a) authorises a search; or
  - (b) is informed of a search under subsection (6) above, shall make a record in writing—
    - (i) of the grounds for the search; and
    - (ii) of the nature of the evidence that was sought.
- (8) If the person who was in occupation or control of the premises at the time of the search is in police detention at the time the record is to be made, the officer shall make the record as part of his custody record.

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C1** Ss. 8, 9, 15, 16, 17(1)(b)(2) (4), 18–20, 21, 22(1)–(4), 28, 29, 30(1)–(4)(a)(5)–(11), 31, 32(1)–(9), 34(1)–(5), 35, 36, 37, 39, 40–44, 50, 51(d), 52, 54, 55, 64(1)–(4)(5)(6), Sch. 1 applied with modifications by [S.I. 1985/1800](#), [arts. 3–11](#), [Schs. 1, 2](#)

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