



Firearms Act 1920

1920 CHAPTER 43

2 Restrictions on manufacture and sale of firearms

(1) A person shall not manufacture, sell, repair, test or prove, or expose for sale, or have in his possession for sale, repair, test or proof, firearms or ammunition by way of trade or business unless he is registered as a firearms dealer in accordance with this Act.

(2) A pawnbroker shall not take in pawn a firearm or ammunition from any person :

Provided that, where any firearm or ammunition has been taken in pawn before the commencement of this Act, nothing in this Act shall prohibit the redemption thereof by a person entitled to redeem the same if he holds a firearm certificate, or is a registered dealer in firearms, and a sale of any such firearm or ammunition to a person holding such a certificate or to such a dealer may be effected by the pawnbroker, notwithstanding anything in the Pawnbrokers Act, 1872, requiring the sale to be by public auction.

(3) A person shall not sell to any person, other than a registered firearms dealer, any firearm or ammunition, unless the purchaser produces a firearm certificate authorising him to purchase the firearm or ammunition or proves that he is by virtue of this Act entitled to purchase the firearm or ammunition without having such a certificate :

Provided that this subsection shall not apply to the sale of firearms and ammunition to purchasers abroad.

(4) A person shall not undertake the repair, test or proof of a firearm or ammunition for any person in the United Kingdom other than a registered firearms dealer as such unless that person produces or causes to be produced a firearm certificate authorising him to have possession of the firearm or ammunition or a permit to bring the firearm ashore for repair.

(5) Every person who sells a firearm or ammunition to a person in the United Kingdom other than a registered firearms dealer shall comply with any instructions addressed to the seller contained in the firearm certificate produced, and, in the case of the sale of a firearm, shall, within forty-eight hours from the sale, send by registered post notice of the sale to the chief officer of police by whom the certificate was issued.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

- (6) Every person who manufactures or sells firearms or ammunition by way of trade or business shall provide and keep a register of transactions, and shall enter or cause to be entered therein the particulars set forth in the Second Schedule to this Act, and every such entry shall be made within twenty-four hours after the transaction to which it relates took place, and in the case of a sale every such person as aforesaid shall at the time of the transaction require the purchaser, if not known to him, to furnish particulars sufficient for identification, and shall immediately enter the said particulars in the register.

Every such person as aforesaid shall on demand allow any officer of police, duly authorised in writing in that behalf by the chief officer of police, to enter and inspect all stock in hand, and shall, on request—

- (a) by any officer of police duly authorised in writing in that behalf by the chief officer of police; or
- (b) by an officer of customs and excise; or
- (c) in England, by any officer of the county council duly authorised in writing in that behalf,

produce for inspection the register so required to be kept as aforesaid :

Provided that, in each case where a written authority is required by this subsection, such authority shall be produced on demand.

- (7) If any person acts in contravention of, or fails to comply with, any of the provisions of this section, or knowingly makes any false entry in the book required to be kept under this section, or, with a view to purchasing a firearm or ammunition, produces a false firearm certificate, or personates a person to whom a firearm certificate has been issued, he shall be liable on summary conviction in respect of each offence to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding three months, or to a fine not exceeding twenty pounds, or to both such imprisonment and fine.
- (8) This section shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any provisions of this or any other Act which prohibit or restrict the sale of firearms and ammunition.