

This Statutory Instrument has been published in substitution of the SI of the same number to correct the presentation of the forms in Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 and is being issued free of charge to all known recipients of that Statutory Instrument. Under paragraph 1(ii) on page 2 of the form in Schedule 1, "Firearms authorised to be purchased or acquired", the duplicate tables have been replaced with a single table. In the "Conditions" section of the form in Schedule 2, paragraph 3, line one: the text "without undue delay" has been amended to appear in bold type.

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2021 No. 464

ARMS AND AMMUNITION

The Firearms (Amendment) Rules 2021

Made - - - - *13th April 2021*

Coming into force - - *7th May 2021*

The Secretary of State makes the following Rules in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 27(2), 28(2) and 53 of the Firearms Act 1968(a).

Citation, commencement and extent

1.—(1) These Rules may be cited as the Firearms (Amendment) Rules 2021 and come into force on 7th May 2021.

(2) These Rules extend to England and Wales and Scotland.

Amendments to the Firearms Rules 1998

2.—(1) The Firearms Rules 1998(b) are amended as follows.

(2) In paragraph 4(ii) of rule 3 (firearm certificates), after "but" insert "in any event".

(3) In paragraph 4(ii) of rule 5 (shotgun certificates), after "but" insert "in any event".

(4) In Schedule 1 (form of application for firearm and shotgun certificates, and firearm certificate), for the certificate in Part II (firearm certificate) substitute the certificate in Schedule 1 to these Rules (firearm certificate).

(5) In Schedule 2 (shotgun certificate), for the certificate in Part II (shotgun certificate) substitute the certificate in Schedule 2 to these Rules (shotgun certificate).

13th April 2021

Kit Malthouse
Minister of State
Home Office

(a) 1968 c. 27. Section 27(2) was amended by section 23(5) of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1988 (c. 45).

(b) S.I. 1998/1941; relevant amending instruments are S.I. 2005/3344, 2013/1945, 2013/2970, 2014/1239, 2016/425, 2017/1281, 2018/1042 and 2019/1419.

SCHEDULE 1

Firearm certificate

Rule 2(4)

Firearms Acts 1968 to 1997

Firearms Form 202

FIREARM CERTIFICATE

This certificate is granted for the purpose of section 1(1) of the Firearms Act 1968 to the holder named below and relates to the firearm(s) and ammunition specified.

Name and address of holder:

Photograph of holder:

Stamp/Crest of issuing Police Force:

Post code:

Date of birth:

Certificate number:

Valid from:

Valid to:

Usual signature of holder:

Signature of Chief Officer of Police:

Date:

Conditions

This certificate is issued subject to the following conditions. It is an offence to fail to comply with any of the conditions below. Maximum penalty for non-compliance: six months imprisonment and/or a fine.

1. The holder must, on receipt of the certificate, sign it in ink with his/her usual signature.
2. The holder of this certificate must inform the Chief Officer of Police by whom the certificate was granted **as soon as reasonably practicable, but in any event within 7 days** of the theft, loss or destruction in Great Britain of the certificate and/or the theft, loss, deactivation or destruction of any firearms and/or the theft or loss of ammunition to which this certificate relates.
3. The holder of this certificate must, **without undue delay**, inform the Chief Officer of Police by whom the certificate was granted of any change of permanent address.
4. (a) The firearms and ammunition to which the certificate relates must at all times (except in the circumstances set out in paragraph (b) below) be stored securely so as to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, access to the firearms or ammunition by an unauthorised person.
(b) Where a firearm and/or ammunition to which the certificate relates is in use or the holder of the certificate has the firearm with him/her for the purposes of cleaning, repairing or testing it or for some other purpose connected with its use, transfer or sale, or the firearm or ammunition is in transit to or from a place in connection with its use or any such purpose, reasonable precautions must be taken for the safe custody of the firearm and/or ammunition.

Additional conditions may be added here by the Chief Officer of Police

***** end of conditions *****

Certificate number

1. Firearms possessed or authorised to be purchased or acquired

(i) Firearms possessed

CALIBRE METRIC OR IMPERIAL	MAKER'S NAME	TYPE	ACTION	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER AND THE UNIQUE IDENTIFYING MARK AS APPLIED TO THE FIREARM'S FRAME OR RECEIVER AND, WHERE DIFFERENT, THE UNIQUE IDENTIFYING MARK AS APPLIED TO EACH RELEVANT COMPONENT PART.

(ii) Firearms authorised to be purchased or acquired

CALIBRE METRIC OR IMPERIAL	TYPE	ACTION	QUANTITY

2. Ammunition including expanding ammunition and expanding missiles

Maximum quantity authorised to be possessed at any one time

CALIBRE METRIC OR IMPERIAL	QUANTITY	CALIBRE METRIC OR IMPERIAL	QUANTITY

Certificate number

Guidance for the holder of this certificate: Please ensure that anyone who sells, lets on hire, gives or lends you a firearm and/or ammunition reads these notes.

Guidance to anybody who sells, lets on hire, gives or lends firearms and/or ammunition to the holder of this certificate:

1. You must complete each column of Table 1 Firearms or Table 2 Ammunition.
2. If you are a registered firearms dealer or a person who is entitled to possess a firearm without a certificate, you must inform the Chief Officer of Police who issued this certificate **within 7 days** about the transaction. Please could you do this by permitted electronic means. You should provide a description of the firearm (including its identification number, if any). You must also state whether the firearm was sold, let on hire, given or lent, and give the name and address of the holder of this certificate.
3. When you inform the Chief Officer of Police about the transaction in 2 above, you should also provide the unique identifying mark as applied to the firearm's frame or receiver and, where different, the unique identifying mark as applied to each relevant component part.
4. Any circumstances attending the transaction which appear to require investigation must be reported within **48 hours** to the Chief Officer of Police who granted this certificate.
5. If you are selling a firearm and/or ammunition which will be sent or posted to another dealer for the buyer to collect in person, you should complete the table(s) and notify the police of the transaction concerning the firearm (as in 2 above). The dealer who actually hands over the firearm and/or ammunition should not complete the table(s) or notify the police (except in circumstances which may require police investigation as above).

Table 1 Firearms					Certification
A	B	C	D	E	F
Date of sale or transfer	Name and address of person selling or transferring firearm	State whether sold, let on hire, given or lent	Quantity, calibre, maker's name and type of firearm, identification number, and the unique identifying mark as applied to its frame or receiver and, where different, the unique identifying mark as applied to each relevant component part.	Authority to possess (e.g. firearm certificate or dealer's registration number)	I certify that the entries I have made in columns A to E are correct Usual signature and date

Certificate number

Table 2 Ammunition					Certification
A	B	C	D	E	F
Date of sale or transfer	Name and address of person selling or transferring ammunition	Quantity of ammunition	Calibre and description of ammunition	Authority to possess (e.g. firearm certificate or dealer's registration number)	I certify that the entries I have made in columns A to E are correct Usual signature and date

Notes

- A** Under section 32 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 where a person sells, lets on hire, lends or gives firearms and/or ammunition to which section 1 applies to another person who is not a registered firearms dealer or a person who is entitled to purchase or acquire the firearms and/or ammunition without holding a certificate -
- (i) the person receiving the firearms and/or ammunition must produce the certificate or permit entitling him/her to purchase or acquire the firearms and/or ammunition being transferred;
 - (ii) the person selling, letting on hire, lending or giving the firearms and/or ammunition must comply with any instructions in the certificate or permit produced; and
 - (iii) the final handing-over of firearms and/or ammunition must take place in person.
- B** Under section 33 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997, where a person transfers a firearm to any other person, including lending it, selling it, hiring it out or making a gift of it, he/she shall within seven days of the transfer give to the Chief Officer of Police who granted his/her certificate or permit a notice
- (i) containing a description of the firearm in question (giving its identification number if any); and,
 - (ii) stating the nature of the transaction and the name and address of the other party.
- C** Under Section 34 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997, where you
- (i) deactivate a firearm or have it deactivated by someone else; or
 - (ii) destroy a firearm, lose a firearm or section 1 ammunition; or
 - (iii) have firearms or ammunition stolen,
- you must notify the Chief Officer of Police who issued the certificate. This requirement applies even if the sale, loss, etc. has happened outside Great Britain.

It is an offence for a person to fail to comply with the requirements at A - C.

- D** The entries for boxes A - E in Tables 1 and 2 relate to transactions with the holder of this certificate. The seller must be satisfied that the transaction will not place the holder of this certificate in possession of firearms and ammunition in excess of the amount authorised by this certificate.
- E** Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs will notify the Chief Officer of Police who issued this certificate of any firearm which is imported into Great Britain on the authority of this certificate.

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National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS)
Personal data supplied may be held or verified by computer

SCHEDULE 2
Shotgun certificate

Rule 2(5)

Firearms Act 1968 to 1997 Firearms Form 204

SHOTGUN CERTIFICATE		This certificate is granted for the purpose of section 2 of the Firearms Act 1968 to the holder named below and relates to the shotgun(s) specified.	
Name and address of holder: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div>		Photograph of holder: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 130px; width: 100%;"></div>	Stamp/Crest of Issuing Police Force: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 130px; width: 100%;"></div>
Post code: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%;"></div>	Date of birth: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%;"></div>		
Certificate number: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%;"></div>	Valid from: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%;"></div>	Valid to: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%;"></div>	
Usual signature of holder: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 100%;"></div>		Signature of Chief Officer of Police: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 100%;"></div>	
		Date: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%;"></div>	

Conditions

The holder of this certificate is authorised for the purpose of section 2(1) of the Firearms Act 1968 to possess shotguns, subject to the following conditions -

1. The holder must, on receipt of the certificate, sign it in ink with his/her usual signature.
2. The holder of this certificate must inform the Chief Officer of Police by whom the certificate was granted **as soon as reasonably practicable, but in any event within 7 days** of the theft, loss or destruction in Great Britain of the certificate and/or the theft, loss, deactivation or destruction of any shotguns to which this certificate relates.
3. The holder of this certificate must, **without undue delay**, inform the Chief Officer of Police by whom the certificate was granted of any change of permanent address.
4. (a) The shotguns to which the certificate relates must at all times (except in the circumstances set out in paragraph (b) below) be stored securely so as to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, access to the shotguns by an unauthorised person.

(b) Where a shotgun to which the certificate relates is in use or the holder of the certificate has the shotgun with him/her for the purposes of cleaning, repairing or testing it or for some other purpose connected with its use, transfer or sale, or the shotgun is in transit to or from a place in connection with its use or any such purpose, reasonable precautions must be taken for the safe custody of the shotgun.

Additional statutory conditions may be added here by the Chief Officer of Police.

Certificate number

Table 1 Shotguns possessed

CALIBRE, BORE OR GAUGE	MAKER'S NAME	TYPE (E.G. OVER-AND-UNDER, SIDE-BY-SIDE ETC) INCLUDING IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (IF KNOWN), AND THE UNIQUE IDENTIFYING MARK AS APPLIED TO ITS FRAME OR RECEIVER AND, WHERE DIFFERENT, THE UNIQUE IDENTIFYING MARK AS APPLIED TO EACH RELEVANT COMPONENT PART.

Guidance for the holder of this certificate: Please ensure that anyone who sells, lets on hire, gives or lends you a shotgun reads these notes.

Guidance to anybody who sells, lets on hire, gives or lends shotguns, to the holder of this certificate:

1. You must complete each column of Table 2 Shotguns transferred.
2. If you are a registered firearms dealer or a person who is entitled to possess a shotgun without a certificate, you must inform the Chief Officer of Police who issued this certificate **within 7 days** about the transaction. Please could you do this by permitted electronic means. You should provide a description of the shotgun (including its identification number, if any) and also state whether the shotgun was sold, let on hire, given or lent and give the name and address of the holder of this certificate.
3. When you inform the Chief Officer of Police about the transaction in 2 above, you should also provide the unique identifying mark as applied to the shotgun's frame or receiver and, where different, the unique identifying mark as applied to each relevant component part.
4. Any circumstances attending the transaction which require investigation must be reported within **48 hours** to the Chief Officer of Police who granted this certificate. If you are selling shotgun(s) which will be sent or posted to another dealer for the buyer to collect in person you should complete this table and notify the police. The dealer who actually hands over the shotgun(s) should not complete the table or notify the police (except in circumstances which may require investigation as above).

Certificate number

Table 2 Shotguns transferred					Certification
A	B	C	D	E	F
Date of sale or transfer	State whether sold, let on hire, given or lent	Type, bore, maker's name and description (including identification number (where known), and the unique identifying mark as applied to its frame or receiver and, where different, the unique identifying mark as applied to each relevant component part	Name and address of person selling or transferring shotgun	Authority to possess (e.g. shotgun certificate or dealer's registration number)	I certify that the entries I have made in columns A to E are correct Usual signature and date

Certificate number

Notes

A Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs will notify the Chief Officer of Police who issued this certificate of any shotgun which is imported into Great Britain on the authority of this certificate.

B If you

- (i) transfer a shotgun to any person including selling it, hiring it out, lending it for more than 72 hours, or making a gift of it; or
- (ii) purchase or acquire a shotgun; or
- (iii) deactivate a shotgun or have it deactivated by someone else; or
- (iv) destroy a shotgun, lose one, or have it stolen;

the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 requires you to notify the Chief Officer of Police who issued your certificate.

This requirement applies even if the sale, loss, etc. has happened outside Great Britain. It is an offence not to notify. Details of the notifications required are available from your local police.

C Under section 32 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 where a person sells, lets on hire, lends for more than 72 hours or gives a shotgun to another person who is not a registered firearms dealer or a person who is entitled to purchase or acquire the shotgun without holding a certificate –

- (i) the person receiving the shotgun must produce the certificate or permit entitling him/her to purchase or acquire the shotgun being transferred;
- (ii) the person selling, letting on hire, lending or giving the shotgun must comply with any instructions in the certificate or permit produced; and
- (iii) the final handing-over of the shotgun must take place in person.

D Under section 33 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997, where a person transfers a shotgun to any other person, including selling it, hiring it out or making a gift of it, or lending it for more than 72 hours, he/she shall within seven days of the transfer give to the Chief Officer of Police who granted his/her certificate or permit a notice

- (i) containing a description of the shotgun in question (giving its identification number if any); and
- (ii) stating the nature of the transaction and the name and address of the other party.

It is an offence for a person to fail to comply with these requirements.

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Rules)

These Rules make amendments to the Firearms Rules 1998 (S.I. 1998/1941).

Rule 2(2) and (3) amends the Firearms Rules 1998 in order to clarify the condition imposed on the grant or renewal of a firearm or shotgun certificate, requiring the holder of the certificate to inform the chief officer of police by whom the certificate was granted as soon as reasonably practicable but in any event within seven days, of the theft, loss, or destruction in Great Britain of the certificate, and of the theft, loss, deactivation or destruction in Great Britain of any firearm, shotgun or ammunition to which the certificate relates. The addition of the words “in any event” provide clarity that the notification must be made as soon as reasonably practicable, with seven days being the maximum period for notification.

Rule 2(4) and (5) replaces the existing firearm and shotgun certificates. The purpose of making these changes is to ensure that additional information is recorded on the certificate about the weapons listed therein. This includes the unique identifying mark as applied to the weapon’s frame or receiver and, where different, the unique identifying mark as applied to each relevant component part. The changes also reflect the amendment made to the condition in rule 2(2) and (3) and update the guidance and note sections of certificates.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary or public sectors is foreseen.

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