

# An Garda Síochána



## Crime Prevention Information Sheet

# Firearms Safety/Security. (Promoting Safe Use, Carriage and Storage).

This information sheet is intended for holders of a firearms licence as well as those applying for or renewing a firearms certificate.

1. There are considerable obligations on firearms license holders to ensure that firearms are stored safely and securely, both in the home and whilst travelling to a shoot or to a hunt.
2. That possession and carriage of any firearm including a short firearm /ammunition concealed on the person in public is not permitted at any time, save in circumstances where such possession and carriage on the person is necessary for a lawful purpose.
3. In the case of self loading (semi automatic) pistols and revolvers consideration may be given to a requirement to dismantle each gun when not at the range with some necessary parts held at the range.
4. During transport, firearms must always be stored in a case/sleeve, out of sight in a locked vehicle boot. They should not be immediately accessible to the driver or any passenger.
5. No gun should be loaded with ammunition while travelling to or from a shoot.
6. Where possible, rifle bolts and shotgun fore ends, pistol top slides and magazines should be removed and kept separately.
7. A firearm should never be left inside the seating area of a vehicle: whether occupied or unattended.
8. If it is necessary to stop and leave the vehicle, reasonable steps should be taken to ensure the safety of the firearm in question. It is a good idea to also place in the boot anything which might indicate that a firearm may be in the vehicle e.g. hunting clothing, stalking stick, hunting knife, binoculars, decoys, hunting hat etc.

### Security:

The following which is taken from Statutory Instrument 307/2009 is the schedule for Secure Storage of firearms:

1. A shotgun shall be disassembled and each part shall be stored securely and separately when not in use. The trigger housing shall be secured against use with an appropriate trigger lock.
2. One restricted firearm, or three or fewer non-restricted firearms: The firearm(s) should be stored in a gun safe which complies with BS 7558 and which shall be securely fixed to a solid structure.
3. Two restricted firearms, or more than three non-restricted firearms: Each firearm shall be stored in a gun safe which meets BS 7558 and which shall be securely fixed to a solid structure. The place in which the firearms are stored shall have an alarm fitted and the external doors to the place shall be fitted with locks which comply with BS 3621.
4. Three or more restricted firearms or six or more firearms, of any type, kept in the same place: In addition to the standards specified at reference number 3, the place in which the firearms are stored shall have an intruder alarm system, installed and maintained by installers licensed by the Private Security Authority, which complies with I.S. EN 50131 or an equivalent standard approved by the Commissioner of the Garda Síochána. The alarm shall be connected to a monitoring service, operated by a person licensed by the Private Security Authority, and supported with GSM Mobile telephone service back up signalling facilities.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS OR OTHER CRIME PREVENTION ISSUES,  
PLEASE CONTACT  
your local GARDA CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER  
or  
visit the Garda website at [www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie)**

### **Useful Contacts and Links**

**The Garda National Crime Prevention Unit,  
Garda H.Q., Harcourt Square, Dublin 2.**

**Tel: (01) 6663363**

**Fax: (01) 6663314**

**Email: [crime\\_prevention@garda.ie](mailto:crime_prevention@garda.ie)**

**An Garda Síochána**

**[www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie)**

**The National Standards Authority of  
Ireland**

**[www.nsai.ie](http://www.nsai.ie)**