



APPLICATION FOR THE AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE FIREARMS ACT 1968 (AS AMENDED) TO POSSESS, PURCHASE, ACQUIRE, MANUFACTURE, SELL OR TRANSFER PROHIBITED WEAPONS AND/OR AMMUNITION

Please send your completed application form and supporting evidence **by post** to: Home Office, Firearms Section, Public Order Unit, 5th Floor, SE Quarter, Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF. **NB. Only original copies of supporting evidence can be accepted.**

(Before completing, please read the notes below)

Home Office Reference No (if you have one) (i.e. FMS 03 01/02/03):	
Name of company:	
Address:	
Individual to be named on the Authority, including DOB and home address:	
Numbers and types of weapons/ammunition required:	
section 5(1)(a):	[]
section 5(1)(ab):	[]
section 5(1)(aba):	[]
section 5(1)(ac):	[]
section 5(1)(ad):	[]
section 5(1)(ae):	[]
section 5(1)(af):	[]
section 5(1)(b):	[]
section 5(1)(c):	[]
section 5(1A)(a):	[]
section 5(1A)(b):	[]
section 5(1A)(c):	[]
section 5(1A)(d):	[]
section 5(1A)(e):	[]
section 5(1A)(f):	[]
section 5(1A)(g):	[]
Reason authority required:	
Please tick one of the following boxes (if it is applicable to you).	
Registered Firearms Dealer	[]
Carrier	[]
Defence Manufacturer	[]
Airline	[]
Freight Forwarder	[]
Other (please specify)	

Notes:

Because of the specially dangerous nature of prohibited weapons and prohibited ammunition, applications are subject to the most rigorous scrutiny. The application may only be granted if you meet the following criteria:

1. there is demonstrable evidence of a regular and substantial amount of trade or prospective business in prohibited weapons/ammunition, or you are able to demonstrate some other genuine need; and
2. you will comply with stringent security standards commensurate with the threat posed by the weapons/ammunition to be held; and
3. you are a fit and proper person of good character suitable to be entrusted with prohibited weapons/ammunition.

For this reason, you must provide a full explanation of why you need the Secretary of State's authority. You should also be prepared to furnish documentary evidence of that need. This is likely to be in the form of invoices, bills of sale, contracts or, if you are a new applicant, unsolicited letters of inquiry from potential customers. If you are unable to provide such evidence, your application may fall for refusal.

If the prohibited weapons or ammunition are waste, particularly if they are hazardous waste, you should be prepared to furnish documentary evidence to the Environment Agency that:

- Duty of Care and Hazardous Waste requirements will be met; and
- Waste will be stored in a manner that prevents risk to human health and pollution of the environment.

Further advice on these requirements is available from the Environment Agency.

You should be aware that, if your evidence of need is satisfactory, the police will be asked to carry out enquiries to establish that you are a fit and proper person and that the physical security of the place(s) where any weapons and/or ammunition are to be stored is adequate to the task.

Section 5 of the Firearms Act 1968 (as amended) covers many types of weapon and ammunition: The different types are listed below for ease of reference.

Section 5(1)(a) covers all weapons which are so designed or adapted that two or more missiles can be successively discharged without repeated pressure on the trigger.

Section 5(1)(ab) covers any self-loading or pump-action rifled gun other than one which is chambered for .22 rimfire cartridges.

Section 5(1)(aba) covers any firearm which either has a barrel less than 30 cm in length or is less than 60 cm in length overall, other than an air weapon, a muzzle-loading gun or a firearm designed as a signalling apparatus.

Section 5(1)(ac) covers any self-loading or pump-action smooth-bore gun which is not an air weapon or chambered for .22 rimfire cartridges and either has a barrel less than 24 inches in length or is less than 40 inches in length overall.

Section 5(1)(ad) covers any smooth-bore revolver gun other than one which is chambered for 9 mm rimfire cartridges or a muzzle-loading gun.

Section 5(1)(ae) covers any rocket launcher, or any mortar, for projecting a stabilised missile, other than a launcher or mortar designed for line-throwing or pyrotechnic purposes or as a signalling apparatus.

Section 5(1)(af) covers any air rifle, air gun or air pistol which uses, or is designed or adapted for use with a self-contained gas cartridge system.

Section 5(1)(b) covers any weapon of whatever description designed or adapted for the discharge of any noxious liquid, gas or other thing.

Section 5(1)(c) covers any cartridge with a bullet designed to explode on or immediately before impact, any ammunition containing or designed or adapted to contain any such noxious thing as is mentioned in section 5(1)(b) and, if capable of being used with a firearm of any description, any grenade, bomb (or other missile), or rocket or shell designed to explode as aforesaid.

Section 5(1A)(a) covers any firearm which is disguised as another object.

Section 5(1A)(b) covers any rocket or ammunition not falling within section 5(1)(c) which consists in or incorporates a missile designed to explode on or immediately before impact and is for military use.

Section 5(1A)(c) covers any launcher or other projecting apparatus not falling within section 5(1)(ae) which is designed to be used with any rocket or ammunition falling within section 5(1A)(b), or with ammunition which would fall within that paragraph but for its being ammunition falling within section 5(1)(c).

Section 5(1A)(d) covers any ammunition for military use which consists in or incorporates a missile designed so that a substance contained in the missile will ignite on or immediately before impact.

Section 5(1A)(e) covers any ammunition for military use which consists in or incorporates a missile designed, on account of its having a jacket and hard-core, to penetrate armour plating, armour screening or body armour.

Section 5(1A)(f) covers any ammunition which incorporates a missile designed or adapted to expand on impact.

Section 5(1A)(g) covers anything which is designed to be projected as a missile from any weapon and is designed to be, or has been, incorporated in-

- (i) any ammunition falling within any of the parts of section 5(1A); or
- (ii) any ammunition which would fall within section 5(1A) but for its being specified in any part of section 5(1).