

Firearms Licence Checker



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The online Firearms Licence Checker [on the Police website](#) makes it easier to ensure that arms and ammunition are being sold legally, and prevents the misuse of licence cards, including any that are fake. The tool also assists firearms dealers and private sellers to meet their obligation by confirming on the spot that the firearms licence presented at the point of sale is valid and safe to proceed. This supports our vision for a safer New Zealand for all communities.

A physical firearms licence card doesn't show you if it has expired, been revoked or granted an expiry extension. The Checker instantly confirms whether a licence card is current. If the licence is not current, the tool will not give the reason why and the licence holder should be directed to contact Police.

Firearms Licence Checker only confirms information that is readily available on the licence card. No other personal information is required or revealed.

Note: If using the Firearms Licence Checker to validate an ID (e.g. Banks, airlines and other businesses) then only complete the first page of the checker (step 2, Seller Details) by inputting the required fields shown on the firearms licence presented.

How to use the online Firearms Licence Checker

1. Open the [link](#) on your computer (PC or laptop)

Tick the **I'm not a robot** verification and click the **Begin** button.

2. Enter the seller's details:

Name, Licence Number and a **Version Number** if available. **Note:** If the card does not have a version number, leave this field blank.


Click the **Check Seller Details** button. If the seller is a valid licence holder, a green highlighted alert box will appear and allow you to proceed.

3. Enter the buyer's details:

Name, Licence Number and a **Version Number** if available.

Click the **Check Buyer Details** button. If a **Licence validation successful** pop up window appears, it is safe to proceed with the sale.

If a **Could not validate buyer licence** alert box appears, check that the details have been entered correctly. If your spelling is correct and you are still receiving the caution error, then the licence holder may not have a valid licence, and you should not proceed with the sale.

 Could not validate buyer licence. Please verify that what you have entered below is correct and try again.

Need help?

For general enquiries or to report a fault with the Checker, call the Registry & Services Team on **0800 844 431** between 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, or email firearmsValidationService@police.govt.nz

Frequently Asked Questions

Why should I use the online Firearms Licence Checker?

The tool uses the most up to date information to confirm whether the licence being presented is current. It will also stop unlawful use of cards that may have been stolen, fake cards or from people who have had their licence suspended or revoked.

When should I use the Firearms Licence Checker?

At the point of sale for any item that you currently check a Firearms Licence. By entering the licence information into the tool you will confirm that the licence being presented to make a purchase is currently valid.

🔔 Please also look at the photo on the licence card to ensure that the person purchasing is who they say they are.

Will I need a login/password to use the Firearms Licence Checker?

No. There is no registration, login or password needed to use the Online Firearms Licence Checker. You also do not need to pay to use it.

💡 Save the Online Firearms Licence Checker link to your web browser favourites for quick and easy access.

Can I use the Firearms Licence Checker on my mobile device?

The best way to use the checker is on your computer (PC or laptop.) The checker won't work yet on some phones – we are working to fix that.

Does the buyer need to provide personal information that is not on their licence card?

No. The Online Firearms Checker only requires information printed on the licence card to confirm whether a licence is valid.

Can I use the Firearms Licence Checker to confirm the buyer's endorsements?

No. The tool does not check whether the licence holder has endorsements on the licence. However this is planned for a future release. This means permits to possess are still required by endorsement holders and current practices for obtaining permits to possess remain unchanged.

Does this replace mail order checking?

No. The online checker does not change any existing processes for online/mail ordering of firearms or ammunition.

Will I still need to record firearms and ammunition transactions?

Yes. You still have to keep your required records for any sale or purchase of arms items or ammunition.

It is giving me a 'could not validate' caution message. What should I do?

In the first instance, verify the information you have entered. If the licence has a version number, please enter it in the field required. If there is no version number, then leave this field blank. If you're still getting a 'could not validate' message, do not proceed with the sale. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with our Registry & ServicesTeam on 0800 844 431 or email firearmsValidationService@police.govt.nz.

As a dealer employee, my employee card has a version number but my firearms licence does not. Which card number do I use in the tool?

You must enter your employee licence number with version number.

Does the Firearms Licence Checker recognise extensions to licence expiry dates?

Yes. The new expiry date is recognised by the Firearms Licence Checker. Note: licence holders that have had this extension are not being issued a new licence card.