



**THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

LAWS OF KENYA

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**FIREARMS ACT**

CHAPTER 114

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**CHAPTER 114**

**FIREARMS ACT**

**ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

**PART I – PRELIMINARY**

*Section*

1. Short title.
2. Interpretation.
3. Establishment of the Firearms Licencing Board.

**PART II – REGULATIONS OF PURCHASE, POSSESSION,  
MANUFACTURER AND SALE OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION**

4. Penalty for purchasing, etc., firearms or ammunition without firearm certificate.
- 4A. Offences related to specified firearms.
5. Grant, etc., of firearm certificate.
6. Fees in respect of firearm certificates.
7. Exemptions from holding a firearm certificate.
8. Power to refuse firearm certificate or permit unless firearm or ammunition produced.
9. Prohibition of manufacture of firearms and ammunition.
10. Production of firearm certificate or permit.
11. Production of and accounting for firearms and ammunition.
- 11A. Concealment of serial number.
12. Penalty for dealing in firearms without being registered.
13. Registration of firearms dealers.
14. Certificate of registration.
15. Registrations of place of business of firearms dealers.
16. Restrictions on sale, repair, etc., of firearms and ammunition.
17. Register of transactions in firearms and ammunition.
18. Storage and safe custody of firearms and ammunition.
19. Powers of court in case of offences by registered firearms dealers.
20. Penalty for taking in pawn firearms or ammunition.
21. Provisions as to converting imitation firearms into firearms.
22. Loss of firearms or ammunition to be reported.
23. Appeals under this Part.
24. Application of this Part.
25. Saving for game laws.

**PART III – MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS  
AS TO FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION**

26. Special provisions relating to certain types of weapons and ammunition.
- 26A. Unlawful use, etc., of firearms by public officers.
27. Importation and exportation of firearms and ammunition.
28. Places of importation of firearms or ammunition and removal therefrom.
29. Removal and transportation of firearms and ammunition within Kenya.
30. Firearms and ammunition in transit through Kenya.
31. Restrictions on carriage by vessels.

*Firearms*

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*Section*

32. Restrictions on possession of firearms and ammunition by young persons.
33. Carrying firearm while drunk or disorderly.
34. Penalty for use and possession of firearms or imitation firearms in certain cases.
35. Appeals under this Part.

## PART IV – GENERAL

36. Convicted persons not to possess firearms or ammunition; forfeiture of firearms and ammunition; and cancellation of firearms certificates.
  37. Search warrants and disposal of firearms and ammunition seized.
  38. Disposal of firearms, etc.
  39. Appeals in connection with disposal of firearms, etc.
  40. Power to inspect premises.
  41. Penalty for obstructing a police officer.
  42. Arrest without warrant.
  43. Jurisdiction.
  44. Service of documents, notices, etc.
  45. Power to make rules.
  46. Savings.
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**CHAPTER 114**  
**FIREARMS ACT**

[Date of assent: 11th November, 1953.]

[Date of commencement: 1st January, 1954.]

**An Act of Parliament for regulating, licensing and controlling the manufacture, importation, exportation, transportation, sale, repair, storage, possession and use of firearms, ammunition, airguns and destructive devices and for connected purposes**

[Act No. 40 of 1953, G.N. 1566/1955, G.N. 1602/1955, Act No. 4 of 1960, L.N. 172/1960, L.N. 173/1960, Act No. 15 of 1961, Act No. 36 of 1962, Act No. 7 of 1963, L.N. 400/1963, Act No. 19 of 1964, L.N. 2/1964, L.N. 124/1964, L.N. 374/1964, Act No. 21 of 1966, L.N. 179/1971, Act No. 13 of 1972, Act No. 10 of 1981, Act No. 8 of 1988, Act No. 16 of 1989, Act No. 11 of 1993, Act No. 2 of 2002, Act No. 6 of 2010, Act No. 19 of 2014, Act No. 25 of 2015, Act No. 20 of 2020.]

**PART I – PRELIMINARY**

**1. Short title**

This Act may be cited as the Firearms Act.

**2. Interpretation**

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“**acquire**” means hire, accept as a gift or borrow;

“**ammunition**” means any cartridge, whether a blank, tracer, explosive, incendiary, gas-diffusing, signalling or any other cartridge of any other kind capable of being discharged from or used with a firearm and includes—

- (a) any grenade, bomb or other missile whether explosive or not and whether or not capable of or intended for use with a firearm;
- (b) any mine whether for use on land or at sea, depth-charge or other explosive charge;
- (c) any other container or thing designed or adapted for use in or as weapon for the discharge of any noxious liquid, gas or other substance;
- (d) any projectile, powder or other charge, primer, fuse or bursting charge forming part of any cartridge or any component part thereof; and
- (e) any ammunition or pellets for use in an airgun, air rifle or air pistol;

“**airgun**”, “**air rifle**” and “**air pistol**” mean, respectively, a gun, rifle or pistol which discharges missiles by the pressure of air or other gas or by mechanical means which do not use the products of combustion or explosives;

“**approved carrier**” means a carrier approved by the Inspector-General;

“**approved servant**” means an employee approved by a licensing officer;

“**area**” means a district or part of a district for which a licensing officer is appointed under section 3;

“**arms of war**” means artillery of all kinds, apparatus for the discharge of all kinds of projectiles, explosive or gas diffusing, flame-throwers, bombs, grenades, machine-guns and rifled small-bore breech-loading weapons, but