



Importing paintball markers

Importing paintball markers (also called skirmish paint guns) is restricted under the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956*.

To import this type of firearm, the importer will need to obtain the written authorisation of the Police in the State or Territory where the importer resides or the written permission of the Commonwealth Attorney-General.

Single-shot, repeating-action and semi-automatic markers

The importation of single-shot, repeating-action and semi-automatic paintball markers including handguns (designed exclusively to fire paintballs) requires the written authorisation of the appropriate State or Territory Police Firearms/Weapons Registry before the goods arrive in Australia. The written authorisation will be in the form of a B709A.

However paintball markers that resemble a sub-machine gun, an assault rifle, a machine gun, machine pistol or automatic handgun cannot be imported with police authorisation.

Fully automatic markers or those resembling certain firearms

There is no provision in the Regulations for permission to be granted for the importation of fully automatic paintball markers and any markers that resemble a sub-machine gun, an assault rifle, a machine gun, machine pistol or fully automatic handgun for recreational use. Consequently private importers will not be granted approval to import these.

For other uses, importers should contact the Attorney-General's Department for further information about importing these items before importation.

Paintball ammunition and magazines (also known as hoppers) require the written authorisation of the relevant State or Territory Police Firearms/Weapons Registry (B709A).

Paintball markers are also subject to safety testing and, if manufactured after 1 January 1900, require a unique serial number.

Paintball markers are not controlled by Australian legislation on export - but may be subject to import controls in other countries.

Penalty: The maximum penalty for importing these goods without import approval is a fine not exceeding \$275,000 or imprisonment for 10 years, or both.

Information contacts

For further information, see the *Firearms/weapons information contacts* fact sheet.

For information on any Customs matters, contact the Customs Information and Support Centre on 1300 363 263 or email information@customs.gov.au or browse the website www.customs.gov.au