

DESTRUCTION OF FIREARMS

To assist with the destruction of firearms to ensure all relevant component parts are destroyed, leaving enough information for identification of the destroyed firearm for verification.

Definition (1968 Firearms Act as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2017)

“(1D) For the purposes of subsection (1)(c), each of the following items is a relevant component part in relation to a lethal barrelled weapon or prohibited weapon –

(a) A barrel, chamber or cylinder

(b) A frame, body or receiver

(c) A breech block, bolt or other mechanism for containing the pressure of discharge at the rear of a chamber,

But only where the item is capable of being used as a part of a lethal barrelled weapon or prohibited weapon.”

Note: see “mechanisms for containing the pressure” (PDF 203KB) on Helston Forensics website in strategy/notes section for comments on relevant component parts.

For each weapon ensure each relevant component is destroyed by cutting using a chop saw, gas cutting or guillotine, cut into at least two components.

It is essential each relevant component part once cut cannot be used as part of a lethal barrelled weapon or prohibited weapon.

1] Where possible cut in such a way as to retain the serial number of the gun for verification of destruction.

2] Consider a photograph of each destroyed weapon for archive for proof of destruction.



Example 1
Revolver



Smith & Wesson .38 Special Revolver,
 Serial numbers can be found on many components, other numbers can be part or batch numbers, or component number. The serial number of Example 1 is V300202.

Example 2
Pistol



The top three sections are the barrel, the middle three components are the slide, and the lower three are the frame, from a Smith & Wesson .22LR model 41 Self-Loading Pistol.

Example 3
Pistol



.32 ACP Basque Self-Loading Pistol
Serial number 99028

Example 4
Pump Action Rifle



.22 LR Winchester Pump Action Rifle Model 62
Serial number 25621A

Example 5
Martini Rifle



.22 LR Vickers Martini Target Rifle
Serial number V1284-3

Example 6
Bolt Action Rifle



.22 LR Walther Model V Bolt Action Rifle
Serial number 7810

Example 7
Single Barrel Shot Gun



12 Bore Harrington & Richardson Arms Co Single Barrel Shot Gun
Serial number 30174

Example 8
Over and Under Shot Gun



12 Bore Armi Remato Gamba Over and Under Non Ejector Shot Gun
Serial number 11996

Example 9
Side by Side Shot Gun



12 Bore Spanish Boxlock Non Ejector Shot Gun
Serial number MU40107

