



NATIONAL FIREARMS REGISTER

AN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

Firearm Photo Guidelines for the Northern Territory Firearm Self-Check Form

To complete the Firearm Self-Check Form, you must provide clear, good-quality photographs that meet specific standards. These photos will ensure your firearm is accurately identified in the National Firearms Identification Database (NFID) - helping to protect ownership records, prevent errors, and ensure compliance with regulations.

This guide provides instructions on taking proper firearm photos to ensure accurate identification and record-keeping.



Required photographs

To ensure successful upload and accurate identification, your photos must include:



Overall of the firearm,
including photos of
both sides



Clear close-up of the
serial number and any
other markings



Detailed image of the
safety mechanism



Image size and format requirements

- The maximum file size for each uploaded image is 5 MB.
- Accepted formats: .JPG, .JPEG, .PNG, or .TIF..PNG, or .TIF.



General tips for capturing clear and usable photos

For your photo to be valid, follow these guidelines for all images.

- **Use a neutral background** – Place the firearm on a plain surface and avoid backgrounds with a colour too similar to the firearm to prevent distractions or reduce visibility.
- **Ensure proper lighting** – Take the photo in a well-lit area, but avoid angles that cause shadows.
- **Hold the camera steady** – hold the camera firmly to prevent blurriness. Use a tripod if needed.
- **Keep the object in focus** – When taking close-up shots, ensure the firearm remains sharp and clearly visible.

Guidelines for capturing required photographs of firearm parts



Close-Up of Serial Number and Markings

- **Capture the image as close as possible** – Maintain clear detail
- **Crop the image around the markings** – Ensure enough surrounding details are left to indicate their location.
- **Include all firearm manufacturer marks and stamps** – Ensure all relevant markings are visible.

Example





Overall of the firearm

- **Capture both sides** – Take clear photos of both the left and right sides of the firearm.
- **Ensure full visibility** – Keep the entire firearm within the frame, avoiding any cropping or cut-off parts. Maintain minimal space between the firearm's edges and the image border.
- **Position the firearm flat and straight** – Lay the firearm in a way that shows its full structure without distortion.

Example



Detailed image of the safety mechanism

- **Capture the image as close as possible** – Ensure sharp focus and maintain clear details.
- **Crop the image around the safety mechanism**– Ensure enough surrounding details are left to indicate its location.

Example



Common mistakes to avoid



The following example images show some common mistakes:

- ✗ **Distracting background** – The background color is too similar to the firearm, making it difficult to distinguish.
- ✗ **Too far away** – The firearm is captured from too far away, reducing visibility of key details.



- ✗ **Poor lighting conditions** – Take the photo in a dimly lit area or under a harsh light source that creates strong shadows, making firearm details hard to see or unevenly lit.



Common mistakes to avoid



- ✗ **Improper Cropping** – The image of the firearm is cropped, failing to show the entire firearm in an Overall photo.



- ✗ **Harsh shadows** – Cover important details, making the firearm difficult to identify.
- ✗ **Glare or reflections** – Obscure serial numbers and markings, reducing clarity.
- ✗ **Uneven lighting** – Bright spots and dark areas, making the image unclear.



Common mistakes to avoid



- ✗ **Motion blur** – The photo is blurry due to movement while capturing the image.



- ✗ **Out of focus** – The photo is out of focus and not sharp, making details difficult to see.



- ✗ **Low-quality image** – The resolution is too low, preventing important details from being visible.

