



CROSSBOWS

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[Crossbows Act 1987]
[Crossbows (Northern Ireland) Order 1998]
[Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006]
[Custodial Sentences and Weapons (Scotland) Act 2007]

Definition

Crossbows are not firearms and are covered primarily by the Crossbows Act 1987 and the Crossbows (Northern Ireland) Order 1998. The Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 and the Custodial Sentences and Weapons (Scotland) Act 2007 amends legislation and raises the age restrictions from 17 to 18 years.

NB: Crossbows may only be used for inanimate target shooting in the UK. It is an offence to shoot at any live animal and serious penalties apply.

This legislation only covers crossbows with a draw weight of over 1.4kg.

Restrictions on purchase and hire (Young Person)

It is an offence to sell or let on hire, a crossbow, or part of a crossbow to a person under the age of 18 years.

It is also an offence for a person under 18 to purchase or hire a crossbow or part of a crossbow and;

To have with him a crossbow capable of discharging a missile, or parts which together (and without any other parts) can be assembled to form a complete crossbow unless under the supervision of a person who is of or over the age of 21 years.

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