



Minnesota Gun Laws Quick Reference
Last Revised: May 28, 2022

| Topic | Info | Statute |
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| Definitions | Definitions of pistols, “assault weapons” – Semi-Automatic Military-Style Assault Weapon, rifles, etc. | 624.712 |
| Persons ineligible to own/possess firearms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Felony convictions (for MN state convictions, until discharge from the sentence, or lifetime ban for felony “crimes of violence” unless restored by court order or pardon • Misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence • Adjudicated mentally ill • Aliens • Dishonorable discharge from military • Gang affiliation | 624.713 |
| Negligent storage of firearms | Gross misdemeanor to leave a loaded firearm where a child is likely to gain access | 609.666 |
| Machine guns & short-barrelled shotguns | Prohibited for general public to own, 5 years + \$10,000 fine Some collector curio & relic machine guns may be owned with special federal license | 609.67 |
| “Armor Piercing” Ammo | Possession with intent to use in crime, or used in a crime, is a felony, 3 years + \$5,000 fine | 624.7191 |
| Use of deadly force; Justifiable taking of life | When one reasonably believes someone is at risk of great bodily harm or death. Additional criteria from case law: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person reluctantly entered the conflict • No lesser force will suffice • No reasonable means of retreat was possible (retreat in one’s home is not necessary) | 609.06 609.065 State v. Basting (1995) |
| State Preemption | The legislature preempts all authority on firearms laws except zoning and lawful discharge | 471.633 |
| Capitol Carry | Legal with a permit to carry | 609.66, subd 1g |
| Dealers & Background Checks | Anyone engaged in the selling firearms as a business MUST hold a Federal Firearms License (FFL) and run background checks on all sales | 18 USC Code 921 |
| NICS Information | Minnesota is 100% compliant supplying criminal and mental health disqualification | 624.713 subd. 5 |



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| | information to the National Instant Background Check System (NICS) as of 2015 | |
| Private Transfers | Legal between law-abiding citizens without registering transfer | 624.7132 subd. 12 |
| Straw purchase | Any person who obtains a firearm for a person known to be ineligible to possess is guilty of a gross misdemeanor | 624.7133 |
| Straw purchase of a handgun or "assault weapon" | Felony is the transferee uses the weapon within 1 year after transfer in the furtherance of a felony crime of violence | 624.7141 |
| Permit to Purchase | Required to buy a handgun or "Assault Weapon". A permit to carry may be used instead. | 624.7132 |
| Permit to Carry | To carry a firearm in public one must take a class from a certified instructor, pay an application fee to the sheriff, and undergo an annual criminal background check (automated). Permit is good for 5 years. Processes are in place to revoke permits if a personal becomes ineligible. | 624.714 |
| Carry in Schools | Permitted at K-12 public schools with written permission of principal or person in "general control" | 609.66 subd. 1d |
| 72-hour Holds | Persons at danger of causing injury to self or others can be held for 72 hours for evaluation | 253B.05 |