

From Natural Resources Canada, Explosive

Website: <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/our-natural-resources/minerals-mining/mining/explosive-regulations/importing-exporting-transporting-transit/9907>

### Personal exemptions

Certain types and quantities of explosives (see table below) can be imported, exported or transported in transit without a permit if the following conditions are met:

the explosive is imported, exported, or transported in transit for personal use and not for commercial purposes;

the explosive enters or leaves Canada with the person importing or exporting it—or, if transported in transit, it remains with the person transporting it at all times;

in the case of small arms cartridges, the cartridges do not include a tracer, incendiary or similar military component or device; and

the quantity of the explosive being imported, exported and transported in transit is not more than the quantity set out in the table.

The table below (from the Explosives Regulations, 2013) shows the types and quantities of explosives that can be imported, exported or transported in transit without a permit if the above conditions are met.

Explosives Type	Quantity
Model rocket motors that each have a maximum total impulse of 80 newton-seconds (NFPA alpha designations A to E, as indicated on the motor or its packaging)	6
Avalanche airbag systems	3
Small arms cartridges (Import or Export)	5,000
Small arms cartridges (Transport in Transit)	50,000
Percussion caps (primers) for small arms cartridges (Import and Export)	5,000
Percussion caps (primers) for small arms cartridges (Transported in Transit)	50,000
Empty primed small arms cartridge cases (Import and Export)	5,000
Empty primed small arms cartridge cases (Transport in Transit)	50,000
Black powder and hazard category PE 1 black powder substitutes	8 kg in containers of 500 g or less
Smokeless powder and hazard category PE 3 black powder substitutes	8 kg in containers of 4 kg or less

Notes

Blank cartridges are small arms cartridges.

Inert / dummy articles and substances (empty of all explosives) are not regulated under the Explosives Act.

Each individual 18 years of age and over may claim the above exemptions.

The word “and” in the Quantity column of the above table, is used to denote that an importer, exporter, or person shipping in transit may import, export, ship in transit any or all of the explosives in the table in a single shipment. The word “and” does not feature in the Explosives Regulations but is added here for clarification purposes.

Fireworks (such as pistol caps, firecrackers, pyrotechnics smoke signals, etc.) require a permit; see section on Importation, Exportation, and Transportation in Transit of Fireworks  
“Commercial purposes” means goods imported into Canada for sale or any commercial, industrial, occupational, institutional or other like use.