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# Explosives - applying for/renewing a licence for the non-commercial sector

Persons not acting in a commercial capacity may only acquire or handle explosive substances if they have a licence to do so in accordance with the Explosives Act.

Only natural persons may hold a licence for the handling and/or movement of explosive substances.

The licence is generally issued for a period of 5 years. It may be restricted in terms of content and area and may be subject to conditions.

## Prerequisites

- **Expertise**

The applicant must prove that he/she has the necessary expertise. This is done through successful participation in a state-recognised training course in accordance with the provisions of explosives legislation.

- **Reliability**

As a rule, anyone who has been convicted of a crime or other intentional criminal offence and sentenced to a prison term of at least 1 year in the 10 years prior to submitting the application does not have the required reliability. To verify this, the Berlin State Office for Occupational Safety, Health Protection and Technical Safety will make enquiries with other authorities.

- **Personal suitability**

The applicant must be personally suitable. Personal suitability includes physical suitability to handle explosives. Among other things, he/she must not be legally incapacitated, addicted to alcohol, drugs, mentally ill or mentally ill.

- **Minimum age**

You must be 21 years of age or older.

- **Nationality**

German according to Article 116 of the Basic Law or EU national.

- **Proof of need**

The applicant must prove his/her need to handle explosive substances, for example by means of a valid hunting licence, gun ownership card, membership of at least 6 months in a shooting sports association with regular practice shooting or the cultivation of customs.

## Documents required

- **Application for the issue or renewal of an explosives licence for non-commercial use**

You can apply online or submit the completed and signed application form by post.

- **Identity document**

Identity card or other official identification document with photograph.

- **Proof of expertise**

Certificates from completed training courses or proof of professional activity.

- **Proof of need**

For example, a valid hunting licence, a gun ownership card, a membership card or a certificate from the board of the shooting club.

- **Certificate of good conduct for submission to an authority for persons who are not German in accordance with Article 116 of the Basic Law (GG)**

(<https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/120926/>)

To check the reliability of persons from another EU Member State, the applicant should be required to submit a certificate in the form of a certified translation from the competent judicial or administrative authority in their home country or country of origin concerning certain facts that are relevant to the assessment of reliability (e.g. extract from the criminal record). The certificate should not be older than 3 months. Otherwise, only those facts that have been confirmed by the competent authority in the home country or country of origin may be regarded as proven.

## Forms

- **Application for the issue or renewal of an explosives licence for non-commercial use**

([https://www.berlin.de/lagetsi/\\_assets/documents/allgemein/27sprengg.pdf](https://www.berlin.de/lagetsi/_assets/documents/allgemein/27sprengg.pdf))

## Fees

- EUR 150.00 for initial issue, plus 45.00 euros for the background check if applicable
- EUR 40.00 for renewal, plus 45.00 euros for the background check if applicable

## Legal basis

- **Explosives Act (SprengG) § 27**  
([https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/sprengg\\_1976/\\_27.html](https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/sprengg_1976/_27.html))
- **First Ordinance to the Explosives Act (1st SprengV) § 34**  
([https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/sprengv\\_1/\\_34.html](https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/sprengv_1/_34.html))
- **Explosives Act (SprengG) § 8a Para. 5**  
([https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/sprengg\\_1976/\\_8a.html](https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/sprengg_1976/_8a.html))
- **Occupational health and safety fee regulations (ArbSchGebO)**  
(<https://gesetze.berlin.de/bsbe/document/jlr-ArbSchGebOBEV1Anlage/part/X>)

## Average time to process request

4-8 weeks

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<https://www.ea.berlin.de/intelliform/forms/eu-dlr-ng/gewerbe/Sprengstoff%20Erlaubnisschein/index>