

## 1. CATEGORY M BLADED WEAPONS INFORMATION

Clause 32 of the Weapons Amendment Bill 2011 will amend Section 7A (Category M weapons) of the *Weapons Categories Regulation 1996*. These changes will become effective from 2 April 2012.

Category M bladed weapons will include the following:-

- Disguised blades
- Knives With Single Handed Blade Release
- Ballistic Knife
- Butterfly Knife
- Flick Knife
- Push Knife
- Sheath Knife
- Star Knife
- Trench Knife
- Riding Crop Knife
- Walking Stick Sword

Possession of Category M bladed weapons will require lawful authority. The amendments permit the issue of a Miscellaneous Weapons Licence for category M bladed weapons for occupational purposes.

A Collector's Licence can also be issued for Category M weapons, however the weapons must be inert before they can be registered to a Collector's Licence.

Macquarie Concise Dictionary defines inert as:- *"having no inherent power of action, motion, or resistance"*.

A licence holder will need to make an application for and be issued with a Permit to Acquire before they can take lawful possession of the weapon. Further information is available on acquiring/disposing of weapons at:-

<http://www.police.qld.gov.au/programs/weaponsLicensing/acquire/>

Category M bladed weapons are subject to safe storage requirements set out in Section 60 of the Weapons Regulations 1996. This provision can be located at:-

<http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/W/WeaponsR96.pdf>

Licensing information is available on Queensland Police Service Web site and can be found at:-

<http://www.police.qld.gov.au/programs/weaponsLicensing/>

## DISGUISED BLADES

Disguised blades includes any clothing, apparel, adornment, accessory or other thing designed to disguise any weapon or other cutting or piercing instrument capable of causing bodily harm; or designed for use as a weapon or a cutting or piercing instrument capable of causing bodily harm. This type of weapon requires the possessor to hold the appropriate licence.

A Permit to Acquire is required before a person can take lawful possession of a Category M weapon.

*Examples:-*

a bowen knife belt, a credit card knife



## KNIVES WITH SINGLE HANDED BLADE RELEASE

Any knife **designed or constructed so as to be used as a weapon** that while the knife is held in 1 hand, the blade may be released by that hand is a Category M Weapon. This type of weapon requires the possessor to hold the appropriate licence and registration of the weapon by way of Permit to Acquire to a licence.

The reference to design and construction ensures that this definition does not apply to a knife specifically designed as a tool, such as a Stanley knife. The design of a Stanley knife is clearly that of a utility knife as opposed to a weapon.



## **BALLISTIC KNIFE**

A ballistic knife that propels or releases a knife-like blade of any material by any means other than an explosive will be a Category M Weapon requiring the possessor to hold an appropriate licence.

A Permit to Acquire is required before a person can take lawful possession of a Category M weapon.

[Link to image of ballistic knife](#)

## **BUTTERFLY KNIFE**

A butterfly knife, a knife known as a 'balisong', a pantographic knife, or a similar device that consists of a single-edged or multi-edged blade or spike that fits within 2 handles attached to the blade or spike by transverse pivot pins or pantographic linkage and is capable of being opened by gravity or centrifugal force is a Category M weapon. This type of weapon requires the possessor to hold an appropriate licence.

A Permit to Acquire is required before a person can take lawful possession of a Category M weapon.



## **FLICK KNIFE**

A flick knife, or a similar device of any material that has a blade folded or recessed into the handle that opens automatically by gravity or centrifugal force or if pressure is applied to a button, spring or device in or attached to the handle of the device is a Category M weapon. This type of weapon requires the possessor to hold an appropriate licence.

The Macquarie Concise Dictionary defines centrifugal force as "*the force exerted outwards by a body moving in a curved path; the reaction of centripetal force*".

A Permit to Acquire is required before a person can take lawful possession of a Category M weapon.



## **PUSH KNIFE**

A push knife, or a similar device designed as a weapon that consists of a single-edged or multi-edged blade or spike and allows the blade or spike to be supported by the palm of the hand so that stabbing blows or slashes can be inflicted by a punching or pushing action is a Category M weapon. This type of weapon requires the possessor to hold an appropriate licence.

A Permit to Acquire is required before a person can take lawful possession of a Category M weapon.



## **RETRACTABLE SHEATH KNIFE**

A sheath knife, or a similar device of any material that has a sheath which withdraws into its handle by gravity or centrifugal force or if pressure is applied to a button, spring or device attached to or forming part of the sheath, handle or blade is a Category M weapon. This type of weapon requires the possessor to hold an appropriate licence.

A Permit to Acquire is required before a person can take lawful possession of a Category M weapon.

## **STAR KNIFE**

A star knife, or a similar device that consists of at least 2 angular points, blades or spikes, of any material, disposed outwardly about a central axis point and that is designed to spin around the central axis point in flight when thrown is a Category M weapon requiring the possessor to hold an appropriate licence.

A Permit to Acquire is required before a person can take lawful possession of a Category M weapon.



## TRENCH KNIFE

A trench knife, or a similar device that consists of a single-edged or multi-edged blade or spike of any material that is fitted with a handle made of any hard substance that is designed to be fitted over the knuckles of the hand of the user to protect the knuckles and increase the effect of a punch is a Category M weapon. This type of weapon requires the possessor to hold an appropriate licence.

A Permit to Acquire is required before a person can take lawful possession of a Category M weapon.



## RIDING CROP KNIFE

A riding crop that contains conceals or disguises a knife, stiletto or any other single-edged or multi-edged blade or spike of any length or of any material is a Category M weapon. This type of weapon requires the possessor to hold an appropriate licence.

A Permit to Acquire is required before a person can take lawful possession of a Category M weapon.

[Link to image of riding crop knife](#)

## WALKING STICK SWORD

A walking stick or cane that contains, conceals or disguises a sword or any other single-edged or multi-edged blade, knife or spike of any length is a Category M weapon requiring the possessor to hold an appropriate licence.

A Permit to Acquire is required before a person can take lawful possession of a Category M weapon.

