



Flying With Firearms

Domestic Laws & Policies



from the TSA's "Prohibited Items" list...

<http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/prohibited/permitted-prohibited-items.shtm>

Ammunition - Check with your airline or travel agent to see if ammunition is permitted in checked baggage on the airline you are flying. If ammunition is permitted, it must be declared to the airline at check-in. Small arms ammunitions for personal use must be securely packed in fiber, wood or metal boxes or other packaging specifically designed to carry small amounts of ammunition. Ask about limitations or fees, if any, that apply.

Firearms - firearms carried as checked baggage MUST be unloaded, packed in a locked hard sided container to which no one else has a key, and declared to the airline at check-in.

Flare Guns - May be carried as checked baggage MUST be unloaded, packed in a locked hard sided container to which no one else has a key, and declared to the airline at check-in.

All of the above may **not** be kept in carry-on luggage but **are** acceptable in checked bags. While conventional ammunition (as seen above) is legal in checked baggage, flares may not be in one's luggage at all. Also totally not permitted are un-loaded propellants (gunpowder, black powder, percussion caps) unless they are part of loaded cartridges properly packed according to the above regulations.

from the TSA's "Firearms & Ammunition" guidance page...

http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/assistant/editorial_1666.shtm

- You must declare all firearms to the airline during check-in.
- Firearms must be unloaded.
- Firearms must be packed in hard-sided containers.
- Said containers must be locked. A locked container is defined as one that completely secures the firearm from access by anyone other than you.
- If you are not present and a security officer must open the container, we or the airline will make a reasonable attempt to contact you.
- You must securely pack any ammunition in fiber (such as cardboard), wood, or metal boxes or other packaging that is specifically designed to carry small amounts of ammunition.
- You can't use firearm magazines/clips for packing ammunition unless they completely and securely enclose the ammunition (e.g., by securely covering the exposed portions of the magazine or by securely placing the magazine in a pouch, holder, holster or lanyard).
- You may carry the ammunition in the same hard-sided case as the firearm, as long as you pack it as described above.

as clarified by a call to the TSA's public inquiry call center...

on a March 2nd, 2009 call to 866-289-9673 we asked about flare guns and blank-firing weapons

Flare Guns / Blank Guns - "[flare guns] have the same procedure for lethal firearms... the gun case should be a hard sided container with a lock that only you possess the key to... [blank-firing weapons] should all travel the same way, in a hard sided container that only you possess the key to, unloaded, and declared."

as specified by 27 CFR 478.31 - Delivery by common or contract carrier...

<http://cfr.vlex.com/vid/31-delivery-common-contract-carrier-19675270>

Outside Tags - No common or contract carrier shall require or cause any label, tag, or other written notice to be placed on the outside of any package, luggage, or other container that such package, luggage, or other container contains a firearm.



Guns & Firearms

Item	Carry-on	Checked
Ammunition - Check with your airline or travel agent to see if ammunition is permitted in checked baggage on the airline you are flying. If ammunition is permitted, it must be declared to the airline at check-in. Small arms ammunitions for personal use must be securely packed in fiber, wood or metal boxes or other packaging specifically designed to carry small amounts of ammunition. Ask about limitations or fees, if any, that apply. Read our Firearms & Ammunition section.	No	Yes
BB guns	No	Yes
Compressed Air Guns (to include paintball markers) - Carried in checked luggage without compressed air cylinder attached.	No	Yes
Firearms - firearms carried as checked baggage MUST be unloaded, packed in a locked hard-sided container, and declared to the airline at check-in. Read our Firearms & Ammunition section.	No	Yes
Flare Guns - May be carried as checked baggage MUST be unloaded, packed in a locked hard-sided container, and declared to the airline at check-in. Read our section on Camping.	No	Yes
Flares	No	No
Gun Lighters	No	Yes
Gun Powder including black powder and percussion caps	No	No