

Handling and Safety

Note: The points outlined here must be followed without exception. Proper storage and handling of firearms is critical for the safety of cast, crew and audience members alike.

Usage

- For theatrical purposes, the firearm and its use is strictly the responsibility of the Stage Manager. The Stage Manager may make it the responsibility of the Assistant Stage Manager(s). They are responsible for the firearm's storage, loading and transport.
- No other person(s), other than the actor(s) that uses firearms on stage, will handle the firearms or the ammunition.
- The firearm will not be given to the actor until just before the actor is to make his/her entrance. The Stage Manager or his/her assistants will retrieve the firearm immediately after the actor using the firearm has left the stage.
- The barrel of the firearm must be checked before it is stored for any blockages.
- The Firearm will be loaded with only the number of cartridges required and one spent cartridge. The spent cartridge is used to protect the firearm from excessive wear.
- After the firearm has been loaded it will be placed on the Props Table where the actor can pick it up prior to his/her entrance.
- A minimum distance of ten feet must be maintained from the actor handling the firearm and his/her intended target.
- Any person handling the firearm must, under no circumstances, point the firearm directly at another person.

Storage

- Firearms must be unloaded.
- Must be stored by one of the following methods:
 - Storage in a securely locked location.
 - Storage in a location which is accessible only to owner or employee of a business.
- Premises must be equipped with an electronic burglar alarm.
- All windows and exterior doors must be capable of being securely locked.
- All ammunition must be stored in a securely locked container and can be stored with the firearm.

Transport

- Firearms must be unloaded.
- Firearms must be transported in an opaque container which cannot be readily broken open or into or accidentally opened during transport. If the vehicle is left unattended the firearm must be stored securely in the locked trunk.
- The opaque container cannot be marked in a manner that indicates what its contents are or the container and its contents are being imported or exported unless the only marking is a name or address.