



**THE CUSTOMS IMPORT PROHIBITION (OFFENSIVE WEAPONS)  
ORDER 1990**

---

THOMAS EICHELBAUM,  
Administrator of the Government

ORDER IN COUNCIL

At Wellington this 10th day of December 1990

Present:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE GOVERNMENT IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to section 48 of the Customs Act 1966, His Excellency the Administrator of the Government, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following order.

---

ORDER

**1. Title and commencement**—(1) This order may be cited as the Customs Import Prohibition (Offensive Weapons) Order 1990.

(2) This order shall come into force on the 28th day after the date of its notification in the *Gazette*.

**2. Importation of offensive weapons**—The importation of the goods specified in the Schedule to this order is hereby prohibited, except with the consent of, and subject to such conditions as may be imposed by,—

- (a) The Commissioner of Police; or
- (b) The Deputy Commissioner of Police; or
- (c) An Assistant Commissioner of Police.

**3. Revocations**—The following orders are hereby revoked:

- (a) The Customs Import Prohibition (Offensive Weapons) Order 1972 (S.R. 1972/223);
- (b) The Customs Import Prohibition (Offensive Weapons) Order 1972, Amendment No. 1 (S.R. 1973/175).

---

**SCHEDULE****PROHIBITED IMPORTS**

1. Knuckle-dusters, knives incorporating knuckle-dusters, sword-sticks, and any weapon disguised to give the appearance of another article.
2. Any knife having a blade which opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring, or other device in or attached to the handle of the knife (sometimes known as a “flick knife” or “flick gun”).
3. Any knife having a blade which is released from the handle or sheath by the force of gravity or the application of centrifugal force, and which, when released, is locked in place by means of a button, spring, lever, or other device (sometimes known as a “gravity knife” or “butterfly knife”).
4. Any knife, not being a folding pocket knife with a blade less than 10 cm in length, that—
  - (a) Is designed for ease of concealment on the person; or
  - (b) Has a double-edged blade that is designed or suitable for stabbing or throwing (as opposed to cutting); or
  - (c) Is a knife of any of the kinds sometimes known as “urban skinner”, “terminator”, “black eagle”, “black dagger”, or “throwing knife”.

MARIE SHROFF,  
Clerk of the Executive Council.

---

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*This note is not part of the order, but is intended to indicate its general effect.*

This order, which comes into force on the 28th day after its notification in the *Gazette*, revokes and replaces the Customs Import Prohibition (Offensive Weapons) Order 1972 and the 1973 amendment to that order.

The new order incorporates the following substantive changes:

- (a) The order now prohibits knives designed for their concealability and knives designed or suited principally for stabbing or throwing;
  - (b) Consent to the importation of otherwise prohibited weapons may now be given by the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, or an Assistant Commissioner of Police, rather than by the Minister of Customs.
-

Issued under the authority of the Acts and Regulations Publication Act 1989.  
Date of notification in *Gazette*: 13 December 1990.  
This order is administered in the Customs Department.