

Our records show that a Beretta CX4 Storm rifle is currently registered in your name. We have recently learned that some Beretta CX4 Storm rifles are being manufactured with magazines that are prohibited in Canada.

As set out in *Criminal Code Regulations*, the classification of a magazine depends on the type of firearm a magazine was **designed** to be used in, not the type of firearm it is actually used in.

When the Beretta CX4 Storm rifle was first produced, it used a 10-cartridge magazine that was designed for a handgun. Most magazines designed for a handgun may legally hold up to 10 cartridges, even when used in a rifle.

Beretta is now producing a 10-cartridge magazine designed specifically for the CX4 Storm rifle. The law sets a maximum capacity of five cartridges for magazines designed for a semi-automatic, centre-fire long gun such as the Beretta CX4 Storm rifle. A 10-cartridge magazine with a CX4 Storm stamp on it is prohibited unless it has been permanently altered so that it cannot hold more than five cartridges.

Please check the magazine of your Beretta CX4 Storm rifle to see which version you have. A CX4 Storm stamp on the magazine indicates it is a prohibited device. The presence of a prohibited magazine does not affect the classification of the firearm itself. The Beretta CX4 Storm rifle remains classified as a restricted firearm.

However, if you possess a rifle with a prohibited magazine, you must either dispose of the magazine or permanently alter it to hold a maximum of five cartridges. Otherwise, you risk penalties for illegal possession of a prohibited device if a law enforcement officer finds you in

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possession of this magazine. If you choose to dispose of it, you may be able to replace it with one that is not prohibited – for example, a handgun magazine used on earlier versions of the rifle.

Criminal Code Regulations set out the following options for altering a prohibited magazine to make it legal:

- (a) The casing may be indented by forging, casting, swaging or impressing; or
- (b) If the cartridge magazine has a steel or aluminum casing, you may insert and attach a plug, sleeve, rod, pin, flange or similar device, made of the same (or similar) material as the casing. The inserted piece would have to be attached to the inner surface of the casing by welding, brazing or any other similar method; or
- (c) If the cartridge magazine is made of a material other than steel or aluminum, in addition to the options mentioned above, a permanent adhesive substance such as cement or epoxy glue can also be used to attach an insert. In this case, the insert would have to be made of steel or a material similar to that of the magazine casing.

Options for disposing of a prohibited magazine include transferring it to a properly licensed business, exporting it to a country that will allow it to be imported, or turning it in to a police or firearms officer.

An export permit may be required from International Trade Canada if the magazine is being exported to a country other than the United States. More information and application forms for an export permit are available from the Export Controls Division of International Trade Canada at 1 800 267-8376 or (613) 996-2387 or from their Website at <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/eicb/military/faq-en.asp>

Whichever option you choose, you should take action as quickly as possible to minimize the risk of penalties for illegal possession of a prohibited device.

Sincerely,

Ken McCarthy
Registrar of Firearms
Canada Firearms Centre