

If you require immediate police or emergency assistance, please call **Triple Zero (000)**.

If you have any information regarding a crime or suspicious activity, please share what you know online at [crimestoppersvic.com.au](https://crimestoppersvic.com.au).

Prefer to speak with someone? Call **1800 333 000** to report a crime over the phone.



Scan to learn more about knife crime and safety resources on our website.

 Crime Stoppers Victoria



**Cut the Violence**  
**Live Knife Free**



## Dangers of Carrying a Weapon

Carrying a knife might seem harmless, but it's essential to recognise the hidden dangers it can bring.

- A knife can provoke or escalate conflicts that might otherwise remain non-violent.
- Carrying a knife can create a false sense of security, encouraging someone to engage in risky behaviour they might not otherwise consider.
- Carrying a knife increases the risk of accidents for the person carrying the knife and others nearby. Knife injuries can cause serious harm or even death.

## What the Law Says

Carrying a weapon, like a knife, without a lawful reason is illegal in Victoria.

Examples of knives you cannot carry without a lawful purpose include:

- Swiss army knives
- Kitchen knives
- Box-cutters
- Bayonets



## What's a Lawful Purpose for Carrying a Knife?

- For work e.g. you are a chef.
- For recreation e.g. camping or fishing.
- For display e.g. for a museum or gallery.
- For religious reasons e.g. an item of faith like a kirpan.

Carrying a knife for self-defence is NOT legal.

## What are the Penalties?

You can go to jail for:

- **1 year** for carrying a knife.
- **5 years** for threatening to injure someone.
- **5 years** for recklessly injuring someone.
- **10 years** for threatening to kill someone.
- **10 years** for intentionally injuring someone.
- **15 years** for recklessly causing serious injury to someone.
- **20 years** for intentionally causing serious injury to someone.
- Up to **2 years** for selling a knife to someone aged under 18 years.
- Up to **25 years** for murder.

Carrying a knife could lead to a criminal record, impacting: employment, housing, travel opportunities, and education.

## Support Services:

If you believe that the situation poses an immediate threat to someone's safety, please contact **000**.

### Victims of Crime Helpline:

[victimsofcrime.vic.gov.au](http://victimsofcrime.vic.gov.au) | 1800 819 817 - Open everyday, 8am-11pm  
Provides support and information for victims of crime in Victoria.

### Legal Aid Victoria:

[legalaid.vic.gov.au](http://legalaid.vic.gov.au) | 1300 792 387 - Open Monday - Friday, 8am-6pm  
Provides legal advice and representation for those who cannot afford a lawyer.

### Beyond Blue:

[beyondblue.org.au](http://beyondblue.org.au) | 1300 224 636 - Open 24/7  
Provides information, support, and resources for mental health.

### Lifeline:

[lifeline.org.au](http://lifeline.org.au) | 13 11 14 - Open 24/7  
Offers mental health support and counselling services.

### Crime Stoppers Victoria:

[crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://crimestoppersvic.com.au) | 1800 333 000 - Open everyday, 7am - 11pm  
Report crime information online or over the phone, without saying who you are.

### Victoria Police:

[police.vic.gov.au](http://police.vic.gov.au)  
Provides information about rules related to weapons and how to report incidents.

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If you feel pressured to carry a knife, the first thing you can do is talk about the situation with a trusted adult, like a parent, teacher, or coach. If you don't feel you can talk to these adults, you can reach out to:

### Kids Helpline:

[kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au) | 1800 55 1800 - Open 24/7  
Provides free confidential counselling service available any time of the day or night by phone or webchat.

### Youth Support Service:

[ysas.org.au](http://ysas.org.au) | 1800 458 685 - Open Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm  
Offers counselling, support, and resources to address various challenges.