REPORT VANDALISM CRIME

Report crime to Police on 131 444 and suspicious activity to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000



GRAFFITI IMPLEMENTS THE LAW.



IT IS ILLEGAL TO SELL IMPLEMENTS TO MINORS

In Western Australia it is illegal to sell graffiti implements to a child, as per the Graffiti Vandalism Act 2016 (WA). The maximum penalty for a first offence is a fine of \$6,000 and \$12,000 for a subsequent offence.

Under section 7 of the Graffiti Vandalism Act, a graffiti implement means any of these -

- a. a can of spray paint
- b.a pen or marker pen, or a similar implement that:
 - i. has a tip over 6 mm wide; and
- ii. contains a fluid that is not water soluble and
- that is capable of marking a surface.

A retailer or employee must ensure a customer is over 18 before selling these products to them. Proof of the customer's age must be requested and checked.









GRAFFITI IMPLEMENTS.



Refusal of sale

Retailers and staff may feel uneasy asking for age verification. Training and strategies can help. Consult your manager or organisation for best practices.

WHEN AGE CANNOT BE VERIFIED, SALE MUST BE REFUSED.

- 1. Stay calm and polite.
- 2. Make it clear that it is not your decision it is the law.
- 3. Display 18+ signage.
- 4. Ask your workmates or manager for assistance.

ID Verification guide

Should I ask for age verification? Yes. You should ask for proof of identification from anyone asking for graffiti implements that appears to be under the age of 25 years, or whom you believe is not of legal age to purchase graffiti implements.

Graffiti implements include aerosol spray paints and permanent marker pens with a width 6mm or greater.

You must not sell graffiti implements such as spray cans or permanent markers (tip of 6mm or more) to any customer who cannot produce photographic identification when requested.

You should also refuse sale if the identification does not include their date of birth, or if the identification appears to have been tampered with, looks fake or looks like it has been forged.*

What forms of proof of age are acceptable?'

- A current Australian driver's license
- A current passport
- A current WA Proof of Age card

NOTE: ID must be current and include a photograph of the person and the person's date of birth. A University or College Student Card is not an approved proof of age card. *Adapted from WA Department of Health Guidelines - ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/S_T/Sale-and-supply-of-tobacco-products-and-smoking-implements.

Community

Retailers can reduce graffiti by not selling implements to minors under the age of 18, and by reducing opportunities for theft.

There is further information and resources for retailers available on the Mental Health Commission's website - Volatile Substance Use in Western Australia at: vsu.mhc.wa.gov.au/strategies/retailers

Storage, Display & POS

Best practice guidelines for in-store storage and display.

- Reduce access by storing products away from the general public, such as behind the counter, or in a locked display.
- Use dummy containers for display purposes.
- Display signs, preferably adjacent to these products, indicating staff's right to refuse sale to minors.
- Keep all staff informed of the relevant laws and offer training on ID verification procedures.
- Display 18+ signage for customers. Request your free resources by emailing graffiti@police.wa.gov.au
- Reminders at point of sale, such as an automatic popup box upon scanning can remind staff to check ID on age restricted products.

Online sales

Retailers must take appropriate steps to ensure that the age of the purchaser is verified. Some examples include:

- Age verification software can digitally check approved forms of ID for online purchases.
- Procedures to ensure that the purchaser's ID is checked upon delivery.
- Restricting sale or collection of graffiti implements to in-store only.









WA Police Force website Emergency Police Assistance Crime Stoppers wa.gov.au/police 000 for life threatening situations 131 444 when police attendance is required www.crimestopperswa.com.au