

What does the ban on home-brew mean?



The objective of the Alcohol Reforms is to reduce the harm caused by alcohol. Changes have also been made to liquor-related legislation to support this objective.

What are the home-brew laws?

From 1 July 2008, **home-brew** and home-brew equipment is **automatically banned in communities with a zero alcohol carriage limit.**

It may also be banned in other communities by regulation. This will be the case for **Doomadgee from 2 January 2009.**

Where home-brew is banned, it will be an offence for a person to:

- **possess a home-brew kit** or a component of a home-brew kit (a 'home-brew kit' is defined as a kit that includes a fermenter, an airlock and a thermometer)
- **possess equipment** or a component of equipment that is being used or has been used to brew alcohol
- **possess home-brew concentrate**
- **possess homemade alcohol**
- **supply homemade alcohol** to someone else.

The law has been **extended to cover things which are not primarily for making home-brew** but are being used to do that.

Penalties

Possession of homemade alcohol

The maximum penalty for possession of homemade alcohol in communities with a zero carriage limit is:

- 500 penalty units (currently \$37,500) for a first offence
- 700 penalty units (currently \$52,500) or six months imprisonment for a second offence

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- 1000 penalty units (currently \$75,000) or 18 months imprisonment for a third or later offence.

For communities that do not have a zero carriage limit but **where home-brew is banned by regulation**, the maximum penalty for possession of homemade alcohol will be 250 penalty units (\$18,750).

For all communities where home-brew is banned

A maximum penalty of 250 penalty units will be applicable for offenders who:

- possess a home-brew kit or a component of a home-brew kit
- possess equipment or a component of equipment that is being used or has been used to brew alcohol
- possess home-brew concentrate
- supply homemade alcohol to someone else.