

Penalty Summary: Summary Offences Act 1953 (SA)

Summary of offences and penalties (as at November 2025)

Part 2 Offences against police

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
6(2)	Hinder/resist police	6 months	\$2,500
6AA	Disclosure of criminal intelligence	2 years	

Part 3 Offences against public order

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
6A	Violent disorder	2 years	\$10,000
7	Disorderly or offensive conduct/language	3 months	\$1,250
7A	Obstructing or disturbing religious service	2 years	\$10,000
8	Challenges to fight and prize fights	-	\$750
9A	Supply of methylated spirits	-	\$750
9B	Sale of drug paraphernalia		
	1) to an adult		
	- Body corporate	2 years	\$50,000
	- Natural person		\$10,000
	2) to a minor		
	- Body corporate	2 years	\$100,000
	- Natural person		\$20,000
10	Consume or supply dog or cat meat for human consumption	-	\$1,250
11A	Avoiding entrance fee	-	\$750

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
12	Begging alms	-	\$250
13	Consorting	2 years	-
16	Possession of instrument for gaming/cheating	6 months	\$2,500
17	Being on premises for unlawful purpose (a1) A person who has entered, or is on primary production premises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aggravated offence - Non-aggravated offence - If offence committed on premises exceeds 2 years imprisonment (1) If offence committed on other premises exceeds 2 years imprisonment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any other case (3) When person fails to comply with order under sub-s (2) to leave premises	12 months 6 months 2 years 2 years 6 months 6 months	\$10,000 \$5,000 \$2,500 \$2,500
17AA	Misuse of motor vehicle	-	\$2,500
17A	Trespass on premises (1) If the premises are primary production premises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any other case (2) Uses offensive language while trespassing (2a) Fails to give name and address	6 months 6 months	\$5,000 \$2,500 \$1,250 \$1,250
17AB	Trespass at private parties (4) Failing to leave or returns while premises still being used for a party (5) Using offensive language or behaving in an offensive manner (6) Failing to give name and address (9) Failing to cease loiter	1 year 6 months	\$5,000 \$2,500 \$2,500 \$2,500
17AC	Impersonating an authorised person under 17A/17AB	-	\$750
17B	Interfere with gates on land where animals kept for primary production	-	\$1,500 Expiation fee: \$375
17C	Disturb farm animals while trespassing on that land	6 months	\$2,500
17D	Forcible entry or retention of land or premises	1 year	\$5,000
18	Order to move or disperse (Cease Loiter) (2) Failure to leave place when request is made under sub-s (1) (5) Failure to leave premises when order is made under sub-s(3), where the public place is in a place of prescribed class	3 months 3 months	\$1,250 \$5,000
18A	Disturb a public meeting	3 months	\$1,250
20	Permitting drunkenness and disorderly conduct	-	\$750
21	Permitting premises to be frequented by thieves, prostitutes and bad characters etc	-	\$750

Part 3A Weapons etc

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
21B	Body armour	2 years	\$10,000
21C	(1) Offensive weapon, article of disguise, implement of housebreaking, (2) Dangerous article (3) Offensive weapon / dangerous article at night - licensed premises (6) Dangerous article - unsafe and unsecure manner (7) Uses an offensive weapon; or carries an offensive weapon that is visible in the presence of any person in a school or public place in a manner that would be likely to cause a person of reasonable firmness present at the scene to fear for personal safety	6 months 18 months 2 years 3 months 2 years	\$2,500 \$7,500 \$10,000 \$1,250 \$10,000
21D	(1) sells a knife to a minor (3) makes a false statement or produces false evidence in response to a request by a seller (4) markets a knife for combat; or encourage violent behaviour	2 years 2 years	\$20,000 \$1,250 \$20,000
21DA	(1) supply knife to minor knowing knife to be used in serious offence of violence (2) supply knife to minor knowing knife to be used in offence against s 21E	4 years 6 months	\$35,000 \$10,000
21E	A person who, without lawful excuse, has possession of a knife in a school or public place (a) for a first offence (b) for a subsequent offence	6 months 12 months	\$2,500 \$5,000
21F	(1) manufacture, sell, distribute, supply prohibited weapon (14) use or possess prohibited weapon in unsafe and unsecure manner	2 years 3 months	\$20,000 \$1,250
21 I (3)	Person subject to prohibition order manufacture, sell, distribute, supply, deal with, use or possess a prohibited weapon	4 years	\$35,000
21 I (4)	Person subject to prohibition order present at place at which person carries on business dealing with weapons or in company of person subject to prohibition order	2 years	\$10,000
21 I (7)	Person subject to prohibition order fails to notify Commissioner or follow directions	2 years	\$10,000
21 I (8)	Supply weapon to person subject to prohibition order	4 years	\$35,000

Part 3B Liquor etc

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
21OB(1)	Unlawfully possess or transport liquor for sale - First offence - Second or subsequent offence	- -	\$20,000 \$40,000
21OB(2)	Unlawfully possess or transport liquor for sale (other person) - First offence	-	\$20,000

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
	- Second or subsequent offence	-	\$40,000
21OB(3)	Commercial benefit from unlawful possession or transport liquor for sale		
	- First offence	-	\$20,000
	- Second or subsequent offence	-	\$40,000
21OC(1)	Supply etc of liquor in certain areas		
	- First offence	-	\$20,000
	- Second or subsequent offence	-	\$40,000

Part 4 Tattooing, body piercing and body modification

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
21Q	Body piercing /modification procedure on intoxicated person	12 months	\$5,000
21R	(1) body modification procedure on a minor	12 months	\$5,000
	(2)(a) intimate body piercing on a minor	12 months	\$5,000
	(2)(b) body piercing on a minor without consent of guardian	12 months	\$5,000
21S	Pre-conditions to performing certain procedure on minors not followed		\$5,000 Expiation fee: \$315
21T	Sale of body modification equipment to minors		\$2,500
21U	Display of prescribed information		\$1,250 Expiation fee: \$160
21V	Record keeping for 2 years		\$1,250 Expiation fee: \$160
21W	False statement or produce false evidence		\$2,500

Part 5 Offences against decency and morality

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
22	Indecent language		\$250
23(1)	Indecent behaviour	3 months	\$1,250
23(2)	Grossly indecent behaviour	6 months	\$2,500
24	Urinating in a public place		\$250 Expiation fee: \$80
25	Soliciting		\$750

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
25A	Procurement for prostitution		
	First Offence	3 months	\$1,250
	Subsequent Offence	6 months	\$2,500
26	Living on earnings of prostitution	6 months	\$2,500

Part 5A Filming and sexting offences

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
26B(1)	Humiliating or degrading filming	1 year	-
26B(2)	Distributing image obtained by humiliating or degrading filming	1 year	-
26B(3)	Taking part in humiliating or degrading act and engaging in conduct constituting offence against s 26B(1) or (2)	2 years	-
26C	Distributing invasive image of another person		
	- If invasive image of person under 17 years - In any other case	4 years 2 years	\$20,000 \$10,000
26D(1)	Indecent filming		
	- If the filming involves person under 17 years - Any other case	4 years 2 years	\$20,000 \$10,000
26D(3)	Distributing moving or still picture obtained by indecent filming		
	- If the filming involves person under 17 years - Any other case	4 years 2 years	\$20,000 \$10,000
26DA(1)	Threatening to distribute an invasive image of a person		
	- If invasive image is of person under 17 years - Any other case	2 years 1 year	\$10,000 \$5,000
26DA(2)	Threatening to distribute image obtained by indecent filming		
	- If film is of person under 17 years - Any other case	2 years 1 year	\$10,000 \$5,000

Part 5B Artificially generated depictions

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
26G(1)	Creating humiliating or degrading depiction of simulated person	2 years	\$10,000

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
26G(2)	Creating invasive depiction of simulated person - If depiction is of person under 17 years - Any other case	4 years 2 years	\$20,000 \$10,000
26H(1)	Distributing humiliating or degrading depiction of simulated person	1 year	-
26H(2)	Distributing invasive depiction of simulated person - If depiction is of person under 17 years - Any other case	4 years 2 years	\$20,000 \$10,000
26I(1)	Threatening to distribute humiliating or degrading depiction of simulated person	1 year	\$5,000
26I(2)	Threatening to distribute invasive depiction of simulated person - If depiction of, or threat made to, person under 17 years - Any other case	2 years 1 year	\$10,000 \$5,000

Part 6 Brothels

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
28	Keeping and managing brothels - First offence - Subsequent offence	3 months 6 months	\$1,250 \$2,500
29	Permitting premises to be used as brothels - First offence - Subsequent offence	3 months 6 months	\$1,250 \$2,500

Part 6A Nazi salute or symbols

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
32B	Engaging in prohibited act	12 months	\$20,000
32C	Contravening direction to remove Nazi symbol from display	-	\$1,250

Part 7 Indecent or offensive material

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
33(2)	Indecent or offensive material	6 months	\$20,000
35	Restriction on reports of immorality etc	6 months	\$2,500

Part 7A Extremist material

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
37	Possessing extremist material or taking steps in producing or distributing extremist material	2 years	\$10,000

Part 8 Fraud, unlawful possession etc

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
38A	Sale of books and educational matter	6 months	\$2,500
39	Pass valueless cheque	2 years	\$10,000
40	Acting as a spiritualist or medium with intent to defraud	2 years	\$10,000
41	Unlawful possession of personal property	2 years	\$10,000

Part 9 Offences with respect to property

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
43	Interfere with railways and similar tracks	2 years	\$50,000
44	Unlawful operation of computer system (2)(a) To obtain a benefit or cause detriment (2)(b) In any other case	6 months -	\$2,500 \$2,500
44A	Unauthorised impairment to computer or computer data	2 years	-
45	Illegal use of vehicle or animal	6 months	\$2,500
46	Interfere with ship or boat	1 year	\$5,000
47	Interfere with homing pigeons	-	\$250
47A	Dog theft	2 years	\$50,000
48A	Posting reward and asserting free from prosecution	-	\$500

Part 10 Nuisances and annoyances

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
50	Unlawfully ringing doorbells	-	\$250
51	Throwing missiles 1) intend to injure, annoy, frighten any person or damage property 2) reckless as to whether it injures, annoys, frightens or damages property	2 years 1 year	- -
52	Throwing fireworks	6 months	\$2,500
53	Playing games to cause injury or damage, or likely to cause injury or damage	-	\$250
54	Emitting excessive noise 5) fails to comply, false name etc 6) breach of direction issued under subsection (1)(c) 7) allowing noise from vehicle within 6 months of notice	6 months - -	\$1,250 \$1,250 \$1,250
56	Deposit or leave dead animal in street	-	\$750
57	Deposit rubbish on land Fail to comply with order to remove rubbish	- -	\$750 \$125
58	Obstruct a public place	3 months	\$50,000
58A	Objectionable persons in public vehicles	-	\$750
58B	Sale of certain refrigerators	-	\$750

Part 11 Control of traffic in certain cases

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
59(8)	Disobey direction of police etc	-	\$750

Part 11A Disrespectful conduct in court

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
60	Intentionally engage in disrespectful conduct during court proceedings	3 months	\$1,250

Part 12 Bribery of police

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
61	Bribery	2 years	\$10,000

Part 13 False report to police

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
62	False reports to police	2 years	\$10,000
62A	Create false belief calling for police action	2 years	\$10,000

Part 14A Consorting prohibition notices

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
66K	Contravene/fail to comply with consorting prohibition notice	2 years	-

Part 14B Declared public precincts

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
66O	Remain in or re-enter declared public precinct after order to leave	-	\$1,250
66P	Offensive or disorderly conduct in declared public precinct	-	\$1,250 (expiation \$250)
66Q	Carry offensive weapon or dangerous article in declared public precinct	2 years	\$10,000
66T	Enter or remain in declared public precinct after being barred	-	\$2,500
66U	Hinder police in declared public precinct	6 months	\$2,500

Part 14C Searches of persons to prevent and detect certain offences

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
66ZI	Remain or re-enter area after order to leave	-	\$1,250
66ZJ	Hinder or obstruct police officer or fail to comply with police direction	6 months	\$2,500

Part 15 Police powers

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
73	Remain or re-enter public venue after order to leave	6 months	\$2,500
74A	Provide false name or address or refuse to answer	3 months	\$1,250
74AB	Provide false name or address of driver of vehicle or refuse to answer	3 months	\$1,250

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
74B(7)	Provide false name or address at road block or fail to comply with direction	6 months	\$2,500

Part 16 Fortifications

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
74BJ	Hinder removal or modification of fortification	6 months	\$2,500

Part 16A Access to data held electronically

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
74BW	Contravene or fail to comply with order under Part 16A	5 years	-
74BX(1)	Altering, concealing or destroying data	5 years	-
74BX(2)	Altering, concealing or destroying data or causing another person to alter, conceal or destroy data	10 years	-
74BX(3)	Person voluntary providing information or assistance of kind in s74BR(1) cannot impede or prejudice investigation	10 years	-

Part 18 Arrest

Section	Offence	Imprisonment (maximum penalty)	Fine (maximum penalty)
81(3e)	Play detainee's audio visual record when not authorised	2 years	\$10,000
81(4e)	Refuse/fail to provide voice or handwriting sample	3 months	\$1,250
82A	Use of spit hood by police officer	2 years	-
83B(5)	Enter dangerous area contrary to warning	6 months	\$2,500
83BA(5)	Disobey order where overcrowding at public venue	6 months	\$2,500