



MCM EXPO WEAPONS & PROPS RULES

The MCM Expo Cosplay email address is: **cosplay@mcmexpo.net**

These rules apply to London MCM Expo, Midlands MCM Expo, and Manchester MCM Expo.
Last Updated: 1st July 2011.
Please check the website to see if there is a newer version available.

A MCM Expo is a family event, and is often crowded. The intention of these rules is to ensure that attendees of all ages can enjoy the event safely.

These policies are in place to ensure public safety while allowing cosplayers and other costume wearers to successfully portray a character. If a particularly large or dangerous weapon or prop is central to portraying a character, it may be worth reconsidering attending as that character or saving it for the Masquerade or other MCM organised cosplay event.

The following should **not** be brought to MCM Expo events:

**Real guns (including airguns and deactivated guns), rifles, or rocket launchers, and any other functioning projectile weapons such as slingshots and bows;
Metal bladed weapons/replica weapons (sharp or blunt) including knives, machetes, swords, katanas, and axes.**

This takes precedence over any further rules or descriptions below. As a general rule, we recommend that any weapons or replica weapons that either banned outright or subject to restrictions from being carried OR sold in this country should not be brought to MCM Expos. If such prohibited items are sold at the MCM Expo, the sale is conditional on the items remaining bound in their packaging and remaining hidden from view.

MCM reserves the right to disallow any weapon or prop if it is deemed to be unsafe or likely to cause a nuisance. Likewise anyone seen acting inappropriately with a replica weapon or prop may have the item(s) confiscated and may be asked to leave. Confiscated items can be collected upon departure from the event unless they have been passed to the police.

MCM further reserves the right to grant individuals dispensation to carry a weapon or prop which would typically not be allowed at the event. This may be necessary for an exhibitor or sponsor's promotion for example. Attendees should always refer to these rules and not make assumptions on what is permitted by the weapons and props of other people.

Note that outside of the MCM Expo Hall weapon and prop restrictions from the venue owners, police, and local authorities will apply. If you have any queries regarding the display or transportation of your weapon or prop outside of the hall, please contact the relevant authority.

Upon entering the MCM Expo Hall all weapons and any large props **MUST** be brought to the Cosplay Desk, where they will be checked for safety and compliance to the rules. If MCM Expo staff see a weapon or large prop that is **NOT** considered safe, you will be asked to go to the Cosplay Desk to hand it in or leave the hall.

Such items **may** be permitted for use in photo shoots and MCM organised cosplay events and will be kept at the Cosplay Desk until preparing for these.

The Cosplay Desk offers a variety of services for cosplayers in addition to organising the Cosplay Masquerade.

We store bags, props, and weapons; offer free changing facilities and small standing mirrors for make-up; and have a repair kit with people on hand to help.

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What is and is not allowed?

Please contact the MCM Cosplay Team on the MCM forums www.mcmexpogroup.com/forums or by emailing them at cosplay@mcmexpo.net if you want further clarification describing the item as fully as you are able, with a photograph if possible.

- If you feel a weapon or prop may cause an injury to someone if a sudden movement (eg. running, sneezing, shoving) caused a collision with the weapon or prop, then it is not suitable for the Expo hall and should be kept in a bag or at the Cosplay Desk.
- Weapons and props with any dimension greater than 1.5m may be used in MCM organised cosplay events only.
- Weapons and props other than replica or realistic looking guns (see right) that are made of lightweight material such as Plastic, Foam or Balsa wood are allowed up to a length of 1.5m as long as they have been made as safe as possible with any edges should be rounded off, ends padded, and no dangerous parts attached e.g. nails or blades.
- Wooden and otherwise solid but permitted replica weapons are allowed but must be sheathed and 'peace bonded' or otherwise secured so they cannot be easily drawn.
- If a costume is bulky, made of hard materials, or includes parts outside of usual human dimensions you should have at least one person with you to assist with warning people nearby and guiding you to avoid accidental collisions. Examples include full fur suits, armour, wings, and robots.

Guns, Rifles, and other projectiles

- Plastic toy guns fitted with a coloured 'Blaze' tip and unrealistic weapons such as Light guns or sci-fi replica guns are allowed.
- Caps, incendiaries or any sort of projectile are not allowed. Magazines and batteries for weapons should be left at home or handed into the Cosplay desk.
- Realistic replica handguns such as plastic pistols and BB guns are allowed as long as the magazine is shown as empty and battery shown to not be in the gun. These should still be kept holstered however. They may be drawn for photographs, but ensure that you have a clear space around you and do not draw it suddenly or in front of people such as small children who may be excitable or easily scared.
- Larger realistic replica guns such as rifles or SMG's are allowed only in MCM organised cosplay events and are NOT permitted as part of a floor costume.

It is important that weapons or props are never waved around, carried over shoulders, or wielded in an unpredictable or dangerous manner. This is especially true for replica guns which must never be pointed at someone.

Lastly, remember to keep everything well-wrapped and out of site whenever you are not in the MCM Expo hall. You are responsible for transporting props and weapons so be safe!

Thanks for reading!
MCM Cosplay Team

Further questions or feedback?
Email: cosplay@mcmexpo.net
Forum: <http://www.mcmexpogroup.com/forums/>
Facebook: [Cosplay @ MCM Expo](#)
DeviantArt: [CosplayatMCMExpo](#)