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# Classification of Publications

## New Arrangements for Tasmania

The classification of publications, films and computer games for distribution and use in Tasmania was carried out by the Publications Classification Board, established under the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Enforcement Act 1995*.

However, in 2001 the Tasmanian Parliament passed amendments to the above Act when it passed the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Enforcement Amendment Act 2001* (No. 118 of 2001). This Amendment Act commenced on 22 March 2002, and Tasmania become part of the national classification scheme for publications.

As from 22 March 2002, the Tasmanian Publications Classifications Board no longer exists, and classification decisions made under the old system cease to exist. All classifications are now carried out by the Commonwealth Office of Film and Literature Classification (OFLC).

### The National Scheme

The national scheme is administered by the Commonwealth Office of Film and Literature Classification (OFLC), and there are a number of changes to the process used before. The conditions applying to publications and the relevant *Determined Markings* remain unchanged.

### How to Apply

Relevant publications, both Australian or overseas sourced, are to be submitted by the distributor to the Commonwealth Classification Board. A 'How to Apply' form must be submitted with the material, together with the prescribed fee. This form and related information is available on the OFLC website [www.oflc.gov.au](http://www.oflc.gov.au) under *Information for Industry*.

For films and computer games, there are separate application forms for the classification of films for sale and/or hire, films for public exhibition, and computer games, as well as for approval for advertisement. These are all available under *Information for Industry* on the OFLC website [www.oflc.gov.au](http://www.oflc.gov.au)



#### Disclaimer

The information in this guide is advisory only. It is not to be taken as a statement of law or as an exhaustive statement relating to the subject, and must not be construed to waive or modify any legal obligation.

## Classification

The Board classifies publications according to the *Guidelines for the Classification of Publications*. Distributors are expected to be familiar with these guidelines. Once a publication is classified it is required to comply with any conditions imposed by the Board and carry the relevant *Determined Markings*.

## Decisions

Classification decisions are recorded on the OFLC website [www.oflc.gov.au](http://www.oflc.gov.au) under Classification Database, and are accessible to the public. The Classification Board also issues certificates to evidence each decision, and copies of these are available on application to the OFLC.

If an applicant is dissatisfied with the classification decision made by the Board, they may apply to the Classification Review Board for a review of the decision.

## Further Information

Further information may be obtained as follows:

- Regarding the general operation of the **classification scheme** and **applications** contact OFLC on (02) 9289 7100
- Regarding an **application for certificate of exemption for advertising purposes** contact the Exemptions Officer on (02) 9289 7147
- Regarding a **review of a classification decision** contact the Secretary of the Classification Review Board on (02) 9289 7138
- For **general information** and **applications forms** visit the OFLC website at [www.oflc.gov.au](http://www.oflc.gov.au)
- If a consumer wishes to lodge a **complaint** about a classification decision, they should email their complaint to the OFLC at [oflswitch@oflc.gov.au](mailto:oflswitch@oflc.gov.au)

## Relevant Legislation

*Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Enforcement Act 1995*  
(Tasmania)

*Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment Act 2001*  
(Tasmania)

*Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995* (Commonwealth)



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