

So, You Want An AR-15 in California!

By Sean Newton

Due to a 2001 court ruling, AR-15 and AK-series rifles are not prohibited by law *unless* they are on a blacklist maintained by the California Department of Justice. Presently, that blacklist is out of date, and shooters all over California are buying and shooting legal off-list rifles. The bare lower receivers ("lowers") are not restricted items until they get blacklisted - at which point everyone just registers their lowers and keeps on shooting. Presently, most off-list lowers are built up with pinned-in non-detachable magazines due to restrictions on their configuration. The traditional detachable magazine plus pistol grip configuration is illegal on centerfire rifles other than registered assault weapons (which off-list lowers *might* become later on). Because the lower is the *only* registered part of the weapon under current law, you can buy a receiver now, register it when it's listed, complete the rifle several years down the road, and still be within the law. Read http://www.calguns.net/a_california_arak.htm for FAR more detail!

Receiver Pricing - Depending on brand, a lower will generally cost \$100 to \$175, not counting state and transfer fees. Dealers who stock lowers often charge a little more than online vendors, but because you're not paying a transfer fee, the rates are often very competitive. Some transfer dealers are listed at the bottom of this flier.

Total rifle price - Building on a budget with inexpensive parts, a normal AR can easily be built for \$525 over the price of the receiver. If you want to build your rifle as a 22LR, you could buy the parts to build it for \$400 over the price of the receiver. Extremely high-end ARs can run several thousand dollars, but any receiver within spec will work as either a high or low end AR.

AK builds – Although there are off-list AK receivers, building one requires some metal working, unlike the AR which more or less snaps together. Details on Calguns.

Further questions can be answered by going to <http://www.calguns.net/> and searching the forums. You can also email me personally at offlist @ thegunwiki.com.

Transfer dealers – this is NOT all, this is just the one I've gotten permission to post!

Bright Spot Pawn Riverside 915-360-1796 (sometimes stocks!)

This list is kept online: <http://thegunwiki.com/Gunwiki/CalArOpenFFLs>