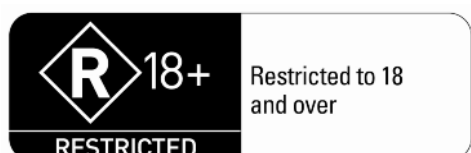
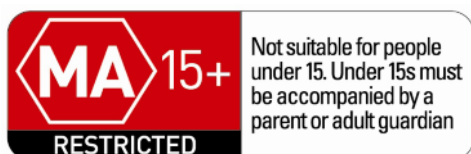
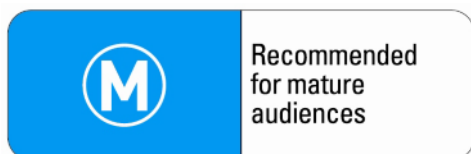


The M, MA 15+ and R 18+ classifications (All jurisdictions but Qld and WA)



The M classification

M is an advisory classification. This classification advises audiences that a level of maturity is required in relation to the film. While anyone can gain admission to an M film, material classified M is **not recommended for persons under 15 years of age**.

The MA 15+ classification

MA 15+ films are **not suitable for people under 15** because the content is strong in impact. There are **legal restrictions** governing who can be admitted to MA 15+ films.

A person aged under 15 cannot be admitted to an MA 15+ film unless they are accompanied by his or her parent or adult guardian **for the duration of the film**.

The requirements are not met if the parent or adult guardian buys a ticket but does not accompany the child into the cinema for the duration of the film.

Who qualifies as a 'guardian' for a person under 15?

The 'guardian' must be an adult exercising 'parental control' over the person under 15 years of age. The guardian needs to be 18 years or older.

An older sibling or friend would not generally satisfy this requirement, whereas a grandparent, aunt or uncle may.

The R 18+ classification

R 18+ films are **not suitable for people under 18** because the content is high impact. There are **legal restrictions** governing who can be admitted to R 18+ films. People aged under 18 cannot be admitted to an R 18+ film.

Proof of age at the cinema

Cinemas may verify a person's age before they provide access to an MA 15+ or R 18+ film.

Proof of age (preferably in the form of photo identification) may be requested of the person claiming to be 15 or 18, or of the parent or guardian.

Where do you get photo ID?

An under 18 keypass, see www.keypass.com.au, is a widely accepted form of ID which includes a photograph and date of birth.

Passports, driver licences, proof of age cards (Photo cards in NSW) and some educational institution IDs also include a photograph and date of birth.

When can cinemas refuse entry to under 15s to MA 15+ and R 18+ films?

Cinemas are required to abide by the MA 15+ and R 18+ restrictions. This means refusing entry to an MA 15+ film to any person who reasonably appears to be under 15 and who is not accompanied by his or her parent or guardian.

Similarly, entry to an R 18+ film can be refused to any person who reasonably appears to be under 18.

What are the penalties for breaking MA 15+ and R 18+ laws?

It is an offence to exhibit an MA 15+ film to a person under 15 unless they are accompanied by his or her parent or adult guardian or an R 18+ film if a person under 18 is present. There are limited defences to these offences.

Fines may apply to individuals and/or body corporates who commit these offences.

Classification notice

A notice, explaining what the classifications G through to R 18+ mean, must be displayed in a prominent place where films are being exhibited.

Need more information?

Classification notices are available at [<www.classification.gov.au>](http://www.classification.gov.au) or contact the Community Liaison Scheme on (02) 9289 7100.