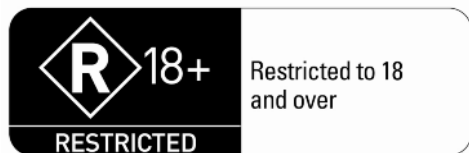


The M, MA 15+ and R 18+ classifications (Queensland)



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 the age of 15.**

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.

In Queensland, a person aged between 2 and under 15 cannot be admitted to an MA 15+ film unless they are accompanied by an adult **for the duration of the film.**

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

Who qualifies as an 'adult' for a person under 15?

Any person 18 years or older is an adult and may accompany a person aged between 2 and under 15 to an MA 15+ film.

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 between 2 and under 18 cannot be admitted to an R 18+ film.

Proof of age at the cinema

Under Queensland's enforcement legislation, cinemas have the power to require the name, address and age of a person in some circumstances 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 adult accompanying the minor.

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 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 a MA 15+ film to any person who reasonably appears to be aged between 2 and under 15 and who is not accompanied by an adult.

Similarly, entry to an R18+ film can be refused to any person who reasonably appears to be aged between 2 and 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 aged between 2 and under 15 unless they are accompanied by an adult or an R 18+ film if a person aged between 2 and under 18 is present. There are limited defences to these offences.

Fines may apply for breaches of these laws by individuals or companies.

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> or contact the Community Liaison Scheme on (02) 9289 7100.