

# What happens if someone breaks a Domestic Violence Order?



FAMILY VIOLENCE LAW HELP

[www.familyviolencelaw.gov.au](http://www.familyviolencelaw.gov.au)

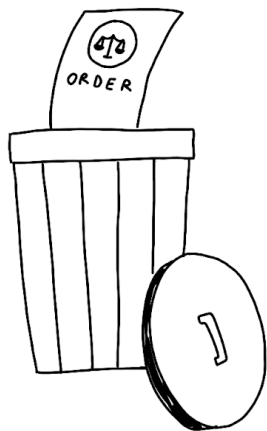
Domestic Violence Orders are also known as Intervention Orders, Family Violence Orders, Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders or Restraining Orders.



Breaking a Domestic Violence Order is against the law. Breaking an order is also called breaching a Domestic Violence Order.

If you have a Domestic Violence Order for your protection and the other person breaks the conditions, you should call the police immediately.

If it's safe to do so, it's a good idea to keep any evidence, like text messages or photos, that show what happened, or write down what happened.



The police will investigate. The other person may be charged with breaching the Domestic Violence Order, which is a criminal offence. They could also charge the person with other criminal offences, depending on what happened.

The court decides what penalty to give a person who is guilty of breaking a Domestic Violence Order. Sometimes they can be given a fine or sent to jail—it depends on the circumstances.

If you have been charged with breaking a Domestic Violence Order, you can get legal advice about this.

*While we have tried to make the information here as up-to-date and accurate as possible, the law is complex and always changing. All legal problems are different. You should see a lawyer to get advice about your problem. Legal Aid NSW, National Legal Aid and the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department are not liable for any errors or omissions, or for any loss or damage that arises from any person who relies on any information on this factsheet. This factsheet was developed in 2019.*



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