



Security at Aena airports



Hello!

This brochure by Aena contains everything you need to know about airport security and the protection measures that the different Spanish government agencies have put in place to ensure your security and safety. The purpose of these measures is to ensure that your aircraft takes off as smoothly as possible.

It provides a clear and simple explanation of the key points regarding airport security, the channels available to you for obtaining information and lodging complaints, and reference to the applicable aviation security regulation.

Aena, which works in collaboration with the public security and law enforcement agencies of Spain to ensure proper compliance with this regulation, stresses the importance of taking these points into account before you pack your bags. This will help you avoid having to dispose of valuable items at the airport, given many items that are usually packed in hand luggage, such as cosmetics and toiletry items, may be affected by this regulation.

There are also many other items, such as martial arts equipment, which pose no problem when packed into hold luggage, but will be removed from your hand luggage at a security checkpoint and confiscated.

You are reminded that all airport security agents are tasked with complying with the regulation and mitigating any risk with the least possible inconvenience.

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Aircraft security begins at the airport

→ Hand luggage

To ensure that you have a safe flight, it is necessary to take a number of precautionary measures at the airport, because when you board a plane, you do so with many other people from different places who will be unknown to you or each other. All these people may access items that they have brought with them aboard the aircraft, either in their clothing or hand luggage. For this reason, both passengers and crew have to undergo screening - the same for everybody - at a security checkpoint in order to keep dangerous objects from being brought into the cabin and jeopardising the safety and security of the flight. The carriage of these dangerous objects in the aircraft cabin is prohibited by the laws currently in force and they are set out in a List of Prohibited Articles specified by the European Union regulations, which are referenced on the following pages.

→ Hold luggage

The luggage you check in will also be screened by machines using different technologies to detect any suspicious objects. However, as this luggage is carried in the hold of the aircraft and cannot be accessed during the flight, there are fewer restrictions on the items that can be placed in it.



What are the regulations and who enforces them?

The security measures applied by the airports in the Aena network comply with all compulsory national and European Union regulation: the National Security Framework of Spain and a number of European Union regulations.

The latter can be found at eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html where you will find all the European Union regulations currently in force.

Their application and enforcement is the responsibility of the public security and law enforcement agencies of Spain: Guardia Civil (Civil Guard), National Police and the police forces of the different autonomous communities (in public areas under their jurisdiction).

In addition, security personnel at Aena airport facilities, particularly at security checkpoints, include employees of private security companies under contract to Aena to collaborate with the Guardia Civil in the duties assigned to them at these checkpoints in order to guarantee compliance with the previously mentioned regulations.

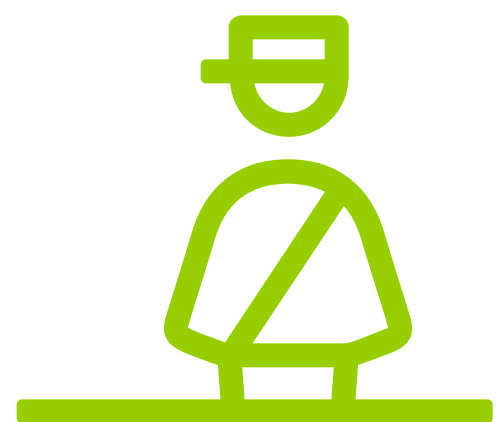
To guarantee compliance with these regulations and ensure that the required levels of quality are achieved, the security measures in place at Aena airports are audited by the relevant bodies: the European Commission (EC), the Spanish Aviation Safety and Security Agency (AESA) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html>



What is a security checkpoint?

This is the place where security personnel screen anybody who wants to enter security restricted areas of the airport, including those providing access to aircraft, looking for dangerous items that they may consciously or unconsciously have on them.



In order to make the screening process as unobtrusive as possible, security checkpoints are equipped to facilitate the detection of dangerous goods:

→ **Archway metal detector:** this metal detector is designed for human use and screens all passengers, employees and cabin crews.

It detects metal objects, the presence of which is indicated by an audible and visual alarm.

→ **Hand luggage scanners:** These devices allow potentially dangerous items carried inside hand luggage to be viewed on a screen.

The use of this device does not do away with manual searches of both hand luggage and individuals, which will be necessary in the following cases:

- When a suspicious item is detected by the **hand luggage scanner**, in order to confirm that it poses a danger.
- When an alarm is given by the **archway metal detector**, the object triggering it must be identified. Additionally, **manual searches** are performed to detect any objects that may not have not triggered an alarm but need to be studied in further detail to see if they contain any prohibited substances.

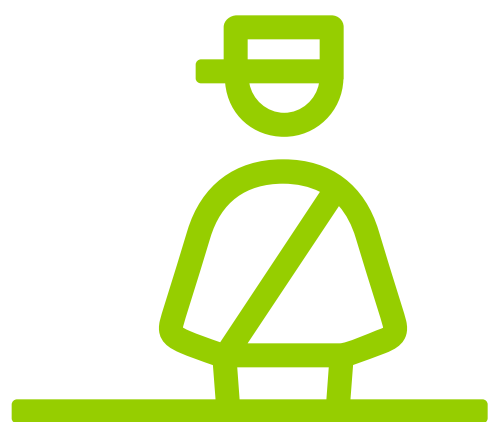
What is a security checkpoint?

European Union regulations require all **jackets and coats** to be screened by a hand luggage scanner.

Footwear is a special case because it often triggers the archway metal detector alarm. This may be caused by metals and other prohibited non-metallic substances in its composition. In the latter case, you may be requested by security personnel to place your footwear in trays for a more thorough screening by a hand luggage scanner either before or after passing through the metal detector, even if an alarm has not been triggered.

To avoid unnecessary inconvenience, passengers are always requested to remove any metal objects they are carrying when passing through the archway metal detector because a manual inspection will be necessary if an alarm is triggered.

It should be noted that any item of passenger attire that may contain or conceal a prohibited article, such as thick-soled shoes, some belts, hats, etc., is always inspected in accordance with the regulations, either with screening equipment or manually.



What is a prohibited item?

A prohibited article is an item that the aviation authorities consider to be dangerous for people or aircraft, owing to the damage it may cause because of its sharp, cutting, blunt or explosive nature, among others, including real and replica weapons that could produce the same alarm.



Liquids deserve special consideration and must either be taken through security checkpoints according to precise instructions or carried in hold baggage.

These items are defined in European Union regulations, and a detailed list of these items that was drawn up in 2010 can be found in the **Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1998**.

An **information leaflet and posters** with details of this regulation are made available to you by Aena at all the airports within its network.

It is important that you become familiar with this list so that you do not arrive at a security checkpoint with items that you could have packed into your hold luggage but will be removed from your hand luggage and confiscated.

The list contains items that may seem odd and whose presence in a piece of luggage comes as a great surprise, but which security personnel have quite often detected at screening. It also includes objects that are apparently not dangerous but which, given their shape or solidity, could be used to cause harm.

However, since it is not possible to detail every potentially dangerous item, the list of prohibited articles is not exhaustive, and the European Commission regulation allows security personnel to deny any person carrying an item that may be considered suspicious, despite not being included on the list, passage through a security checkpoint.

Where are the airport security checkpoints located?

They are located before entering the security restricted area, which is the area from which the aircraft is directly accessible.

At airports, there are three distinct areas that are identified by their level of security:

→ **Public area**

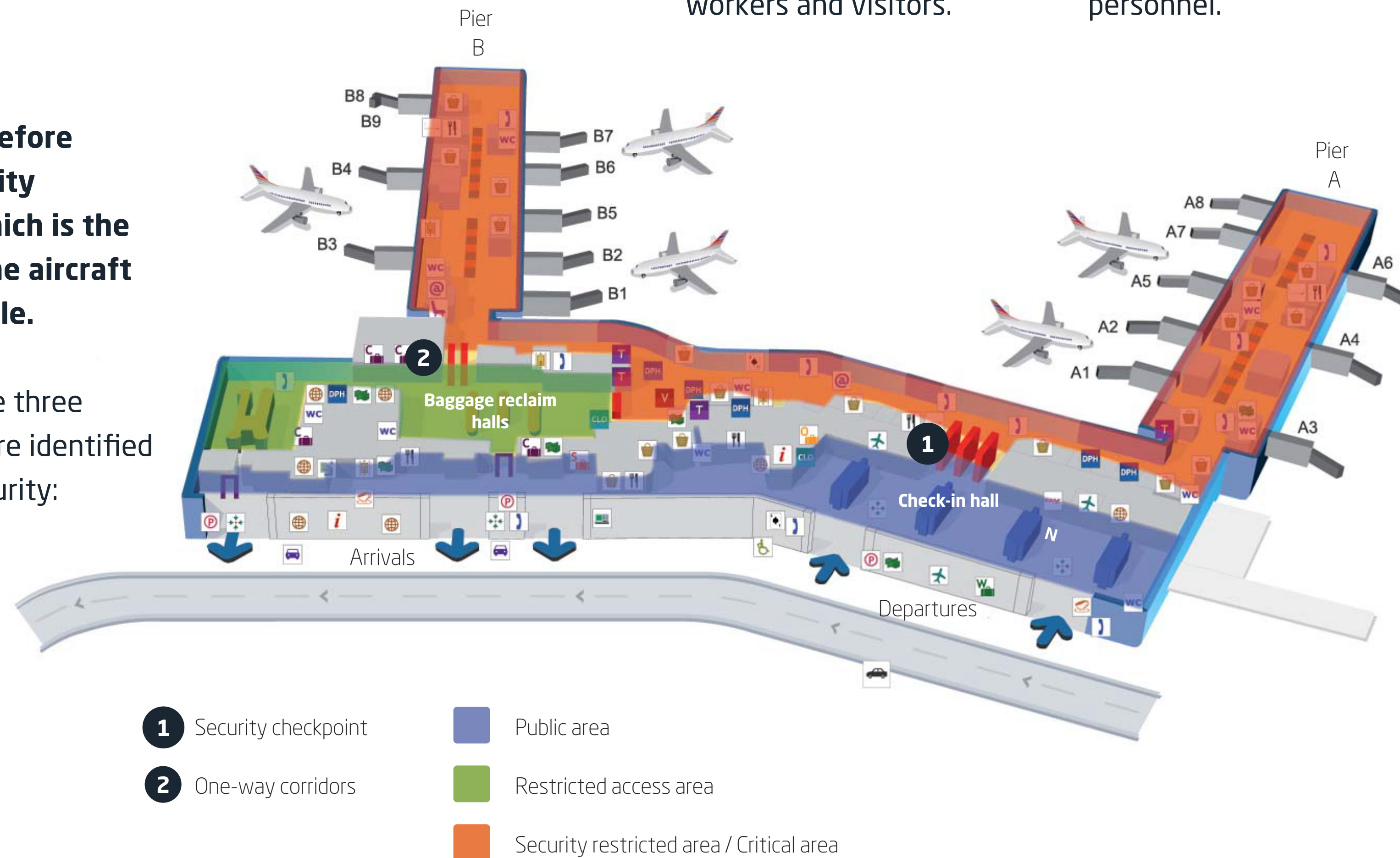
This area is freely accessible to passengers, workers and visitors.

→ **Restricted access area**

Access to this area is restricted to authorised personnel.

→ **Security restricted area / critical area**

This is the area that provides access to aircraft; therefore, entry is subject to strict security controls. All persons and their belongings, whether passengers, crew or airport employees, must pass through a security checkpoint to prevent the entry of dangerous items that could affect flight safety and security.



Some frequently-asked questions

→ **Why can I buy a bottle of any beverage with a volume of more than 100 ml inside the airport and take it on the plane but not one bought outside?**

You will only be allowed to enter the aircraft with beverages and other liquids with a volume of more than 100 ml if they are purchased in the airport shops located after the security checkpoint because they have already passed the relevant security checks required by European Union regulations. If you buy them before going through security checkpoint or outside the airport, you will not be able to take them on your flight.

→ **What happens to all the items that are confiscated at security checkpoints?**

In all cases they are treated as waste: metal objects, such as knives, razors and scissors, are melted down; aerosols are treated as hazardous waste according to

the environmental regulation in force, and liquids are disposed of and their packaging recycled. Therefore, when packing, it is important that you put items into your check-in luggage that you would otherwise have to leave behind at the security checkpoint in order to pass through it.

→ **Why am I asked to remove my belt before going through security screening?**

To avoid inconvenience and delays for all passengers, given that belts and certain shoes often trigger alarms in the archway metal detectors, therefore requiring inspection by hand or screening through the hand baggage scanner. To find the most frequently-asked questions and their answers, please consult the security section of the Aena website, www.aena.es.



Example of objects removed at security controls at Aena airports



Cane sword



Butterfly knife



Machete



Flares



Firecrackers



Ninja or throwing star



Self-defence spray



Gas bottle



Multi-purpose kit inside a cassette tape



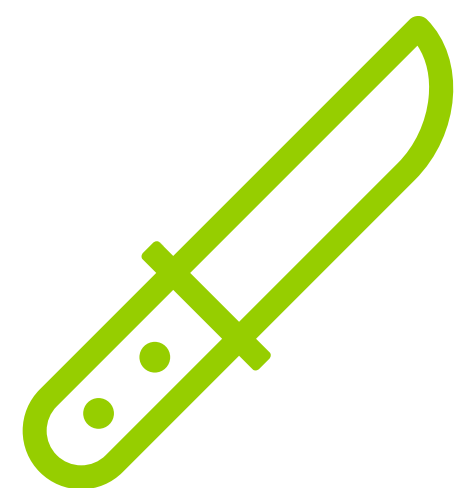
Buckle knife



Concealed knife



Replica hand grenade



Further information

Aena offers you information on this regulation:

- **At Aena counters** in all its airports, in the **“Items prohibited on aircraft”** leaflet.
- **On posters** at airport check-in counters
- **At www.aena.es**
- **Telephone +34 91 321 10 00**

If you wish to submit a claim, complaint or suggestion:

- **At Aena information desks**
- At airports**, where you will be given complaint forms
- If you are no longer at the airport, you can submit your complaint via **administracionelectronica.aena.es** or find information on how to do so from our **customer service helpline (+34) 91 321 10 00**

All these complaint channels are available both for the security service and for any other service provided at Aena network airports, such as cleaning, information, etc.



Thank you



In collaboration with



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