



Is the use of Fake ID legal or not

What is legal and illegal in the world of fake IDs? Would you get charged immediately for ordering these online? In what ways can you use it where it becomes considered illegal? Is it against the law to manufacture fake IDs? There are a lot of mysteries surrounding the use, possession, and reproduction of fake IDs. Let's shed some light into this issue, where the areas of legal and criminal are jaggedly drawn.

The answers always boil down on how the IDs are being used. It seems that it doesn't matter if you've made a really good fake ID capable of fooling police officers. If you just carry it around in your wallet as a novelty item then you would not be making an offense and nobody would care. Sources of these IDs online state that they should only be used as what they are described to be: novelty items. Both you and the business that sold you that ID would be at no fault whatsoever, be it the ID is a fake driver's license, national ID, social security ID, or passport. The (1) [law assumes](#) you've bought it for personal purposes, like toys and play money, and that you have no intention of committing crime. Same goes with the business that reproduced the fake ID. They're just filling in a demand for novelty items, and the law assumes they are selling it to people who understand that these items are not to be used in ways other than those indicated.

What could have been the difference if you attempt to use it to make legal transactions, passing background checks, or try getting employment using the IDs with fake information? The point is where you have committed a felony. When someone is caught trying to pass a background check of legal drinking age or gain entry to pubs and restricted areas, then that person will face the necessary charges according to their country's laws and regulations. Fines can reach up to thousands of US dollars and federal charges, and depending on the gravity of the offense, you might even have a criminal record scarring your name. Maybe you would think you need another ID to get your record a quick fix but getting caught again will hurt so much more. When this happens, only the person who used the ID with illegal intentions will be charged, but not the company or group that issued the ID. Just as said above, the law assumes you have no ill intentions with the card you've bought, and also assumes that the company assumes the same from their customer.

When do companies that issue fake IDs get arrested? Relatively speaking, some companies get caught and shut down and some don't. It takes a lot of effort from investigators and government action to be certain that the target business really has ill intentions of selling and reproducing fake identification for illegal purposes. Affiliations with organized criminal groups who leech on other people's identities or groups that smuggle in people and help in illegal immigration are heavy points of consideration for their true intentions. These groups often need the help of insiders, or civil servants who have access to the government's database, to get real personal details to include in their fake IDs and documents for the purpose of identity theft. Once a connection between the ID manufacturing business and these criminal groups have been established, or if the manufacturers themselves were proven to be the ones buying sensitive data, then those are grounds for their impending arrest.

On the issue of identity theft, the United States government issued a new law that creates a new class of federal crime. (2) "[Aggravated identity theft](#)" carries a mandatory 2-year service in the federal prison for those who are charged with the crime under this new law, the US Sentencing Commission is ordered to raise the penalty for the insiders we talked about earlier, who themselves steal the data to be used in the crimes that follow after. The US is moving to impose heavy penalties on these offenders after an estimated \$50 billion worth of fraudulent transactions have been made, and after 10 million victims in the US have fallen in the previous year alone. This law was passed mostly thanks to an insider who was a student employee at University of Texas stole 55,000 records of social security numbers.

The governments of the world are considering the issue of fake IDs and identity theft very seriously, and are taking steps in preventing such crimes. People should start thinking about it too. How will the youth, mostly



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teenagers who make up the bulk of people carrying fake IDs, use their forged identifications? The risks are large and it would be no fun to be serving a term in federal prison.

- (1) <http://www.articlecapsule.com/Article/Fake-ID-s---Legal-and-Illegal-Uses/47825>
- (2) <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/5437439/>.