

Spent?



The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 gives people with spent convictions, cautions, reprimands and final warnings the right not to disclose them when applying for most jobs, courses, insurance or other purposes.

Important changes reducing rehabilitation periods under the Act were implemented on 10 March 2014. The table below sets out the time it takes the main current sentences to become spent.

Rehabilitation periods for sentences with <u>no</u> buffer periods		
Sentence/disposal	Rehabilitation period for adults (aged 18 or over at the time of conviction, or at the time the disposal is administered)	Rehabilitation period for young people (aged under 18 at the time of conviction, or at the time the disposal is administered)
Absolute discharge	Spent immediately	Spent immediately
Bind over	At the end of the order	At the end of the order
Compensation order	When paid in full	When paid in full
Conditional caution/ youth conditional caution	3 months or when caution ceases to have effect if earlier	3 months or when caution ceases to have effect if earlier
Conditional discharge order	At the end of the order	At the end of the order
Endorsements (imposed by a court)	5 years	2½ years
Fine	1 year	6 months
Hospital order (with or without restriction)	When order ceases to have effect	When order ceases to have effect
Referral order	At the end of the order	At the end of the order
Relevant order	When order ceases to have effect	When order ceases to have effect
Reparation order	Spent immediately	Spent immediately
Simple caution/youth caution	Spent immediately	Spent immediately
Rehabilitation periods for sentences with buffer periods		
Community order or youth rehabilitation order	Total length of order plus 1 year	Total length of order plus 6 months
Prison sentence or detention in a young offender institution for 6 months or less	Total length of sentence (including licence period) plus 2 years	Total length of sentence (including licence period) plus 18 months
Prison sentence or detention in a young offender institution for over 6 months and up to and including 30 months (2½ years)	Total length of sentence (including licence period) plus 4 years	Total length of sentence (including licence period) plus 2 years
Prison sentence or detention in a young offender institution for over 30 months (2½ years) and up to 48 months (4 years)	Total length of sentence (including licence period) plus 7 years	Total length of sentence (including licence period) plus 3½ years
Prison sentence or detention in a young offender institution for over 48 months (4 years) or a public protection sentence	Never spent	Never spent

A full list of rehabilitation periods for all sentences can be found at nacro.org.uk

Nacro's Resettlement Advice Service Call 0300 123 1999, Mon-Fri 9am-5pm Email: helpline@nacro.org.uk