

Guide to buy epee fencing gear by Cercle Escrime Luxemburg (CEL)

Do I need to buy fencing gear as a beginner?

No, you don't need to buy fencing gear before visiting your first training. The CEL has some equipment that you can borrow for free during the training. But we advice fencers to buy their own gear as fast as possible, as this will improve your training experience.





Can I buy second-hand fencing gear?








There is a possibility to buy second hand fencing kit, at least some parts of it. There is a notice board in the fencing hall (CNE) where fencers can sell their used fencing gear. Especially for kids equipment (kids grow fast and have a lot of changes in their fencing gear) this is a great way to buy and sell fencing equipment.

There are 4 important things you need to know before buying fencing gear:

1. What type of weapon are you fencing? There are 3 weapons that you can fence, we in the CEL fence **only epee/Degen/Spada**; we **do not** fence foil/fleuret or sabre.
2. There are different safety regulations in clothing and masks depending on the age of the fencers. For clothing and/or masks its : 350N , 800N or 1600N (N stands for Newton, this is the force that can be at least supported be the textile to a given surface, so higher is better)
3. Fencing gear which is called **FIE** and has a FIE stamp on it is regulated and controlled be the International Fencing Federation (FIE), this gear has high standards (800N or 1600N) and is required for most tournaments.
4. Age categories are written for example U9, U11, U13 ... U20. The **U** stands for **UNDER/unter** (en français M9, M11, moins de). It refers to the age you reach in the year the fencing season starts. (Fencing seasons are more or less following the set-up of school years; the fencing seasons starts in August/September and ends in July.) For example if a fencer celebrates his 13th birthday in 2022, in the fencing season 2022/23 he will not be allowed to fence in U13 anymore, and will have to fence in U15 instead. Adults (=older than U20 fencers) are referred to Seniors, and from the age of 40 there are dedicated competitions for so-called veterans.

Gear you need to fence epee in training and tournaments:

Item	Image	Description	Age group
Mask / masque/ Fechtmaske		350N or FIE-1600N depending on age category, available in different sizes (sizing according to the manufacturer).	Most fencers in Luxembourg have to fence with equipment corresponding to the official FIE standards (1600N for the mask or 800N for the rest of the equipment). The only exception are fencers in age category U13 and younger, who are allowed to fence with 350N gear. However, we advice to buy the advanced gear as early as possible.
Jacket /veste / Jacke		350N or FIE-800N depending on age category, available in different sizes according to the manufacturers. Attention: you also have to pay attention to the handiness, since there is different equipment for left and right handed fencers.	
Breeches / pantalon / Hose		350N or FIE-800N depending on age category, available in different sizes according to the manufacturers. Comes in different versions for left- and right-handed fencers. Need to cover the kneecaps in the en-guard-position.	
Plastron / Unterziehweste		350N or FIE-800N depending on age category, available in different sizes according to the manufacturers. Comes in different versions for left- and right-handed fencers.	

Chest protector / bustier / Brustschutz		Mandatory for girls and women. If you're afraid of impact on the torso, a chest protector is a good choice for all fencers.
Gloves/ gants / Handschuhe		Just for the weapon arm (they are never sold in pairs), so different versions for left and right handed fencers. Sizes are the typical glove sizes from 6 to 13.
Socks / chaussettes / Socken		No regulation, you can buy special fencing socks but football socks or long socks to the knees will do the job too. Different sizes exist.
Shoes / chaussures / Schuhe		No regulation, there are special fencing shoes but normal indoor sports shoes do the job too, like Handball, Squash or indoor sports shoes.
Epee body cord / Fil de corps / Körperkabel		We recommend buying at least 2 body cords/wires. But be careful: just epee body cords will work.
Epee / Degen		We recommend buying at least 2 epees, be careful to buy an electric epee. For most of our fencers we recommend a french (long) grip. The blade comes in different lengths: 0 (smallest), 2 (middle), 5 (longest). Please buy pre-mounted epees not the single parts. U11 size 0. U13 size 0 or 2. U15 size 5. (competitions in Germany U13 already use size 5)
Fencing Bag / sac d'escrime / Fechtsack		Fencing bags are optional, there are a lot of options to choose from. You could just take a big bag to put your fencing gear and carry your epees in your hands, that's totally up to you. Just try to protect your electric gear (body cord and epee) from moisture, as this will extend their lifespan.

Fencing gear vendors

There is no fencing equipment shop in Luxemburg, but there are a lot of online retailers offering shipping across Europe. Very often, you also can find a sales booth at competitions.

<https://allezfencing.eu/> Hungarian retailer (Prieur, Fun with Fencing, Elsior, Allez Fencing Hungary)

If you want to order from allezfencing.eu please ask for Ervin or call him: 621 543 791

<https://liefertz.com/> Fencing retailer in Germany (Allstar/Uhlmann)

<https://allstar.de/> German manufacturer

<https://www.leonpaul.com/> UK manufacturer

<https://www.prieur-sports.com/> French manufacturer

<https://www.negrini.com/en> Italian manufacturer

<https://uhlmann-fechtsport.com/> German manufacturer

<https://www.fencewithfun.com/> German manufacturer

<https://www.planeteescrime.com/en/> French manufacturer

<https://shop.pbt-fencing.com/> Hungarian manufacturer

<https://www.eurofencing.info/> Italian manufacturer

Decathlon - Arlon in Belgium has fencing gear, please check their website first, they have very limited options.