

# California Penal Code

**California Code**  
**CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE**  
**PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS**

**§ 21a Penal**

An attempt to commit a crime consists of two elements: a specific intent to commit the crime, and a direct but ineffectual act done toward its commission.

**California Code**  
**CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE**  
**Part 1. Of Crimes and Punishments**  
**Title 16. General Provisions**

**§ 664 Penal**

Every person who attempts to commit any crime, but fails, or is prevented or intercepted in its perpetration, shall be punished where no provision is made by law for the punishment of those attempts, as follows:

(a) If the crime attempted is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison . . . the person guilty of the attempt shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison or in a county jail, respectively, for one-half the term of imprisonment prescribed upon a conviction of the offense attempted. . . .

. . . .