

The main differences between the two types of patents are summarized as follows:

Feature	Standard Patent		Short-Term Patent
	Standard patent (O)	Standard patent (R)	
Maximum protection term (subject to payment of renewal fees)	20 years		8 years
Essential requirements to be met [see also Applying for a standard patent and Applying for a short-term patent]	<p>Direct application can be made in Hong Kong without first having to apply for a patent in a designated patent office.</p> <p>The application is subject to substantive examination on patentability by the Patents Registry, Intellectual Property Department of the Hong Kong SAR, i.e. whether the invention is new, involves an inventive step and is industrially applicable.</p>	<p>Application has to be made on the basis of the corresponding patent application filed with and also patent grant by one of the three designated patent offices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● the China National Intellectual Property Administration; ● the United Kingdom Patent Office; or ● the European Patent Office for patent applications designating the United Kingdom 	<p>Direct application can be made in Hong Kong without first having to apply for a patent in a designated patent office.</p> <p>The application has to be supported by, amongst others, a search report containing the findings of a search undertaken by any of the International Searching Authorities appointed under Article 16 of the Patent Cooperation Treaty or any of the three designated patent offices.</p>
How much does it cost?	Filing fee (By electronic means: HK\$ 345; otherwise HK\$ 480), request fee for substantive examination (HK\$ 4,000) and an advertisement fee (HK\$ 68)	<p>On filing a Request to Record:</p> <p>Filing fee (By electronic means: HK\$ 275; otherwise HK\$ 380) and an advertisement fee (HK\$ 68)</p>	Filing fee (By electronic means: HK\$ 545; otherwise HK\$ 755) and an advertisement fee (HK\$ 68)

		<p>On filing a Request for Registration and Grant, the following additional fees:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Filing fee (By electronic means: HK\$ 275; otherwise HK\$ 380) and an advertisement fee (HK\$ 68)</p>	
Are annual renewal fees payable?	Yes, annually (except for the first 3 years after grant) with a 3-tier progressive annual renewal rates that respectively apply to the 4 th to 10 th year (HK\$ 450 per year); 11 th to 15 th year (HK\$ 620 per year) and 16 th to 20 th year (HK\$ 850 per year) of the patent term.	Yes, once (HK\$ 1,080) before expiry of the 4 th year after filing.	
After the patent is granted, can the patent owner enforce the patent against infringers?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The owner of a standard patent can bring civil proceedings against an infringer after the grant of the patent, and seek remedies including an injunction, an order for delivery up, damages or an account of the profits and a declaration that the patent is valid and has been infringed.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The owner of a short-term patent can bring civil proceedings against an infringer after the grant of the patent, and seek remedies including an injunction, an order for delivery up, damages or an account of the profits and a declaration that the patent is valid and has been infringed.</p> <p>The owner of an unexamined short-term patent must file a request for substantive examination of the patent with the Patents Registry, Intellectual Property Department of the Government of the Hong</p>	

		<p>Kong SAR before commencing legal proceedings to enforce the patent.</p> <p>Owners of short-term patents should therefore consult their legal or technical advisers on this aspect before taking steps to enforce their patents.</p>
<p>When would you consider this type of patent?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When the product, process or innovation has an expected long commercial life cycle of more than 8 years. 2. When you seek an investor or venture capitalist to invest in your technology business, who requires robust patent protection. 	<p>When the product, process or innovation has an expected commercial life cycle of less than 8 years.</p>