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Citizens Association for Responsible Gun Ownership = CARGO

www.cargogunclub.org

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Hello Fellow CARGO Members,

The next meeting will be held at Napoli's on **Thursday, April 20th.**

We will meet at Napoli's in Wylie.

Napoli's

701 N Highway 78 # A

Wylie, TX 75098

For the dinner portion of the meeting, we will be in the meeting room between 5:45 and 7:00 for food and fellowship. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM and run until about 9:00.

Under the new Texas Open Carry Law, you could be committing an offence if you remove your pistol from its holster while open carrying. While at Napoli's DO NOT remove your pistol from its holster unless it is an emergency.

Member Don Bridges has volunteered his shop for the meeting. There are a very limited number of chairs at the shop, so please bring a camp chair for the meeting. We will meet there from 7:00 (ish) until 9:00 (ish)

The address is:

2274 EAST Brown Street in Wylie

While heading east on Brown Street, it is 1/2 mile past stop sign that's at the intersection of Brown Street and Kreymer Lane on the right hand side.

The shop is behind a small white house with a picket fence around the front yard.



Meeting gun topics:

- As it turns out I missed a very old firearms manufacturer. In part because in 1777 they were created as a federal armory and not did not become a private company until 1968. So if you have any Springfield / Springfield Armory firearms please bring it with you for the meeting.
- Based on what I can find, the next oldest firearms manufactures are H&R (1871 / 1888), Marlin Firearms, (1870s), Savage Arms (1894) please bring any examples of these to the meeting.
- Have anything non-firearms related to share? Got a great knife that you just picked up, an air-rifle or Pistol, a new tactical flash light or red-dot scope? The club always enjoys seeing this as well.
- Member Don Bridges has been allowing the club to meet at his shop for the past year. The shop is on the market for sale and this may be the last month that we are able to meet for the firearms portion of the meeting. Please put some thought into alternative locations / options to carry on the firearms related part of the meetings.

If you have any suggestions for future speakers or topics please send your feedback to CARGO@att.net.
When was the last time you visited our web site? Please take some time to go to the CARGO website at www.cargogunclub.org

http://www.alloutdoor.com/2017/04/07/breaking-cmp-receive-86000-m1-garands-philippines/?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=2017-04-11&utm_campaign=Weekly+Newsletter

Breaking – CMP To Receive 86,000 M1 Garands From The Philippines



A CMP M1 Special

Good news for fans of the [M1 Garand](#). The [Civilian Marksmanship Program](#) is expected to receive 86,000 of these surplus WWII [rifles](#) from the government of the Philippines.

This is according to [Gina Johnson, General Manager](#) of the CMP South operations in Alabama.

Johnson provided the information late on Friday, April 7, in response to a discussion at [The M1 Garand Enthusiasts Group](#) public Facebook page.

ADVERTISING

“...(the) CMP will be receiving the [rifles](#) once the Phillipines prepares them for shipment. CMP reimburses the Army transportation costs of getting these rifles back as they have with every other shipment sent to us. We do not know when these rifles will be shipped back, but they have been approved...” Johnson said in a post to that group.

These [rifles](#) were provided to the Philippines government through the Military Assistance Program, or a similar program, as military aid. This type of program essentially replaced the WWII-era “Lend Lease” program and supplied arms and aid to U.S. allies across the world. Since these [rifles](#) were loaned, not purchased outright, they are eligible for return to the U.S. Army and then the CMP.

While there is no report on the condition of these specific [rifles](#), the return of any [M1 Garand](#) to the U.S. through distribution by the CMP is good news.

The CMP’s mission to promote [firearms](#) safety and marksmanship training, with an emphasis on youth activities, is funded through the sale of firearms to qualified U.S. citizens. For more information on how to qualify to purchase a CMP firearm read the CMP’s [Eligibility Requirements](#).

Delta Implements New Rule For Guns in Checked Bags: Sources

Delta Airlines quietly implemented a new rule for passengers carrying weapons in checked baggage, airlines sources exclusively told NBC 6. Luggage with weapons inside will go through an extra secure process during pick up.

The new policy was installed weeks after a [gunman opened fire inside the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport](#), killing five people and injuring six others. Accused shooter Esteban Santiago, 26, got off a Delta flight when he allegedly went to the restroom to retrieve his weapon and ammunition from his checked luggage.

The airline will now have special tags to alert ground handlers to not put bags carrying weapons on the general carousel.

The baggage will go directly to a baggage service agent who is required to perform an ID check on the passenger who picks up the luggage, sources told NBC 6. The agent must then use zip ties to secure the bag.

- **Only On 6** [Opa-Locka Police Dispatcher Arrested for Insurance Fraud](#)

A police officer will be at the location when the passenger picks up the baggage. Aviation consultant Scott Patterson said this will add another level of security.

“Now, there's a police presence there when there's a weapon that's checked and the police officer can monitor the weapon leave the building satisfactorily,” said Patterson.

NBC 6 reached out to Delta for comment on the new policy. The airline sent the following statement:

“Delta is committed to the safety of our customers and employees. Every day we look for ways to refine processes and procedures with the goal to improve safety and the overall travel experience.”

- **Updated** [No Bond For Teen Arrested in 'Ambush-Style Attack' on Police](#)

The federal government said Delta implemented the new policy on its own and the TSA rules have not changed. NBC 6 did not find any other airlines who have made similar changes.

Published at 9:24 PM EDT on Mar 30, 2017 | Updated at 9:43 PM EDT on Mar 30, 2017

Oklahoma Man Uses AR-15 to Kill Three Teen Home Intruders

by Avalon Zoppo

A 23-year-old Oklahoma man used a semi-automatic AR-15 rifle to shoot and kill three masked teenage intruders dressed in black who broke into his home Monday afternoon — an act authorities are investigating as self-defense.

Zach Peters, the homeowner's son, fatally shot an 18-year-old man and two boys ranging between 16 and 17 around 12:30 p.m. The trio allegedly forced their way into the residence through a back door and were killed after exchanging words with Peters, who fired multiple shots.

Police said the alleged getaway driver, 21-year-old Elizabeth Rodriguez, surrendered to the Broken Arrow Police Department Monday evening and is facing charges on three counts of first-degree murder and three counts of burglary.

Her first court appearance, set for Tuesday, has been pushed to April 5 and she was ordered to be held on no bond.

Police say Elizabeth Rodriguez drove the getaway car in a home invasion in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. Wagoner County Sheriff's Office

"Upon making entry to the home, one of the residents fired a rifle striking all three of the suspects," the Wagoner County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

Wagoner County Deputy Sheriff Nick Mahoney said that Rodriguez is being charged with the murders because she was in "commission of felony" when she allegedly dropped them off at the residence, meaning she had an intent to burglarize the home. He said the crime was random and there was no connection between the suspects and Peters.

Police said all of the unidentified suspects were wearing black clothes, masks and gloves. One was armed with a knife and another with brass knuckles. Two of the intruders died in the kitchen, while the other reached the driveway, "before succumbing to his injuries," according to the statement.

After the shooting, police said the son and homeowner made statements at the sheriff's office.

Although authorities are approaching the shooting as self-defense, Mahoney said the investigation is open and the district attorney will ultimately decide whether charges are filed.

<http://www.thetruthaboutguns.com/2017/03/foghorn/2016-lowest-accidental-firearms-related-deaths-since-1903/>

National Safety Council: Lowest Accidental Firearms-Related Deaths Since 1903

[Nick Leghorn](#)

Gun control activists would have you believe that presence of a firearm in the home guarantees that someone in the house will accidentally kill themselves. They want gun muggles to believe that average Americans are unable to handle the responsibility of safely operating and owning a gun. There's just one problem . . .

According to the National Safety Council, accidental firearms-related deaths are at an all time low — despite gun ownership being at an all time high.

The National Safety Council is an organization dedicated to [compiling statistics on accidents in the workplace and at home](#). Their latest figures reveal that firearms account for roughly 0.3% of all accidental deaths in the United States. That's the lowest the number since 1903 when the NSC started keeping track.

If the anti's position was based on factual data, if gun ownership *was* inherently dangerous, the increased rate of gun ownership in recent years should have triggered [sic] a sharp rise in the rate of firearms-related accidental deaths.

This well and truly debunks the myth that “a gun in your house makes you less safe.” Heck, you could almost read the results to say that having a gun in the house makes you less likely to be accidentally killed by a gun. But that would be a lazy interpretation of the results, and this isn't *The Trace*.

What's going on here?

Actual gun safety efforts by organizations like the National Rifle Association are having a positive impact, teaching gun owners how to be responsible with their firearms, ensuring that no one gets injured who didn't deserve it.

That's a far cry from the approach Moms Demand Action has taken, [declaring that any attempt to teach gun safety — especially to children — is “atrocious.”](#)

Moms Demand Action is demanding the “abstinence only” approach to firearms safety, even though the opposite approach seems to be doing real good and having real results.

If I didn't know better, I'd say Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, Everytown for Gun Safety, Americans for Responsible Solutions, Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence and other gun control groups don't actually care about saving lives, focusing instead on their civilian disarmament agenda.

http://patriotcaller.com/meet-the-us-armys-next-official-sidearm/?utm_source=PatriotCaller&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=TPCdigest-Mail&Contact0LeadSourceId=TPCdigest

Meet the US Army's Next Official Sidearm: Sig Sauer P320

[The Patriot Caller](#) [Leave a Comment](#)



Handgun enthusiasts have been waiting with bated breath to learn which platform the US Army will tap to follow the Beretta M9 as it's next official sidearm.

The US Military's coveted "Modular Handgun System" contract was awarded this month to Sig Sauer, adopting the P320 9mm to follow in the footsteps of the iconic Colt 1911 and Beretta M9 as the Army's official sidearm.

The competition, which began in earnest back in 2013, sought to replace the dated M9 with a weapon that's measurably more versatile, accurate, and durable than the Beretta.

RELATED: [Top 11 Semiauto Handguns on a Budget](#)

When you look at the list of contenders, it's clear that all 6 would be an improvement, technologically at least. But as the Army drilled further and further into the laundry list of technical requirements, the Sig P320 proved to be a standout.

Why?

Browse Our P320 Gallery to find out. [\[view as one page\]](#)

Sig Sauer P320: Overview



To paint in the broadest of brush strokes, the P320 is a lesson in one-upmanship from the Swiss-German engineers to the highly regarded Austrian outfit known for revolutionizing the modern handgun: Glock.

In fact, in late December of 2016, both Glock and Sig Sauer were apparently notified that they were the 2 finalists in the MHS competition.

In almost every major aspect, the P320 is what you might call a Glock clone. Many handguns have made a reputation out of making improvements upon the polymer handgun platform attributed to Glock. Springfield Armory's XD series comes to mind. Ruger's SR and Smith and Wesson's M&P pistols as well.

RELATED: [The 7 Finalists in the US Army's Handgun Competition](#)

The P320, like 5 other finalists in the MHS competition, is a striker-fired polymer handgun, with similar controls and a similar profile. The full-sized P320 has a magazine capacity of 17 rounds, with an optional threaded barrel, high quality controls, and excellent sights.

But it was by no mean alone in that. The MHS specs called for tight grouping, ambidextrous controls, a Picatinny rail, among hundred of other requirements. All of these handguns met the requirements more or less. The P320 won for a different reason.

P320: Next Gen Modular Design



Interestingly enough, the P320 was Sig's first ever striker-fired polymer handgun. So, as we said, the P320 was literally designed to be a Glock killer. Incredibly, Sig beat out the big dog with its very first attempt.

Here's the thing, if you held the Sig in your hand you probably say it's roughly equivalent to the Glock. It's extremely dependable, durable, accurate, and all that other good stuff. So is the XD, the Beretta APX, the CZ, etc...

We believe there's one simple reason that the P320 took the top honors in the MHS contract: That "M" stands for Modular.

The P320 is far and away the most modular handgun in the bunch. It may be the most conveniently modular pistol on the market. Users can literally swap out almost all of the P320's components by hand, without a single tool

Full-Size, Carry, Compact, Sub-Compact All-in-One



When it comes to the P320, the actually "gun" as the Federal government defines it, is the funky piece of metal you see in the picture. You can see the serial number as well.

This unit, comprised of the trigger assembly and striker mechanism, can be removed in seconds from the frame and swapped out. Want a different slide? Barrel? Smaller frame? All of these pieces are interchangeable with the “gun.”

Thus, the Army can utilize the same familiar and well-designed components in all sorts of different configurations. Once you learn about one P320, you know about all of them.

There’s a definite advantage to having a completely interchangeable platform across your entire army. There’s probably also a cost saving there as well.

The true breakthrough with this weapon, as well see it, is that the Army gives up nothing in terms of quality or durability, while gaining the modular edge.

Sig Sauer is second to none in quality and design, even when compared to Glock, Beretta, or Smith & Wesson. The durability and reliability concerns just aren’t there.

Until now, you may have been a Sig fan, or maybe not, but almost everyone agreed that they make a nice handgun. The primary fault line between Sig fans and others was that Sig stuck with the hammer-fire design.

For those who love a good striker-fired weapon, now Sig has one for you.

TG

BERETTA
M9

VS

SIG SAUER
P320

 ARMY SELECTS THE
SIG SAUER P320 (M17)
AS THE NEW STANDARD-ISSUE PISTOL

MODULAR
HANDGUN
SYSTEM



SERIALIZED
INTERCHANGEABLE
TRIGGER GROUP

lets the shooter easily change
the size, grip & caliber

AVAILABLE
SIZES



FULL SIZE



CARRY



COMPACT



SUBCOMPACT

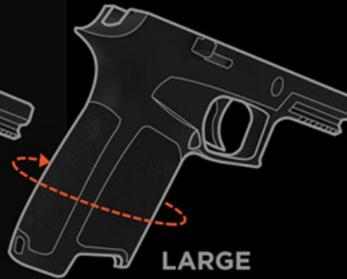
AVAILABLE
GRIPS



SMALL



MEDIUM



LARGE

AVAILABLE
CALIBERS



.357SIG



9MM



.40S&W

ARMY'S INITIAL ORDER IS FOR FULL SIZE AND COMPACT PISTOLS CHAMBERED IN 9MM

HEAD TO HEAD

**9mm full-size models*



BERETTA M9



SIG SAUER P320

FIRING MECHANISM



HAMMER-FIRED



STRIKER-FIRED



MAGAZINE CAPACITY

15 ROUNDS



17 OR 21 ROUNDS
(OPTIONAL EXTENDED MAGAZINE)



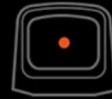
SIGHTS



FIXED BLADE SIGHTS



REMOVABLE IRON SIGHTS
RED DOT COMPATIBLE



BARREL

4.9 IN

NOT SUPPRESSOR COMPATIBLE



5.4 IN

THREADED FOR SUPPRESSOR ATTACHMENT

PRICE



\$263/UNIT



\$207/UNIT



OVERALL LENGTH



8.5 IN



8.7 IN



EFFECTIVE FIRING RANGE



TRIGGER PULL

DOUBLE / SINGLE ACTION
12.3 LB / 5.5 LB



DOUBLE ACTION ONLY
6.5 LB

WEIGHT (UNLOADED)

33.3 OZ



29.4 OZ

TG TACTICALGEAR.COM

RESOURCES

<https://www.sigsauger.com/store/p320-rx-full-size.html> | <https://www.sigsauger.com/edu/meet-the-p320/> | https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SIG_Sauer_P320
<http://www.beretta.com/en-us/m9/> | https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beretta_M9 | <https://www.sigsauger.com/press-releases/sig-sauer-inc-awarded-u-s-army-contract-new-modular-handgun-system-mhs/> | https://www.wired.com/2017/01/us-army-sig-sauer-p320/?mbid=nl_12417_p2&CNDID=46253829 | <https://www.armytimes.com/articles/11-things-you-need-to-know-about-the-armys-new-handgun> | <http://www.marines.mil/Portals/59/Publications/MCRP%203-01B%20Pistol%20Marksmanship.pdf> | <http://www.combatindex.com/hardware/detail/gun/m9.html> | http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/library/policy/army/fm/3-23-35/fm3-23-35_c4_2008.pdf

How To: Simple System for Zeroing the AR

By [Tiger McKee](#) - February 28, 2017



“Zeroing” the AR means adjusting the sights so your point of impact — where the bullet strikes the target — is the same as your point of aim — where you are holding the sights. There is a variety of methods or formulas for zeroing the AR. Instead of trying to use different size targets at various distances and flipping back and forth between one aperture and the other on the rear sight — as required by some methods — I prefer to use the simple technique described below.

In my opinion, to get a “hard” zero with the AR you have to actually shoot it at the distance you’ve chosen for your zero, rather than simulate distance by using smaller targets. Once you’ve zeroed the AR, it’s time to fire it various distances to discover what the difference will be between your point of aim (POA) and the point of impact (POI).

When it comes to choosing the distance for your zero there are several factors to consider. First is the offset between the sights and the barrel; the sights are higher than the barrel. This offset comes into play especially at close distances, where the POI will be lower than the POA. You have to aim or hold high for your round to hit where you need it to go. You also have to consider the trajectory of the round. For example, with a 55-grain bullet firing with a one hundred yard zero the POI will be approximately two inches low at 200 yards.

Before beginning the zero process you need to pick the distance for your zero. I use a 100-yard zero. The sights are adjusted so that at 100 yards the bullet strikes the exact point the sights are holding. A 75-yard zero gives you the least deviation between your POA and POI between 25 and 100 yards. At 25 yards the POI will be

roughly one and one half inches lower than your POA. The POI at 100 yards will be and one half inches higher than your POA, which will give you a POI of about an inch or so low at 200 yards.

POINT OF AIM VS. POINT OF IMPACT				
	RANGE			
	25	50	75	100
25 ZERO	0	2 ½" H	4 ½" H	5 ½" H
50 ZERO	1" L	0	1 ½" H	2" H
75 ZERO	1 ½" L	¼" L	0	1 ½" H
100 ZERO	2 ½" L	1" L	½" L	0

At distances less than 25 yds, regardless of zero the point of impact will be approx. 2.5" low

Actual figures will vary according to barrel length, twist rate and bullet weight and design.

Take your time during the zeroing process. This isn't something you can do quickly. For the best results, work from a bench, with rests or bags for support. Make sure the handguard is supported, as opposed to the actual barrel touching or resting on the bags. If the barrel is making contact with your rest, it will throw the shots off. For example, when the bottom of the barrel is touching the rest it will throw the shots high. Your goal is to create a solid, stable position – consistency – and apply the fundamentals of marksmanship for every shot.

Start the zeroing process at 25 yards. Make sure you have a steady position, using a rest in order to take out as much of the human element as possible. Normally I'll fire five or six shots, enough to satisfy myself that I've got a good group established. By firing several rounds, even if you have one or two shots that weren't good, you're still going to have a solid group to work with.

After establishing a good group you're ready to adjust the sights — elevation and windage — but first unload the AR. Do not get into the habit of adjusting or doing any work on your firearm while it's loaded. Unload, check and check again to confirm it's clear, and then remember the safety rules are still in effect. After making adjustments you load and start again. The additional benefit of all this is that you're getting in practice on your manipulations.



When zeroing, work in the most stable position you

can, using rests or support to create stability.

As mentioned earlier, at 25 yards your bullets should be hitting lower than where you are aiming. This low POI is necessary because of the offset between the sights and barrel. (Don't get too worried about exact measurements here; you're just looking to get it close, and will fine tune the sights as you move back, creating more distance.)

Once you have a rough zero at 25, again with the bullets striking about two inches below your point of aim, move back to 50 yards. Fire a good group, and adjust as necessary. At this distance your point of impact will be closer to the center of the target where you're aiming. As you increase the distance the POI will move upward towards your POA. For example, if you've decided to work with a 100-yard zero, at 50 yards the bullets should be hitting about an inch below where you are aiming.

Fire a good group, and then adjust the sights as needed. Normally I will only adjust one direction at a time. For example, I'll adjust the elevation with the front sight until getting that right, then adjust windage to get it in the right spot. Trying to adjust both the elevation and windage at the same time can sometimes get a little complicated, for example as you adjust the windage it can change the elevation slightly. You may find that after adjusting the front sight and then the rear sight for windage that you have to go back to the front sight for final adjustments.

After getting close at 50 yards, move back to 75 and repeat the process. If you want a 75-yard zero your bullets should be hitting where you're aiming. Point of aim and point of impact are the same. For a 100-yard zero you'll need to move back to that distance and repeat the process one last time, adjusting until your POI is spot on for where you are aiming.



New versions of the AR have rear sights with elevation adjustments. When zeroing, make sure to start with the drum on it's lowest setting, 6/3 or 8/3. The rear sight on early versions of the AR requires a sight tool or bullet tip to adjust. The newer versions have a drum that can be adjusted by hand.

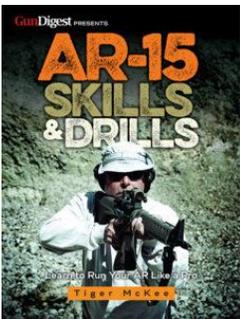
You'll also need to shoot it at distances closer than your zero, again to find out the difference between your point of aim and the point of impact. Remember, the sights are offset, higher than the barrel, so as you move closer than your zero the point of impact will begin to drop. At distances closer than 25 yards you'll be aiming about two and one half inches high to compensate for this offset. (XS Sights have a modified rear sight that has a notch on top of the peep sight that you use for aiming at close distances that compensates for the offset.)

For zeroing a red-dot sight or a more traditional optic with magnification I use the same process. I start at 25, get a rough zero with the point of impact two to two and one half inches lower than the point of aim. Don't worry about an exact measurement, you'll have to be making more adjustments as you increase the distance.

https://gundigest.com/how-to/how-to-addressing-common-ar-malfunctions?utm_source=wir&utm_campaign=gd-dwb-wir-170302-ModernShooter&utm_content=925697_EDT_MS170302&utm_medium=email

How To: Addressing Common AR Malfunctions

By [Tiger McKee](#) - February 16, 2017



The following article is an excerpt from a newly released Gun Digest book by SHOOTRITE Firearms Academy founder and director Tiger McKee: [AR-15 Skills & Drills](#). Enjoy the article, and if you want to pick up a copy, we're offering FREE SHIPPING through 2/27

There are five types of malfunctions that can occur with the AR. Two are common, a couple will crop up every once in a while, and the last, or Type V, you rarely see. Keep in mind this doesn't count for jams or breakage. A malfunction is something that you can apply a corrective set of actions and get the AR firing again, at least for one more shot. (If the AR is having a mechanical problem, such as a broken extractor spring, you'll have another malfunction to clear after firing the next round.) A jam or breakage is something that takes time and tools to correct.

Some malfunctions are caused by bad ammo. Make it a habit when loading to check the rounds.

Malfunctions are often caused by the shooter, for example not ensuring the mag is seated and locked into place, which means no round in the chamber. We'll discuss the malfunctions and what causes them, but for clearing them think about it along these lines: When the AR doesn't fire, you're going to load it. If this doesn't work you're going to unload and then load. A problem that can't be solved by these actions is going to take time and/or tools to correct.



Basically we're using a non-diagnostic approach to clearing malfunctions. This is why knowing how to load and unload is important. As with all other skills, consistency provides safety and predictable results from your actions. Practice and repetition is necessary to actually learn these skills, so they can be performed at a subconscious level.

Sometimes, especially with newer shooters or even experienced shooters under stress, people will forget to flip the safety off when they come up on target. Making this a habit is important, but whenever you press the trigger and it won't be pressed make sure the safety is off. This is done using the same technique as always, a physical confirmation as opposed to stopping, flipping the carbine over and looking to see if the safety is on or off.

Step one for all these manipulations is to take your finger off the trigger and get it clear of the trigger guard. You don't want to manipulate the AR, or any weapon, with the finger on the trigger or inside the trigger guard. Verbalizing this action, "finger off the trigger," will help you remember to do this.



Type I Malfunction

You press the trigger and get “click” instead of “bang.” The Type I malfunction may be due to no round in the chamber; this is why we make sure to tug on the magazine to ensure it’s seated and check the chamber during the loading process to be sure there’s a round chambered. Or, the Type I malfunction can be due to a bad round, for example a faulty primer that doesn’t ignite the powder charge. Ultimately it doesn’t matter, we’re going to treat it the same by loading the AR.

First, finger off the trigger! The muzzle stays on target, just like when reloading, and the eyes maintain visual contact with the target. Next, tap and tug on the magazine to make sure it’s locked in place.

Normally you’ll use the support hand to tap and tug on the magazine, maintaining your grip with the strong hand. The alternative is to take the strong hand off the grip, using it to manipulate the AR while the support hand holds the handguard. Sometimes you may be tempted to skip the process of tapping and tugging on the magazine, but trust me, I’ve seen more Type I malfunctions caused by the shooter not seating the mag than all other malfunctions combined.

After ensuring the mag is seated, cycle the charging handle to load, just like you always do. Tapping and tugging on the mag ensures it’s seated, which may be the source of the problem. Cycling the charging handle loads the chamber. If the malfunction is due to a bad round this sequence will eject the faulty round and load a fresh one. The way the charging handle “feels” when you cycle it will tell you if this action was successful or not. You cycle the charging handle and it comes all the way to the rear and then slams forward. This action feels and sounds right. You’re ready to fire. If the charging handle doesn’t feel right when you attempt to cycle it then it’s time to go to the next step, which is described below.



Type II Malfunction

The Type II malfunction is a failure to eject an empty piece of brass. It's commonly called a "stovepipe" or "smokestack," which are terms used when this occurs with a pistol and the brass is sticking up like a stovepipe. With the AR they are sticking out to the side, partway in and out of the ejection port.

Although this is a different type malfunction from the Type I, your response is going to be the same. Again, finger off the trigger! Next, tap and tug on the magazine to make sure it's seated and then cycle the charging handle to load. This action clears the Type I and II malfunctions. Again, you're loading the AR; it's just that the mag is already in the receiver.

There may be some times when the case sticking out of the ejection port is wedged or jammed in there, especially after cycling the bolt. When this occurs, you'll need to lock the bolt to the rear to take pressure off the round. Then work the round clear by pulling it from the outside of the receiver. Again, once it's clear make sure to cycle the bolt to ensure the chamber is clear, and then you're ready to load.



Type III Malfunction

The third type of malfunction is what people normally call a “double feed.” There can be a few different causes for this malfunction. You could have a faulty magazine that allows an extra round to slip out of the magazine and you end up with two rounds trying to occupy one chamber. The extractor or ejector and/or springs could be failing, which means the AR doesn’t eject the empty case and the bolt is trying to feed a fresh round into the chamber. Sometimes it just happens, and there is no apparent reason and it doesn’t occur again.

This is also where the second part of the clearing procedure will come into play. You attempt to load the AR – finger off the trigger, tap and tug on the magazine and cycle the charging handle – but you can tell by the way the charging handle feels that this action did not work, the bolt did not go into battery, so you have to unload the AR and then load.



The type of problem you have will dictate what steps are required to complete the unloading process. With a Type III malfunction, or “double feed,” the mag will not drop free as it normally does. The bolt is attempting to feed a round out of the magazine, but it doesn’t have anywhere to go. Part of the back portion of the round, the case, will still be in the mag, which prevents the mag from falling free when you press the mag release.

Pull or strip the mag out of the receiver. Continue the unloading process as you normally do, holding the mag in your support hand and cycling the bolt three times, just like always. If cycling the charging handle clears out the trash, and you can tell this by the way it feels, then you’re ready to load the AR.



You cycle the bolt three times to clear out the trash but the charging handle is telling you there are still obstructions lodged in the upper receiver. To gain access to this and clear out the stoppage you have to lock the bolt to the rear, taking the pressure off the obstructions. The support hand, still holding the mag, grasps the front of the receiver to support the rifle. For right-handed shooters this positions the left thumb to depress the bottom portion of the bolt release. Left-handed shooters are using the first finger of the right hand to engage the bolt catch. The primary hand comes off the AR's grip, and you pull the charging handle all the way to the rear and lock the bolt back.



Reacquire your grip to support the rifle and stick your support-hand fingers up inside the mag well, pushing, wiggling and shoving until you feel or see something drop free. Remember, this hand is still holding the magazine. Also be sure to keep the muzzle on target and the mag well vertical. The largest opening in the AR is the mag well, so keeping the receiver vertical allows the trash to drop out the mag well easier, using gravity to assist.

Once you feel or see something drop out of the mag well, remember the AR isn't unloaded until you cycle the charging handle. There could still be a round or empty case in the chamber, and if you just immediately start to load the carbine all you'll do is create another malfunction.



After cycling the charging handle to ensure the chamber is clear you're ready to load the rifle, inserting and seating the mag and cycling the bolt manually to chamber a round. Remember, this is a functional manipulation, so you're not going to perform a press or chamber check, you're just going to have faith the AR is doing what it's supposed to. You'll be able to tell this by the way everything feels when you load.

This is why we unload the AR – an administrative action – the same way every time by removing the magazine and cycling the bolt three times. These same actions are used to clear the Type III malfunction, the only difference is that the muzzle is on target, you'll have to strip the mag free from the receiver, and you're not going to perform a press or chamber check after loading. In a situation where you have to clear a malfunction but don't have to fire again, which would tell you immediately if the AR is working or not, you might want to check the chamber, when you have the opportunity.



Type IV Malfunction

The Type IV malfunction is a case stuck in the chamber. The cause of this could be a couple of different things. The chamber of the AR could be too tight, not honed out to the proper size. A round could be out of shape or size, causing it to stick in the chamber. The extractor or extractor spring might be failing, which means it loses its grip on the case as the bolt moves rearward to extract, eject and feed another round.

The rifle will tell you when a Type IV malfunction occurs. Normally the charging handle will not come back at all because the extractor is locked onto the rim of the cartridge case stuck in the chamber. The AR doesn't fire. You start, as always, by making sure the mag is locked in and then cycling the charging handle. Except in this case, the charging handle will not come back. You need to unload.

The support hand removes the mag from the receiver, and then goes to the handguard to hold the carbine. To cycle the charging handle you have to get some extra momentum and force, which is achieved by slamming the rear of the stock against a hard surface. This could be the ground or any other object that is solid enough to provide the resistance needed.



For ARs with adjustable stocks there are a couple of extra steps involved. Before slamming the stock down, or back against some other object, you need to collapse the stock, moving it all the way forward. Failure to do this can cause the stock to collapse permanently, breaking parts; break or bend the extension or buffer tube, which prevents the AR from shooting; or crack/break the upper receiver where the buffer tube is threaded into it. After clearing the case from the chamber, extend the stock back out to your normal working length. With fixed stocks you don't have to worry about these extra steps.

The support hand is holding the handguard and the primary hand goes to the charging handle. Position your "snake fangs," the first two fingers of the hand, on each side of the charging handle. This helps ensure you'll pull it straight to the rear as opposed to one side or the other.

Slam or bang the back of the stock while at the same time pulling the charging handle back. If you're in a kneeling position, using the ground to slam the stock against, make sure to control the AR with the support hand, keeping the muzzle pointing in a safe direction. This action will generate enough force to pull the case out of the chamber, or it will rip the rim off the case, in which case now you have a jam which requires time and tools to correct. (When this occurs it normally requires the use of a broken case extractor to remove the case from the chamber.) Come back up to standing, get the stock back into the shoulder, cycle the charging handle to ensure the chamber is clear and load.



Type V Malfunction

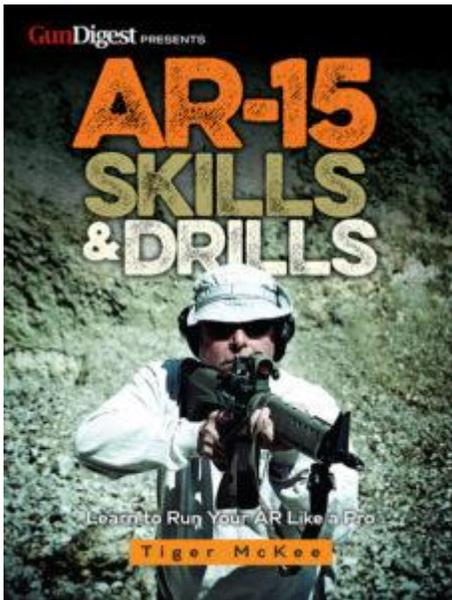
Occasionally you'll see a bolt over-ride, a Type V malfunction, which is a case or live round on top of the bolt group and wedged into the receiver. The charging handle will normally come back part way, without any spring tension on it, but will come to a sudden stop before it reaches its full extension. Remove the magazine, if you haven't already. The support hand goes up the magwell so the first finger can press and hold the bolt to the rear. The primary hand goes to the charging handle. Pull the charging handle back while at the same time pressing the bolt to the rear. Once the bolt is back hold it there with the finger on the support hand and work the charging handle back and forth. The charging handle will dislodge the round or brass so that it can drop out of the lower receiver through the magwell. Cycle the bolt three times to make sure the chamber is clear and load.



Safely and efficiently operating the AR is the result of consistency. For every action performed there is a correct and proper technique. Deviating from proper technique opens the door for trouble. Consistency also creates efficiency. Ultimately your goal is to be able to perform all the manipulations required at a subconscious level. The conscious mind says, “reload.” The subconscious mind takes over and performs the reload. The same is true for malfunctions. This level of skill can only be achieved through repetition, starting step by step and performing the same action over and over until you can perform it without needing to consciously think about the required actions.

Learning how to manipulate the AR isn't complicated, but that doesn't mean it's easy. The degree to which you need to practice these actions depends on your application. For target shooting, the ability to perform lightning fast reloads might not be necessary. The skills to reload or clear a malfunction efficiently are mandatory for armed professionals or anyone who may use the AR for self-defense. The best way to practice, getting in the repetitions necessary to learn these skills, is dry practice using dummy rounds to set up the different malfunctions. Whatever task you intend to use the AR for, you'll get more pleasure and successful results from knowing how to manipulate it properly.

Editor's Note: This article is an excerpt from [AR-15 Skills & Drills](#) by Tiger McKee.



[AR Master Class](#)

Learn how to best operate and apply America's most popular rifle to tactical and defensive situations with [AR-15 Skills & Drills](#). Written by one of the nation's top firearms trainers and founder and director of the SHOOTRITE Firearms Academy, this 272-page guide covers in detail the physical and mental skills required to most effectively utilize the AR-15. It also provides detailed AR-15 training and shooting drills to ensure these skills are learned correctly, and become second nature. Also included are tips and tactics for moving and shooting, engaging multiple targets and for adding essential accessories to your AR. Available for \$27.99, [AR-15 Skills & Drills](#) will also come with free shipping now through February 27.

https://gundigest.com/tactical/first-look-mossberg-590-shockwave-non-nfa-shotgun?utm_source=wir&utm_campaign=gd-dwb-wir-170227&utm_content=924193_GDR170227&utm_medium=email

First Look: Mossberg 590 Shockwave Non-NFA Firearm

By [Drew Warden](#) - February 8, 2017



Many people over the years have avoided purchasing or building a short-barreled shotgun (SBS) because of the tax stamp and NFA paperwork required to do so. Well, Mossberg's new 590 Shockwave represents a way to get pretty darn close without any of the hassle of a typical SBS.

With a barrel length of 14 inches, the Mossberg 590 Shockwave is certainly shorter than most standard 18-inch barreled shotguns. However, this, paired with its overall length of 26.5 inches means that instead of falling into the BATFE's (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives) SBS category, it actually lands within the organization's general "Non-NFA Firearm" classification. Because of this, the firearm requires no tax stamps for transfers, meaning less inconvenience for buyers.

At its core, the new 590 Shockwave still relies on Mossberg's proven pump-action design, which utilizes non-binding twin action bars, positive steel-to-steel lock-up, an anti-jam elevator, dual extractors and the company's classic ambidextrous top-mounted safety. And of course, the anodized aluminum receiver is lightweight and durable, and as an added bonus, the magazine tube features a clean-out cap.



What makes this gun especially unique, apart from its shorter, 14-inch barrel, is its pistol grip and forend, both made by Shockwave Technologies – hence, the Shockwave name for this model. The grip has an enhanced textured finish, as well as a “bird’s head” style profile. This allows for increased stability and control when firing the 590 Shockwave. Manufactured from glass-filled polymer with a non-reflective black finish, the grip is durable and has a length of 5.25 inches, helping the gun hit that 26.5-inch overall mark. The forend, on the other hand, is a cob-style, tactical design that incorporates a strap, also for improved control and smoother operation. It also helps keep your hand where it should be – on the forend, and not forward toward the muzzle.

The 12-gauge Mossberg 590 Shockwave Non-NFA firearm accepts 2 3/4- and 3-inch shells and has a 6-round capacity. The 14-inch barrel wears a matte blued finish and features a bead sight.

The MSRP on the new Mossberg 590 Shockwave Non-NFA firearm is currently listed at a very affordable \$455. For this reason, it should be an attractive option for anyone looking for a compact, capable scattergun option for home defense or fun trips to the range.

In a disclaimer section of its news release on the new 590 Shockwave, Mossberg also encourages potential buyers and users to check their state and local laws to ensure that the firearm is legal in their area. While it’s classified as a “Non-NFA firearm” by the BATFE on a national level, classifications may be different at state and local levels in some locations, which is why the company recommends (and we would second this) checking with local authorities on the legality of the 590 Shockwave in your locality.

For more information on the new Mossberg 590 Shockwave Non-NFA firearm, check out the specifications below, or visit the [Mossberg website](#).

Specifications:



Mossberg 590 Shockwave Non-NFA

Type: Pump-action, Non-NFA firearm

Gauge: 12

Chamber: 3 in.

Barrel: 14 in., matte blue

Overall Length: 26.5 in.

Weight: 5.75 lbs.

Grip: Shockwave Technologies Raptor pistol grip

Forend: Shockwave Technologies cob forend with strap

Sight: Bead front sight

Chokes: Cylinder

Capacity: 6 rounds

Price: \$455

Manufacturer: Mossberg

<http://americangg.net/dead-criminals-family-complains/>

Dead criminal's family complains victim's AR-15 made the fight unfair

In case you haven't already heard, a 23-year-old man from Broken Arrow, Oklahoma made headlines this week when he shot and killed three teenage home invaders. The three teens had robbed the garage earlier that day, then returned to try the main house. They awoke Zach Peters, the homeowner's son, who grabbed his AR-15 and defended himself against 3 armed and masked intruders. Max Cook, 19; Jacob Redfearn, 17; and Jake Woodruff, 16, were shot and killed. Cook's 21-year-old girlfriend, get-away driver, and "robbery mastermind" Elizabeth Rodriguez was arrested and charged with three counts of both first degree murder and burglary. Her murder charges come from the felony murder rule which charges anyone involved in a felony with murder if a death occurs during or due to the felonious act.



Max Cook, Jacob Redfearn, and Jake Woodruff (image source; YouTube screenshot)

Now the family of one of the deceased criminals is complaining. They don't believe it was fair that Peters was allowed to defend himself with an AR-15 when the criminals were only armed with knives and brass knuckles.

Leroy Schumacher, grandfather of Jacob Redfearn, says his grandson made a bad choice but didn't deserve to die. "What these three boys did was stupid," said Leroy Schumacher to ABC News. "They knew they could be punished for it but they did not deserve to die."

Schumacher complains that it wasn't a fair fight and his grandson didn't have a chance to defend himself... while breaking into another man's home and attempting to rob him. "Brass knuckles against an AR-15, come on, who was afraid for their life," he continued.

Zach Peters has not, and will not be charged with a crime for a justified shooting of three armed intruders and Schumacher is furious. "There's got to be a limit to that law, I mean he shot all three of them; there was no need for that," said Schumacher.

Do you have anything you would like to say to Mr. Schumacher?

Gun Sales Tapering Off, Cabela's Says

By [Matthew Rocco](#) Published February 16, 2017 [Retail FOXBusiness](#)



A customer looks through the in-store sales advertisements inside a Cabela's store on the shopping day dubbed "Black Friday" in Fort Worth, Texas November 27, 2009. (REUTERS/Jessica Rinaldi)

Cabela's ([CAB](#)) saw demand for firearms taper off to close 2016, as sales couldn't keep up with the rapid pace set in the preceding year, after the San Bernardino terrorist attack.

The hunting and outdoors retailer, whose [sale to Bass Pro Shops](#) is now facing an uphill battle, missed Wall Street expectations with a sharp decline in profits during the fourth quarter. Shoppers spent heavily on firearms and shooting accessories early in the period, but demand in the latter half was overshadowed by strong sales that followed the San Bernardino terrorist attack in December 2015. The election has also cooled off the consumer firearms market.

Gun makers and industry analysts have offered subdued profit expectations in the wake of President Donald Trump's rise to the White House. Historically, sales get a sizable boost if new gun-control measures are expected to be on the table. Those concerns are on the back burner with Trump in the White House and federal appeals court judge Neil Gorsuch nominated to fill the open Supreme Court seat.

The FBI processed a record 27.5 million background checks for gun purchases and permit applications last year. Background checks slowed down in January, when roughly two million checks went through the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. Nearly 2.8 million checks were recorded in December.

Cabela's said total revenue for the fourth quarter was down 4.9% year-over-year. Sales at Cabela's locations open at least a year fell 6.4%. The company added that revenue would have increased 1% excluding an extra week in the final quarter of 2015.

Shares of American Outdoor Brands ([AOBC](#)), the renamed parent company of Smith & Wesson, have dropped 33.9% since Election Day. Sturm Ruger & Co. ([RGR](#)) is down 24%.

Cabela's stock has slipped 17.6% over the past month amid questions surrounding Bass Pro's \$5.5 billion deal to buy the company. The transaction was tied to a separate agreement between Cabela's and Capital One Financial ([COF](#)), which lined up to buy Cabela's credit card business, dubbed World's Foremost Bank. Capital One effectively pulled its bid last month, saying that it wouldn't receive regulatory approval in time.

Also, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission sent Cabela's a second request for information, further delaying the buyout.

Gallery: Great New ARs for Shooters

By [Robert Sadowski](#) - February 15, 2017

CMMG MkW-15 XBE2 ANVIL



There is no doubt I am partial to the .458 SOCOM. On one boar hunt I fired two shots and two wild pigs dropped like I dropped an anvil on their head. The CMMG MkW-15 XBE2 Anvil is built on CMMG's Mk3 receivers manufactured from 7075-T6 aluminum, so it can withstand the power of the .458 SOCOM. The Anvil also features CMMG's proprietary MkW lower receiver and an SLR adjustable gas block to custom tune your cartridge and equipment. (\$2,150)

The AR-style rifle is one of the most popular rifles being produced today, and a lot of manufacturers doubled down on their products by producing some outstanding examples this past year. The list below includes ARs along the price spectrum and ARs that defy the norm. Whether you shoot competitively, hunt, or are looking for something for self defense, these rifles have you covered.

Colt Expanse M4+

Colt has been building AR-15s ever since the US Military has adopted the rifle. The AR bloodline runs deep with Colt. The Expanse M4+ is Colt's entry-level AR that can run as is or is a great platform to customize to your own shooting needs. The M4+ features a forward assist, dust cover, A2 front sight, flat top receiver, A2 pistol grip, adjustable stock, and 16.1-inch barrel. On second thought maybe you don't need to customize the Expanse M4+. (\$749)



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DPMS GII AP4



The second generation of AR-10 rifles from DPMS are the benchmark in an AR platform chambered in .308 Win. Lighter, more compact and compatible with a lot of aftermarket AR-15 components, the GII series of rifles is not just a slimmed down AR-10 but features a dual ejector system that spits cases out, an enlarged eject port—again for better case spitting—and steel feed ramps that ensure the GII rifle feeds reliably. The GII AP4 is the plain Jane, ready-to-hunt, ready-to-defend, bring-it-on AR. It has none of the weight like other AR-10s yet still has all the bite. (\$1,399)

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DPMS GII SASS



On the other end of the spectrum is the GII SASS a dedicated sniper rifle that is set up for long-range shooting with a Magpul PRS adjustable stock, free-floated 18-inch stainless steel barrel sheathed in DPMS 4 Rail tube handguard. Just add a bipod and optic. Can you say long-range shooting? Yes, the SASS has sass. (\$2,279)

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FN FN15 Competition



Why mess with success? The FN 15 Competition is a knock off from one of FN's 3-Gun team members. Featuring an 18-inch steel, match grade barrel with a SureFire ProComp-556 muzzle brake, 16-inch rail with M-LOK and a Timney Competition single-stage trigger, the FN 15 Competition offers a stable, flat-shooting platform. The BCG is nickel-boron coated so it is slick and less oil dependent. (\$2,249)

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FN FN15 Military Collector Series M4 & M16



FN's Military Collector Series rifles are civilian replicas of the military M16 and M4. Both are chambered in 5.56 NATO and are equipped with a direct gas impingement system and ambidextrous selector switch. The M4 variant features an M4 profile 16-inch barrel, A2 style flash hider, Knights Armament M4RAS rail and adjustable 6-position stock. The M16 has a fixed A2 style butt stock and a 20-inch barrel. (\$1,749)

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Mossberg MMR Carbine



Just because the MMR carbine is an economy model, do not think it is inferior. This is a workhorse of an AR stripped down to the essentials and everything you need. There is no forward assist, but features like a free-float barrel, Magpul furniture, and adjustable sight mean that the MMR comes out of the box ready to roll. The flat top receiver is also ready for an optic to really wring out the MMR's potential. (\$910)

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Nemo Arms Omen Match 338



I imagine some AR shooters yawn when a “new” caliber for ARs is announced, and that’s because it is usually some bastardized round cut down to fit in an AR. Not the case with the NEMO Omen. This AR was built from the ground up to handle serious magnum power hunting cartridges like .300 Win. Mag., .338 Win. Mag. and .458 Win. Mag. Take the Omen Match 338 for instance. This rifle completely throws a rock at what a precision hunting rifle should be. The Omen is not the small caliber we all grew up on, but a big bore that takes the AR platform to a new level. The gas piston system is designed to reduce recoil as well as weather the harshest environments.(\$5,875)

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Ruger SR-556 Takedown



Discreet carry is the designed direction the SR-556 Takedown from Ruger took. The carbine disassembles into three components that store in their own knapsack case. Most would think you are just going to the gym, but inside the pack is Ruger’s piston system AR rifle. The barrel is notched and twists into the upper receiver and locks in place. Just slide the lever under the rail rearward, twist the barrel, and it comes free. Fast, simple, secure. The front sight is adjustable for windage and elevation, and because it is part of the barrel component, it

always keeps zero. The piston system also transfers less felt recoil and the Ruger Elite 452 proprietary two-stage trigger has a crisp 4.5-pound break. (\$2,199)

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SIG Sauer M400 Predator



The M400 Predator just might be a varmint's worst nightmare, and it might just keep your 3-Gun competitors up at night, too. The new upgrades include a crisp two-stage match trigger, ALG M-LOK free float tubular handguard, and an 18-inch 416 stainless steel barrel. The barrel is also threaded and capped in case you want to run it suppressed. This is a direct gas impingement rifle made to shoot small groups at distance. Just add optics and the M400 Predator will run. (\$1,384)

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SIG Sauer MCX Carbine



The MCX redefines what it means to be a modular AR. Engineered to optimize performance of .300 AAC BLK with and without a can due to an auto-regulating gas system, going sub-sonic to supersonic with the MCX is simple. The MCX is also designed to be adaptable to 5.56 NATO and 7.62x39mm. Just a barrel swap, and the bolt head in the case of the 7.62x39mm, and the MCX can run on three different ammo types. The operating system is a short-stroke piston, so the MCX can be fired even with the stock folded. (\$1,866)

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<http://www.foxbusiness.com/features/2017/02/23/black-guns-matter-founder-armed-society-is-polite-society.html>

'Black Guns Matter' Founder: An Armed Society is a Polite Society

By [Matthew Wisner](#) Published February 23, 2017 [News FOXBusiness](#)

'Black Guns Matter' Founder Maj Toure argues that providing guns and education, would reduce crime in inner cities.

Despite the gun laws in place, cities such as Chicago are still struggling to curb their violent crime epidemic. 'Black Guns Matter' Founder Maj Toure has proposed a unique alternative to the conventional reaction of calling for even stricter gun laws. Toure suggests providing more access to guns along with proper training.

“More so than just giving young urban people, of all races, firearms, giving them education about second amendment rights, giving them more education about conflict resolution and de-escalation tactics ‘cause that’s completely missing in urban areas like the city of Chicago,” Toure told the FOX Business Network’s Stuart Varney.

Toure cited New Hampshire, where a license is no longer required to carry a concealed, loaded gun, as an example.

“To not sound cheesy, but, an armed society is a polite society. And we see it in states like New Hampshire, very low, you know, firearm crimes, that just became constitutional carry yesterday.”

Toure says the organization’s proposal has received positive reactions.

“We get an amazing reception from, you know, the people in these urban communities.”

<http://www.activeresponsetraining.net/how-to-help-a-cop-during-a-life-threatening-struggle>

How to Help a Cop During a Life-Threatening Struggle

Posted on July 11, 2016 by [Greg Ellifritz](#) in [Reader Questions](#)



Written by: [Greg Ellifritz](#)

With the violence directed against cops in Dallas and a few other locations recently, a few people have asked me to re-post this article. If you want to help a cop in trouble, read it. And be sure to read [PART TWO](#), how you can help a cop even if you aren't carrying a weapon.

-Greg

I recently received a very interesting question from a friend and fellow blogger. He asked the following:

“How should an armed citizen best help a police officer if that officer is under violent attack from another individual or group of individuals?”

It’s a great question. I think many folks with CCW licenses would be willing to help a cop in trouble. As a cop, I welcome all the help I can get if I’m in a bad situation. Three recent incidents ([here](#) and [here](#) and [here](#)) demonstrate examples where armed citizens saved police officers’ lives.

Here are some guidelines for folks who want to help an officer in trouble....

Carry your damn gun! You can’t easily help a cop in a deadly force scenario without your gun. In my experience, many CCW licensees don’t regularly carry their firearm.

When I stop a person for a traffic violation, I get an automatic alert if they have a carry permit when I run their license on my in-car computer. If they haven’t informed me that they are carrying a weapon, out of curiosity, I ask them if they are carrying when I re-approach the car.

The most common answer I get when I ask that question is: *“Yes, I have a permit, but I’m not carrying my gun right now.”* I would estimate that 75% of the permit holders that I stop for traffic violations aren’t carrying their guns at the time of the stop.

You aren’t likely to help a cop in a gunfight if you aren’t carrying your gun.

As you approach the officer, keep your gun concealed. You don’t want to be mistaken for another criminal if you are running up on a cop involved in a gunfight or life threatening physical struggle. If the cop sees you running towards him with a gun in your hand, there’s a good chance that he will assume you are a friend of the criminal he is fighting. If that happens, you are likely to get shot.

You should also recognize that the cop has likely already called for help on the radio. A whole bunch of his fellow officers are already on the way to the scene. One of them might mistake you for the bad guy if they pull up and you have a gun in your hand.

As you are approaching to help the officer, keep your gun in the holster until you’ve decided you need to shoot.

Identify yourself and ask the officer if he needs help. Here’s the thing that most CCW licensees don’t understand about police confrontations: most of the time, your gun will only complicate the problem. Let me explain...

In most of the physical confrontations police officers find themselves in, the criminal is not really trying to kill the officer. We get in a lot of wrestling matches, but very rarely do we face a criminal who is trying to seriously hurt or kill us. Most of the criminals that cops are tussling with aren’t really trying to hurt the officer at all. They are just trying to escape or “save face” in front of their buddies. They don’t need to be shot.

The problem that you deal with as a rescuer is that you don’t know if the cop is trying to wrestle down a fleeing unarmed shoplifter or is in a life threatening struggle with a cop killer. If you see a cop struggling with someone during an arrest, the best course of action is to approach, identify yourself as a “good guy” and ask the officer if he needs help. Saying something like *“Officer, I have a concealed carry permit. Do you need help?”* is probably the best thing you can do. You may have to repeat the request several times to ensure the cop hears it in the struggle.

The most likely response you will get is something like “*Yes! Grab his arm and help me get him cuffed!*” That will be far more likely than something like “*Yes! Shoot him in the head!*”

Your exposed gun is more of a liability than an asset in a physical struggle. The cop will be worried that the unarmed shoplifter that he’s wrestling with will become armed by taking your gun away from you if you try to inject yourself into the struggle with gun in hand.

If you see someone shooting at a cop, it’s time to draw your gun. If you see the cop physically struggling with someone, it’s best to ask if he needs help before jumping into the fight.

If you do have to shoot, holster your weapon as soon as the threat is neutralized. If you decide to help a cop involved in life threatening danger by shooting his attacker, you need to ensure that you aren’t mistakenly shot yourself by the officers (or another armed citizen) coming to help. Standing over a cop who has been shot with a gun in your hand is a recipe for getting yourself shot by additional responding officers.

Recognize that more police officers are on the way. Recognize that they will likely be on scene very quickly if one of their coworkers is in trouble. Make sure you aren’t standing there with gun in hand when they arrive.

If you have to shoot, holster your weapon as soon as you are able to. Seek cover, from both the bad guy and from responding officers. Get on the phone to police and ensure that you give dispatchers a good description of yourself so that they can relay that information to responding officers.

When the cops arrive, they will probably order you to the ground, put you in handcuffs, and take your weapon. Expect that. Comply with their orders and don’t get indignant. I know you will be thinking something like “*I just saved that officer’s life and his buddies are treating me like a criminal.*” That’s reality. The responding cops aren’t sure if you are the cop’s guardian angel or the man who just shot him. They will take precautions by handcuffing you until they figure out what’s going on. Don’t complicate matters by trying to argue with them. It will all get sorted out and the cuffs will be removed in a short time.

I stated earlier in the article that, as a cop, I would be eternally grateful for a citizen’s assistance if I was in trouble. I think most of my co-workers feel the same way. We appreciate your assistance and we don’t want you to get hurt in the process. Make sure you take some precautions by following these instructions if you decide to help out a cop in trouble.

Helping an Officer in Trouble- Part Two

Posted on September 23, 2015 by [Greg Ellifritz](#) in [Reader Questions](#)



Written by: [Greg Ellifritz](#)

On Monday I wrote an article about How to [Help a Cop in a Life-Threatening Struggle](#). The article was well received and generated a lot of comments and questions. One of the most common questions was:

“The article provided good options for an armed individual to assist an officer in trouble, but I don’t have a CCW permit. Is there anything an UNARMED individual can do to help?”

It’s an excellent question. First of all, I would commend anyone for even thinking about wading into the fray to help an officer in life threatening danger. Doing so while unarmed is even more admirable. There are a few things that an unarmed rescuer can do to help....

Don’t make things worse. Heroically jumping into a gunfight when you are unarmed isn’t likely to yield positive results. If you get killed, you won’t be helping the officer at all. In fact, it may be detrimental to the officer because the medics might decide to transport your injured body to the hospital before the officer if only one ambulance is available.

No one wants you to execute a suicide mission. If shots are being fired, seek cover. Only consider engaging the criminal if you notice that his weapon is empty or he has experienced a malfunction and his gun won’t work. Even then, it’s extremely dangerous to take on the attacker while unarmed.

If you feel comfortable physically intervening, do so. If the cop is physically struggling with an attacker, feel free to help if you can do so. I’ve accepted help from bystander citizens in struggles with criminals several

times in my career. As I stated in Monday's article, identify yourself and ask the officer for help before you engage.

One other thing... if you are unarmed, don't try to access any weapons on the officer's belt, even if you know how to use them. The officer won't know if you are trying to help him or if you are the attacker's accomplice. Reaching for the officer's pepper spray/baton/Taser/gun will lead to a situation where the officer will escalate force and may cause you or the attacker to get unnecessarily injured.

If you don't feel comfortable assisting by yourself, get some help. Many times when an officer is attacked, a small crowd of people will gather. The bystanders may want to help, but may not know what to do or may not want to be the first person to jump into the struggle. Even if you are not physically able to take on the attacker by yourself, you may be able to recruit some help from the crowd if you take the initiative.

Tell the crowd "*That officer needs help!*" and then grab some folks and see if they will join the fray. Often times all people need is a little encouragement and they will be more than willing to offer assistance.

If you can't do anything, call the police, get a good description, and record the incident on video. If you aren't capable of physically intervening, make sure that you or someone else calls the police. When the dispatcher answers the phone, provide your location and tell them that "*an officer is in trouble.*" Give details if asked. The "*officer in trouble*" call will get the officer help the quickest. Make sure you ask the dispatcher to send an ambulance as well. The officer (or the suspect) may need one by the time the fight is over. Getting one started to the scene as early as possible ensures it will be there when needed.

Providing police with an excellent description of the attacker will ensure that he is caught if he tries to escape. The most important elements of the description to concentrate on are the attacker's physical description (race, age, and clothing description), vehicle description (color, make, model, license plate number), and direction of travel. If the criminal flees, providing this information will be extremely useful to responding officers.

Getting video of the incident on your cell phone will also help police. It will both help to identify the assailant and provide evidence against him at his trial should he be apprehended. If you can do nothing else, get yourself to a safe location and turn on your video camera.

Provide medical attention. After the incident is over, help the officer if you can. Stop any severe bleeding. Put the officer in the [recovery position](#) if he is unconscious. Make sure no members of the gathering crowd steal any of the officer's weapons from his gunbelt or the ground. The officer's cruiser should be nearby. Almost all cruisers will have a medical kit and or AED in the trunk. Use it if the officer asks you to or if he is unconscious and needs medical assistance.

Even if you are unarmed or physically incapable of fighting, you can still take valuable actions to help an officer in trouble. You will have my eternal gratitude if you make an effort to do so.

Special thanks to member Danny Goad for sharing this article:

<https://www.personaldefensenetwork.com/article/lessons-learned-good-samaritan-attempt/>

Lessons Learned From My Good Samaritan Attempt

By [Aaron Kreag](#)

***Editor's note:** I met Aaron over the Internet just a day or two after his initial Good Samaritan incident and spoke with him at length about it at that time. We kept in touch and he has since become a student and a friend. I've followed the developments and the evolution of his thoughts on his decision to act and how he acted on that day very closely. While it is only one example, I believe it to be a great example to study for anyone who carries a defensive firearm in public. I greatly appreciate Aaron's willingness to share his thoughts so others may learn from his experiences. — Rob Pincus*

Driving to the movies on December 26, 2014, I never in a million years envisioned needing to draw my defensive firearm. All the defensive firearm usage scenarios I had envisioned revolved around things like home invasion, carjacking, bank robbery, and spree shooting events. All my previous firearms training revolved around identifying an imminent threat, shooting to stop the threat if necessary, and then hopefully moving on with my life. It was all a pretty simple equation in my mind. However, the reality of my incident that day after Christmas was far different. It was not a simple equation. It was quite complex and has taken over two years to resolve.



Bystander made a cell-phone video of a portion of the incident. Image taken from cbsdfw.com.

The Incident

The basic details of my incident are as follows. I was driving with my wife to see a movie when I saw a man brutally assaulting a woman in the front seat of a vehicle on the side of the road in broad daylight. The best way I can describe it is that it looked like he was utilizing MMA “ground and pound” type moves on this defenseless female. When I spotted the incident, I had my wife stop the car and call 911 as I came around the car, drew my defensive handgun, and ordered the man to stop hitting the woman and lie on the ground. I communicated to him that I was going to keep my trigger finger indexed and would not shoot him if he obeyed my commands. Fortunately, he complied and I was able to hold him at gunpoint until the police arrived. When the police arrived, I was handcuffed and briefly detained while they secured the scene. I was subsequently released and my firearm was returned to me at the scene. You can find an archived copy of the [news report video](#) and a [previous PDN article](#).

While everything since the incident has played out in a relatively positive manner in that nobody was killed, I was cleared, and the bad guy was finally tried and convicted (after two years), there are still a number of lessons learned that are worth sharing. My life and my outlook on personal defense have changed as a result of this incident, and I want to share the details of why and how so the next guy can learn from my experience.

Media Coverage

Let me start with some impacts closer to home. The first one relates to media coverage of the incident. At the time of the incident, a portion of the interaction was caught on cell phone video by a passerby, and that video was shared with the local news. My car and license plate were visible in the video, so within a few hours I was identified by the news media. The following morning, the local news van was at my house. I agreed to be interviewed because they were doing a story regardless, and I wanted to impact the narrative. I talked to a few folks in the firearms community because I felt there might be some solid talking points and an educational benefit. From my perspective, it was an opportunity to promote positive firearms use and the need for quality training. I try to advocate for both whenever possible.

But I never envisioned how my name would live on forever within the realms of the internet. This leads to the first lesson learned. Over the course of the past two years, I know for a fact that I have been passed over for contracts and employment opportunities because of this incident. Prior to this, you would Google me and get a few pages of professional references, all good. Now a Google search results in a few pages addressing the incident, and these things can be interpreted negatively by potential employers. I have had HR managers say, “You are highly qualified and everyone likes you, but we do not care to have this kind of exposure.” So the first takeaway is to remember that what you do and say in this age of cell-phone videos and media will be online forever. Thankfully, I currently work for a company that isn’t put off by the “exposure” that comes with employing me.

Mental and Emotional Stress

The second lesson learned comes from a more mental and emotional perspective. The incident has led to some lost sleep, huge amounts of stress, personal time off work, and stress for my wife and kids. It has also caused stress for my employer, both the one I had at the time and my current one with the time I have had to take off work for court dates and meetings with attorneys. My family and I have taken an increased security posture at home and when in the public space in case anyone recognizes me. I’ll be honest: I thought, and continue to think in the back of my mind, that the attacker could try to retaliate. It’s a strange feeling when people are slowly rolling past your house after an incident like this. My lack of sleep quickly got worse and my health was negatively impacted as a result. Ripple effects of the incident are everywhere, and I never considered that aspect of it in my prior training, because everything focused on surviving the encounter, not the aftermath. Keep in mind, I didn’t even have to fire a shot! I can’t imagine how these problems would manifest themselves if I had been forced to take a human life.

Legal Aftermath

The third lesson has to do with the legal aftermath. While my interaction with the local police and county officials was overwhelmingly positive, I think I lucked out a bit. This happened in a conservative area with more of a gun culture than exists in other parts of the country. I think had I been in Chicago, my world would have been much more negatively impacted. One of the things I did not have at the time was legal support. Yes, I had an attorney on standby, but I didn’t have one to help me navigate all the interviews, meetings, calls and emails, court hearings, etc. There was a solid amount of stress and fear of the unknown in that regard. This isn’t anything I seriously considered prior to the event. I have since enrolled my household in a legal program. I

encourage every armed citizen to do the same. These legal proceedings can get complicated and confusing very quickly, and you don't want to be on your own.

What I'd Do Differently

Lastly, with two years gone by, there is ample time to Monday morning quarterback this whole ordeal. Here are some things I would do differently if I had it to do over again.

1. When I came out of the holster and presented the firearm, I initially did have my finger lightly touching the trigger. I did move to index shortly after shouting commands at the threat. In hindsight, I have no explanation as to why. In my mind, that was a screw up. I think that in the stress of the ordeal, this thing that we train to do over and over was somehow lost. In court during the trial, the defense attorney really chewed this up. He tried to portray me as an adrenaline junkie, a vigilante, and incompetent. This was a very, very uncomfortable and humbling experience. You do not want to be there. And this occurred when I was testifying at the perpetrator's trial for domestic violence assault with injury. I was never charged with any offense.

2. I would have established better control of the scene. I would command the threat to exit, maybe turn around and go to his knees with his hands up. Basically, I wish I would have given more deliberate commands. I'm not sure why I was yelling at him to "get on the ground." I suppose I watched too many *COPS* episodes as a kid. This is something I never trained on, so it's worth considering how to issue good verbal commands as part of your training program.

3. I would have asked the victim to exit the car and move around the rear and be intercepted by my wife and taken to a safer place. I did not. While she was not directly in my potential line of fire, I think I could have done much better. The threat could have easily jumped back in the car and driven off with the victim.

4. I would have had some type of recording myself. I can't say how much easier all of this would have been if I had a full video of everything. I know a lot of people say to call the police and get off your phone but honestly, had there been a way to do both things, I would have been much better off. In fact, the victim, having become uncooperative and changing her tune since the incident, testified in court that my wife and I had made up the assault. If there ever is a next time, my wife will be rolling video and on speaker phone with 911.

5. The trial was the first time that all the 911 calls were played. Wow! This was one of the craziest things: There were so many different angles and so many different perceptions of what was going on. Someone who called in reported I was carjacking the guy. My wife told me she told the dispatcher that her husband was the guy with the gun, etc. The 911 tape revealed that she never said that. She told the dispatcher that a guy was beating the crap out of a lady but she never relayed my information, my description, or the fact that I had my firearm pointed at the guy! Obviously I love my wife, but this was a huge learning opportunity for both of us. Everyone should learn how to be a good witness and make solid 911 calls, which is easier said than done under stress.

6. Police reports. I used to be a paramedic, so writing narrative reports should be my specialty. I was given one page for my narrative, and I did my best to explain what happened. But I should have asked for two to three pages and taken more time to write a more detailed report, and probably not until I'd had time to speak with an attorney. That written statement was gone through over and over and over in the legal proceedings. Your recorded statement is the one thing that is held up in the "your word vs. his word" scenario. I think I did a good enough job, but in hindsight, it could have been better, and I wish I had been more detailed.

7. Police audio and video. Police officers all have cameras and microphones, and everything they see and hear is recorded and played in court. I did an ok job there, but it did not occur to me that this was happening or that these recordings would be played in court.

8. I was interviewed at the police station, in the concrete room with stainless steel furniture. I should have had an attorney with me for this. Fortunately, it worked out. I navigated this process and it was all good, but in hindsight, I really should have had an attorney with me. Now I have taken steps to make sure that if there ever is a next time, I will have the legal help I need.

9. During this process, questions were asked about my life, my background, training, and experience. At one point, I was asked about the number of hours I had on the range, number of rounds fired in training, etc. I didn't even fire my weapon! Imagine for a moment how important those details would have been if I had used deadly force!

My point is, everything you do, say, or have ever done will be subject to some kind of review or question. You have to be mentally and emotionally prepared for the fall out. After experiencing this, I don't know if I would have been prepared for the ramifications of an actual shooting incident.

Would I Do It Again?

People often ask if I would do it again. At the time of the incident when I decided to intervene, I believed sincerely, with 100% of my being, that this guy was intent on killing the lady. My wife concurred. But in hindsight, after everything we have gone through — the stress, the loss, the emotional burden, the victim who turned on us, the lost hours, lost wages, the interrogations, and the exposure — I am today left feeling that the bar has been raised. The threshold for me to personally expose myself like that has gone up. Trust me, if we are out having ice cream and an armed guy in a mask plows through the door, I will act. If your wife is being raped, I will act. If my family is threatened, I will act. At my core, I am still a servant. I am still my brother's keeper, and I might not be able to live with myself if I neglect an opportunity to help a friend. I will continue to train, grow, and evolve as an armed citizen, and I will continue to follow the commandment to "love thy neighbor." But damn. I now pray I will never be placed in that position again. You should too.

https://activeselfprotection.com/trying-to-help-ends-terribly-for-good-samaritan/?doing_wp_cron=1492435578.5202739238739013671875

Trying to Help Ends Terribly for Good Samaritan

April 2, 2017/[0 Comments](#)/in [Video Posts](#) /by [John Correia](#)

We always want to think that our good intentions will be rewarded if we decide to be a Good Samaritan. But we have to count the potential cost as well, because just like this instance, it can end terribly for us. I am not saying not to step in when you have to, but recognize the cost!

If you value what we do at ASP, would you consider becoming an ASP Patron Member to support the work it takes to make the narrated videos like this Good Samaritan being attacked? <https://get-asp.com/patron> gives the details.

Local news story on the Good Samaritan: <https://get-asp.com/vsxy>

What does this video teach us about being a Good Samaritan?

1. You must accept that danger exists and that it can happen to you. This is the foundational core of spiritual fitness and the first step in taking proactive steps to protect yourself and your loved ones. If you live in a fantasyland that nothing bad can happen because nothing bad has happened in the past, you're setting yourself up for a terrible letdown. That danger can come upon you just like it did this Good Samaritan.
2. Every person gets to decide who they are willing to protect. For some, their "flock" is only themselves and their immediate family. That's an acceptable answer. For others, they are willing to protect their friends, coworkers, and extended family. For a few, it might mean being willing to protect anyone who is weak, powerless, and in need. Each of us must decide the size of our flock and have that decision firmly in mind when it is time to act.
3. If you know there might be danger around, you cannot stand there flat-footed with your hands at your side. That's a great way to die. Instead, if you think danger might be coming but not imminent, get your hands up protecting your head, neck, and chest. I do this by tucking one hand under the other elbow, and the free hand on my chin as if I were in deep contemplation. Others do it using the "interview position" with both hands as if they're holding a pad and pen. Getting your hands up shaves split seconds off your reaction time, but that might make the difference between life and death if you can prepare.
4. As each of us considers whether to be a Good Samaritan and step into encounters that do not directly involve us, we must consider the implications on our lives and families. Does your desire to step in override your duty to your spouse and children and loved ones? Or is it part of your care for your family to protect others wherever you can? We must also all realize that when we come across an incident in progress that it can be VERY difficult to determine who is the aggressor and who is the defender, who are the good guys and who are the bad guys, and that must give us pause as well.
5. Spiritual fitness is an important part of Active Self Protection. You don't often get any advance notice of the last day of your life, but we see over and over that self-defense isn't a guarantee of winning every fight you might be placed in. You want to be at peace with your loved ones and with God, because you'll need that peace on the day that you meet Him. Since you can't guarantee advanced notice, make peace today.

There are 3 additional lessons for [Patron Members](#) and 3 class starters for [Instructors](#) from this video, so please join us in those programs to see them!

Attitude. Skills. Plan.

(music in the outro courtesy of [Bensound](#) at <http://www.bensound.com>)

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Top 10 Fighting Pistols

by Jeremy Stafford | January 31st, 2017

Every year, all the major players (and most of the minor ones) in the firearms world descend on Las Vegas to display their latest wares. This year, there were several new fighting pistols worth looking at.

Here are our top 10 fighting pistols from SHOT Show 2017. The rankings are, of course, subjective. We hesitate to call them all “duty pistols” because more than just the pistol goes into that description. Things like ease of maintenance, armorer and parts supports, aftermarket support and field-use play a big part when determining if a pistol is truly duty ready. For the sake of this write-up, we’re looking at several pistols with no track record, so we’ll focus heavily on metrics that we’ve observed, such as accuracy, ergonomics and reliability.



Glock “M” Series—No, they weren’t on display. But yes, they were there — you just had to know who to ask! Here’s the deal with the M series of pistols that will probably end up being “Gen 5” after the contract is filled: no finger grooves, RTF-2 texture, built-in flare at the magwell, different barrel, ambidextrous slide stops and, most importantly, a redesigned trigger. I had only 30 seconds to look at it, but it appears as if the trigger improvements that went into the Glock 43 were carried over to the “M.” The geometry of several parts looks different, and the firing pin safety plunger is more rectangular than round. When we know more, you will, too. Even with all the unknowns, this pistol’s pedigree puts it at the top of the heap.



CZ P-10C—I know it's a pretty high debut, but having shot the pistol extensively, I'm comfortable with its place. The P10C has a better trigger than any other striker gun on the market, and the legendary CZ ergonomics are all there. The gun is also as accurate as most custom 1911s that I've shot, which doesn't hurt. Long-term reliability is unknown, but one of the factory samples I shot had more than 20,000 rounds through it. Aftermarket support is currently lacking, but the P10 fits in most Glock 19 holsters, so that's not as bad as it sounds, \$500-\$516.



M&P M2.0—Smith & Wesson wasn't going to just sit on their laurels with the popular M&P series; they made so many improvements that they felt it deserved its own version number. The trigger mechanism has been refined, and the press is smooth and consistent at around 5 pounds, which is a vast improvement over the earlier model's inconsistent triggers. There is also a fast, audible and tactile reset for those that prefer it. The frame texture is so good that at least one custom shop I spoke with said that they don't plan on redoing it, just adding it to other areas on the frame. It also comes with forward cocking serrations, which look great. This variant shoots tighter groups than most of the earlier models I've used, which always raises a pistols stock, \$600.



SIG Sauer P320RX Carry Optic—Pistols with optics will be the industry standard within five years, and SIG Sauer has embraced the future. While the P320X Carry is smaller than most fighting pistols, its inclusion of the SIG Sauer Romeo dot sight hits way above its weight class. Smooth trigger, great accuracy and refined ergonomics allow this little gem to consistently knock the 10 ring out of targets out to 30 yards. The ability to switch components, depending on user preference, is not only cool but can also provide a very cost-effective platform for agencies. That's probably a big reason why the U.S. Army just chose a P320 variant as its new modular handgun, \$870.



FNS Long slide—While not technically new, these pistols are starting to show up in numbers, hence their inclusion. The FNS Long Slide is not that much longer than most full-sized offerings from other manufacturers, but its 5-inch barrel adds heft at the muzzle end and, combined with the grip angle and bore axis of the pistol, provides a flat shooting package for someone wanting a true full-sized pistol. The trigger is not the best on the list but does smooth out somewhat after several hundred rounds. The grip texture is aggressive, and the pistol is set up intelligently. With its controls working smoothly, this is a solid offering for the full-sized aficionado, \$650.



[Heckler & Koch VP9 Grey](#)—Yes, the only difference is a new color. But that doesn't matter: The VP9 is a solid gun from a solid manufacturer. Its trigger is among the best in the striker-fired sandbox, but it does suffer from a seriously high bore axis. Considering HK's reputation for quality, I'm surprised that there aren't more of these pistols in police holsters around the country. Price could have something to do with that, but this is a pistol that will last for a full career on the streets. It's built like a damn tank. In shooting, the VP9 doesn't flip like you might think it would based on the bore axis, but it does have a unique recoil impulse. Many in the industry, including Larry Vickers, count this pistol among their favorites, \$719.



[Ruger American Pistol Compact](#)—Probably the biggest sleeper in this category, the Ruger American is full of features. The wraparound grip module is one of the best solutions in the striker-fired category, changing the

width and depth of the grip specs and even allowing the shooter to tune their trigger reach to what's comfortable. The trigger is solid and serviceable, but the unique barrel cam and the lighter-than-average slide help to make the pistol very comfortable to shoot. I haven't seen any of them pushed to obscene round counts yet, but based on the pistols that I've shot, I have no doubt that it will run for a good, long while. I imagine that once people figure out that this isn't their dad's clunky P85, the American will hit everyone's radar. Available with or without a thumb safety and in 9mm or .45, this is a pistol worth taking a long, hard look at, \$580.



[Hudson Mfg H9](#)—A striker-fired, high-cap 1911ish pistol? Yes, please! Only 1,150 bucks? Maybe not. I fondled it. I shot it. It's neat — but it's not worth \$1,150. As of now, this is a boutique pistol. The trigger is very good, the ergonomics are very good, and it has a steel frame for the curmudgeons in the house. Execution of the pistol is excellent, with top-notch craftsmanship and attention to detail. There is definite promise here, but it's still an expensive striker pistol. Once we start getting field reports, my ears may perk up, but as of now, I'm in wait-and-see mode. MSRP: \$1,150.



[SilencerCo Maxim 9](#)—It's not duty proven and, hell, it's not even widely available, but damn. This might be the coolest pistol ever. An integrally suppressed 9mm pistol that uses widely available Glock magazines and sights, as well as being set up from the factory to accept red dot optics. This, my friends, is the future. The suppressor is modular and can be shortened to allow a more compact package utilizing subsonic ammunition or kept full length for use with whatever ammo you want. With the groundswell of support for repealing NFA restrictions, this gem has the possibility of going from niche gun to best-seller in the blink of an eye. I've shot the preproduction version, and it's a sweet shooter; not nearly as unbalanced as its appearance lets on. This is a pistol that can work. MSRP: \$1,500.



[Colt Combat Unit Rail Gun 1911](#)—This is America, and it wouldn't be a list without at least one 1911. The CCU is Colt's latest offering in its Rail Gun line, and it has taken quite a few leads from the Colt MARSOC M45 pistol, including the upgraded internals and the two-spring captive recoil spring assembly. The CCU also boasts 25 lines per inch (lpi) checkering on the front strap, an undercut triggerguard and an upswept beavertail, allowing a very high, thumbs forward grip on the pistol. Spec'd out by one of my favorite people in the industry, Ken Hackathorn, the CCU is the culmination of over 100 years of Colt 1911s. It's as modern as a 106-year-old pistol can be and is available in both 9mm and .45, so you can buy both and argue with yourself about which one has that mythical stopping power we've all been reading about for over a century, \$1,500.

https://gundigest.com/article/nikko-stirling-goes-long-with-the-diamond-first-focal-plane-scope?utm_source=wir&utm_campaign=gd-dwb-wir-170302-ModernShooter&utm_content=925697_EDT_MS170302&utm_medium=email

Nikko Stirling Goes Long with the Diamond First Focal Plane Scope

By [Elwood Shelton](#) - February 24, 2017



In recent years, the firearms industry has gone long.

From bullets streamlined to slip through the air nearly unimpeded to purpose-built rifles meant to sling copper-jacketed lead a country mile, long-range shooting has been all the rage. The optics end of the market has definitely been riding high on the crest of this wave.

More and more riflescope manufacturers have been turning their eyes to aiming solutions designed to draw a bead on a flea's behind from 300-plus-yards out. One of the most recent to unveil its high-powered wares was [Nikko Stirling](#), who released an entirely new line dedicated to precisely going the distance.

The company released its Diamond First Focal Plane Scope at the 2017 SHOT Show. And from the looks of it, the 4-16x44mm and 6-24x50mm optics in the line should have the chops to put shooters on target, no matter how many zip codes away it's placed.

At the heart of the Diamond line is the Skeleton HMD reticle. The red/green illumination reticle delivers a clear sight picture allowing shooters to precisely place the crosshairs no matter the light condition. As the line's moniker suggests, the reticle is etched on the front focal plane — a must to accurately utilize the .5 MIL subtensions at any magnification. Also, being FFP, the reticle increases in size in the same proportion as the target, ensuring the crosshairs do not blot it out.

The scope is built on a 30mm aircraft-grade aluminum tube and is outfitted with large objective lenses. The 44mm and 50mm lenses should provided excellent light gathering capabilities, always a concern when attempting a distant shot. The scope's light gathering proficiency is further enhanced with all of its lens surfaces coated with Nikko Stirling's proprietary Microlux ETE GEN III coating — designed to reduce glare, enhance contrast and sharpen images.



With an illuminated reticle and plenty of magnification, the Diamond looks to be a gem for long-range shooters.

The Diamond First Focal Plane scope features oversized elevation and windage turrets that have tactile and audible clicks, and adjusts at 1/10 MIL increments. The elevation turret is also outfitted with a zero stop, which halts the rotation after one turn and allows it to quickly return to zero. The stop can be removed, allowing the elevation turret to rotate freely and adjust to extremely long shots.

The scope is also outfitted with a side parallax adjustment that can be tuned from 10 yards to infinity, ensuring a shot always lands dead in the bull's eye.

The scope ships with a sunshade, two elevation drop turrets (one blank) and comes with the option of a side-wheel. The MSRP on the 4-16x44mm Diamond First Focal Plane Scope is \$459 and the 6-24x50mm is \$490.

http://patriotcaller.com/10-ways-to-hide-weapons-and-more/?utm_source=PatriotCaller&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=TPCdigest-Mail&ContactOLeadSourceId=TPCdigest

10 Ways to Hide Weapons and More!

[Hannah Blake](#) [Leave a Comment](#)



You have a nice cache of weapons and you have gathered some other essential prepper supplies. Now how can you protect them and safely store them at the same time?

It is a good idea to invest in some secret stash options that will enable you to keep your weapons and other essentials close by without having them out in the open.

Not only will this make them less likely to be stolen, accidentally fired or used against you during a break-in but it will also give you the important element of surprise if a burglar enters your home.



1. Gun Slider Cabinet

Gun cabinets are a great way to display your firearms...

The downside to this storage option is that, of course, it advertises your collection with nothing but a piece of glass separating your babies from a thief. This model is designed to display, sure, but it's most important feature is its ability to deceive!

Hide your shotguns in this locking slider case that is virtually certain to escape the notice of criminals.

This technique may not give you the easiest way to access your guns when you need them, but it should minimize your risk of ending up on the news after a child finds one of your weapons and pulls the trigger.

In other words, stashing your shotguns in this way quite simply makes good sense.

2. Wall Plate Safe



You're not going to be able to fit a gun in here, but you can hide a switchblade, money and other valuables by installing a fake wall plate or fake electrical outlet.

These are incredibly easy and cheap to install. Plus, we've got easy-to-follow instructions available for you [right here](#).

The best part about this option is that pretty much no one is going to take the time to check your wall plates while they are attempting to rob you. It would be wise to put one of these in your bedroom so that you can get into it if someone breaks in at night.



3. Punching Bag

Do you have an old, taped up punching bag that you've literally beat the stuffing out of?

Let's face it, the dirty truth of punching bags is that nearly 99 out of 100 get punched for a month after they're hung in the basement. After the initial enthusiasm wears off... they just hang there.

If so, you can fill the inside of the bag with a wide variety of things, including weapons, money or even a small spare bug out bag!

Simply put your items inside from the middle of the bag and then tape it up so that it looks like it is merely an old, worn out exercise tool.

The odds of anyone thinking to check a punching bag are so remote that this could be the last item of value left if your home is burglarized when you are not around to protect your property.



4. Fake Air Vent

If you like the idea of a fake electrical outlet but want something large enough to hold a gun, you can purchase a fake air vent instead.

Of course you can easily build your own version of one of these secret safes. If you're fairly handy and have the patience to finish the project out completely, go for it.

Otherwise, why not buy a readymade version, designed for super easy installation?

These vent safes are deep enough to hold a handgun, along with money and other valuables.

The best part is that they open up with an access card, so you do not need to take the time to unscrew them when you need quick access to your stash!

5. Make a Secret Room

Create your own secret room to store your prepper supplies, extra weapons, money stash and much more!

Depending on how large and accessible you make the room, it could even hide you and your family during a break-in or an emergency. This is the ultimate storage space, and as long as you hide it properly, no one is going to be able to find it.

Make sure that you install a lock on the inside so that you can lock yourself in if necessary. The video will give you some great ideas. Obviously, this tactic is a fairly involved and doesn't work if you're renting.



6. Old Vacuum Cleaner

An old vacuum cleaner that does not have a see-through collection compartment is the perfect way to hide valuables in plain sight.

No one is going to unzip your vacuum to see what is inside it, so go ahead and remove the interior bag and place guns, money and other items inside of it. Just make sure that you do not overfill it to the point where it looks odd.

As with any other secret hiding spot, the idea is to make everything look as normal as possible.



7. Wall Shelf Gun Cabinet

The gun wall shelf cabinet serves two practical purposes: it gives you a place to display decorative items and it allows you to hide a gun in any room of your house.

Some people opt to place multiple wall shelf gun cabinets around their home to increase their odds of quickly reaching a weapon during an emergency.

It is wise to have real shelves in place too, though, especially the first ones that a criminal might encounter.

That way, if they take a second to check a couple of shelves, they'll most likely decide that none of them are hiding anything.



8. Paint Cans

Do you have several old paint cans in your garage?

Clean up the inside of one or two of them, while leaving the outside looking dirty and used. You can then place a handgun, money or any other small valuables inside the can.

Be sure to leave the storage can stacked with all of the others to prevent anyone from finding your hidden stash.

As long as you know which one is the secret can without having to open anything, you could even grab it on the run if an emergency arises.



9. Globe Safe

A globe looks right at home in any office or study area, and it is highly unlikely that a burglar or looter would think to look inside of it.

Plus, globes are just cool. Who doesn't like to have a spherical map to give your imagination a visual aide when you're thinking about geopolitics, etc.?

This gives you the ability to take advantage of a globe safe to stash a gun, some ammo and other small valuables that you do not want to risk losing during a break-in or after the SHTF.



10. Jacket Pocket

Do you have an old jacket hanging inside your closet that happens to have an inside pocket?

As long as there are not any children in the house who could accidentally find this secret spot, then it becomes a great place to stash a handgun.

No criminal is going to take the time to search through all of the pockets of every single jacket in all of your closets, especially if you choose a jacket that looks old and is positioned in the back.

This gives you the opportunity to surprise someone who is trying to break-in. As an added bonus, you could always put the jacket on to remain armed if you have to leave your house in a hurry.

Now that you know some of the best ways to hide your weapons, money and even your stash of food and water, it is time to put some of these tips to good use!

http://www.gunsandammo.com/shoot101/the-basics-behind-correct-aiming/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=shoot101&utm_term=gunsandammo&utm_content=shoot101

The Basics Behind Correct Aiming

Words by Bryana Gordon

Aiming, defined as “to direct (a weapon or camera) at a target,” is the most important aspect of shooting. It’s one thing to fire off a bunch of rounds; it’s another thing to shoot accurately. If proper aiming is your goal, begin by figuring out your dominant eye.



Determining eye dominance is a critical step in becoming a better shooter. Discovering yours is an easy task that takes only seconds.

Eye dominance plays an important role in shooting. If you are left-eye dominant and shooting right handed, it’s not very likely that you will hit the target. Luckily, there is a simple test to figure this out. With your arms fully extended, cross your hands to make a triangle between your thumbs and index fingers, and center the triangle around an object of your choosing. Once the object is centered in your triangle, shut your left eye. Is the object still centered? If so, that means you are right-eye dominant. If the reverse takes place and closing your right eye keeps the object centered, then you are left-eye dominant. Just because you’re right handed doesn’t necessarily mean you’re right-eye dominant. Once you have your dominant eye figured out, there are several other factors to consider that will lead to success as a shooter.

Sight alignment refers to how your front and rear sights are aligned. It’s the beginning of aiming, and it varies depending on the type of firearm you are shooting. The second aspect is sight picture. Sight picture is how your sights are aligned with your target. In addition to understanding the difference between sight alignment and sight picture, it’s important to understand trigger pull and how to grip your firearm.

Whether shooting a handgun or long gun, you want to make sure the overall fit and comfort of the gun is right for you. A mistake many new shooters make is that they don't grip their firearm tight enough. You want to have a firm grip so you are able to make a follow-up shot without getting "limp wrist." Limp wrist happens when you've just pulled the trigger and the recoil from the gun causes your wrist to bend upward because you don't have a firm enough grip. When pulling the trigger, don't jerk it. This will cause the gun to come off target. Using the front third of your finger, gently press the trigger. Now that we've discussed the basics, let's take a look at the different sight options: open sights, red dot and scopes.

Irons

Open sights refer to the standard fixed sights that come with most firearms. Depending on the type of gun you are shooting, there is some variation. Fixed sights might look something like an open pistol sight, which typically has a front dot sight with some form of a notched rear sight, or they may only have a front bead sight.



[Savage's Model 42 Takedown](#) has two barrels, one in .22LR and the other in .410 bore, making this a rifle/shotgun combo. It's aimed by one of the simplest and effective sighting systems in existence: iron sights.

A positive of this type of sight is that they typically come with the gun. If you decide to solely rely on open sights, your one limitation will be distance — you can only shoot as far as you can see.

Dots

Red dot sights mount directly to the firearm, and when you look through them there is an illuminated dot in the center (color varies).



Red dots, such as [Bushnell's First Strike](#), place an illuminated dot in the shooter's field of view. Place the dot and pull the trigger. Nothing is faster.

The brightness of the dot is controlled by an adjustment knob. A positive feature of red dot sights is that they are optimized for fast shooting and rapid target acquisition.

Scopes

The final type of sight is a scope. A scope magnifies whatever is in its view and uses a reticle or crosshairs for aiming. Similar to the microscope you used in science class, a firearms scope will have an ocular and objective lens. In addition to the two lenses, there are several knobs. The power ring adjusts the magnification, and the elevation and windage knobs control vertical and horizontal movement.



Magnified optics sacrifice speed while enabling greater precision. This scope from Bushnell is designed for rimfires, which makes it a great fit for Savage's A17 semiautomatic .17 HMR.

Elevation adjusts the reticle up and down, and windage adjusts the reticle left to right. Some well recognized scope companies include Bushnell, Weaver, Millett, Tasco and Simmons. Let's review each of these sight types and their function with a handgun, rifle and shotgun.

Handguns

Handguns almost always have open sights. When looking over your pistol, you will notice a single dot front sight and some variation of a notched rear sight. When aligning the sights, you want the front and rear sight to be level, and the front sight to be equidistant between the rear opening on your firearm. In addition, your sights should cut your target in half. One of the most difficult concepts to grasp when learning to aim is that your focus should be at least 80 percent on your front sight. If you're holding your gun properly and pointing it at your target using your front sight, you should hit it.



Because pistols are largely short-range firearms, most come with iron sights. Correct aiming involves centering the front blade in the rear notch.

Target fixation can lead to inaccurate results; thus, you want your focus on the front sight. When using a red dot, act as though the red dot is your front sight. Focus on the dot, place it on your target, and you're bound to have success. Our final optic is the scope. In order to acquire your target with confidence, you'll want to peer through your scope with your dominant eye while holding your firearm with a firm grip. Assuming the scope is sighted-in properly and you're not dealing with windage or other environmental factors, once your reticle or crosshairs are where you want them, take a deep breath — fire!

Rifles

Rifles often have iron sights as well, whether it's a rear notch sight or a peep sight, which is a rear sight with a hole in which you center the front sight. In order to use the sights to the best of your ability, be sure that your firearm is positioned properly. Once the sights and target are aligned, pull the trigger. Just as you would use a red dot on your handgun, the same concept goes for a rifle. Pull up your rifle, focus on the red dot and fire.



A scope is often the preferred sight when shooting a rifle, whether it is a bolt-action hunting rifle, an AR-style platform or a long-range precision rifle. Assuming there is zero wind speed and your scope is properly sighted-in, you should easily hit your target wherever you line up your reticle or crosshairs. When it comes to scopes, it's important to ensure the quality of the optic matches the quality of the firearm. Just because you spent money on the latest and greatest rifle doesn't mean you can cheap out on the optic. The two go hand in hand; if you're saving money for your dream rifle, make sure to save for your dream scope, too.

Shotguns

Shotguns are in their own category when it comes to aiming. When holding a shotgun, you want the stock buried into the pocket of your shoulder, your cheek pressed into the stock, one hand grasping the grip near the trigger and the other supporting the barrel with the forearm. Most shotguns come with either a single front bead sight or a front and mid-bead sight. Where is the rear sight you may ask? I like to say the rear sight is your eye.



Most shotguns are designed for use on moving targets, which means they don't need precision sights. In fact, this Stevens 555 features only a simple bead sight to align both barrels on target.

If you are shooting sporting clays, the last thing you want to do is aim. When I was learning to shoot sporting clays, my dad told me to give the bird "crazy eyes." What he meant is to focus on the target. Assuming you have proper shotgun alignment and movement, you should be able to hit the target just by focusing on it. When you focus on aiming, you stop your shotgun movement and miss your target. The only time you technically aim a shotgun is if you're hunting a turkey or other stationary game. That is when you would aim and shoot a shotgun as you would a pistol or rifle. Equipping a shotgun with a red dot or scope is most common for hunting or home defense.

Whether you are a novice or an experienced shooter, aiming is something that you will always take with you. While the basic concept of aiming remains the same, your technique will evolve and become more natural. The only way to improve is to practice and, like my family and friends say, "Practice doesn't make perfect, perfect practice makes perfect!" Now that you have the basic aiming concepts, go to the range and have some fun!

Read more: <http://www.gunsandammo.com/shoot101/the-basics-behind-correct-aiming/#ixzz4eVurD3Mc>

https://gundigest.com/handguns/concealed-carry/gallery-top-concealed-carry-guns-gear?utm_source=wir&utm_campaign=gd-dwb-wir-170309-Concealed&utm_content=927452_EDT_CC170309&utm_medium=email

Gallery: Top Concealed Carry Guns and Gear

By [David Hart](#) - February 28, 2017

Beretta PX4 Compact Carry



Few pistols pack so many features into a small package as Beretta's PX4 Compact Carry. Available in either 9mm or .40 S&W, it gives you peace-of-mind whether you are at home or out and about. It comes with an automatic firing pin block, ambidextrous slide lock, interchangeable grips, reversible magazine release, Picatinny rail and a drop-free magazine. The adjustable sights allow you to make the gun shoot where you need it to when you need it to. (\$650; Beretta.com)

Any carry gun is a good one when you need it, but some just outshine the competition. They feel a little better, they shoot straighter and they do exactly what they are supposed to do every time you pull the trigger. That's why Gun Digest is highlighting a handful of firearms in this Gear of the Year issue. Of course, a concealed carry gun needs to be carried and concealed. We've also included some of the best holsters on the market. They not only give you a place to put your favorite CC gun, they allow you to carry in comfort and style.

Federal 9mm Micro HST



Made specifically for compact concealed carry guns, Federal's new 9mm Micro HST gives you maximum stopping power in a 150-grain bullet. It's designed for rapid expansion and ideal penetration and is an excellent choice for home protection or as concealed carry ammo. The larger bullet and lower velocity decreases felt recoil and noise, giving you confidence in each shot. The consistent, clean-burning powder reduces fouling and the nickel-coated case assures smooth, hassle-free cycling. Also available in .380. (\$31.95; FederalPremium.com)

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Disse Compact IWB Holster



When you need it, you need it now. Disse's compact inside-the-waistband holster allows you near-instant access to your favorite carry gun thanks to a sturdy belt loop available in two sizes. It's custom-made for nearly three-dozen pistol options. Thanks to a bridle leather backer and an adjustable tension level, this adjustable holster is as functional as it is comfortable. The belt clip is also adjustable for the perfect cant and the holster is available in right or left-hand options, as well as nine colors. (\$44.95; DisseGear.com)

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Remington RM380



If “compact,” “reliable” and “capable” describe the perfect carry gun, Remington’s RM380 is exactly what you are looking for. At just 12.2 ounces and 5.27 inches in length, it’s tiny enough to conceal just about anywhere on your body, yet large enough to get the job done. The smooth, fixed sights allow a fast, snag-free draw and the double action-only trigger allows you to carry without a concern. Backed by Remington’s solid reputation, the RM380 is built with an aluminum frame for long-lasting durability. (\$417; Remington.com)

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Browning 1911-380 Pro



If you like a slightly larger carry gun, Browning’s 1911-380 Pro is the right fit. Built on a traditional 1911 frame but scaled down to match the size of a .380 cartridge, this gun gives concealed carry holders the best of both worlds. It weighs 18 ounces and has a 4.25-inch barrel, giving you accuracy and lower recoil for fast follow-up shots when they are needed most. The 380 Pro comes with an eight-round magazine, an extended ambidextrous safety, fixed combat sights and a skeletonized hammer. It also comes with an ABS carrying case. (\$799.99; Browning.com)

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Colt Lightweight Commander



Built on a 1911 platform, but scaled down for concealment, this potent pistol packs a punch in either .45 ACP or 9mm. The solid, strong and reliable gun weighs a tad over 29 ounces and has a 4.25-inch barrel and a total length of 7.75 inches (.45 ACP.) It's built with an aluminum alloy frame and includes a dual spring recoil system, Novak sights, a beavertail grip safety system and custom black cherry Colt logo grips. (\$949; Colt.com)

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Blackhawk Tec-Grip Holsters



Go clipless with Blackhawk's Tec-Grip inside waistband ambidextrous holsters. Tec-Grip fabric clings to just about any material, eliminating the need for a bulky, visible clip. A layer of closed-cell foam offers a level of comfort not found in stiffer plastic or leather holsters, too. Holsters are available in nine sizes and fit virtually every size handgun, from full-size autos to snub-nose revolvers. It's also machine washable. (\$18.95-\$24.95; Blackhawk.com)

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UltiClip3



If you aren't satisfied with the clip that came on your favorite concealed carry holster, swap it out with an UltiClip 3. It has far more tension than most stock holster clips and is adjustable for height, keeping your concealed firearm concealed exactly where you want it. The slim design provides extra comfort, too. It weighs, less than one ounce and is 3.5 inches long and 7/8-inch wide. The UltiClip3 comes with a mounting slot and two holes and fits a wide variety of screw-on and retention-type brands and models. Even better, it's American-made. (\$11.99; UltiClip.com)

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Alien Gear Cloak Tuck 3.0



Now available for semi-autos and revolvers, Alien Gear’s Cloak Tuck 3.0 inside-the-waistband holster offers maximum comfort and concealment. It’s molded to fit hundreds of makes and models. A stainless steel core and a layer of ballistic nylon means this is the only holster you’ll ever buy. A new “alien skin” outer cover reduces slippage when you need a fast, efficient draw. The body side includes a layer of neoprene and a wide holster mount for added comfort. The angle and height are adjustable, as well. (\$43.88; AlienGearHolsters.com)

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Crossbreed Freedom Carry Holster



If you want to carry it, there's a Crossbreed Freedom Holster for it. Available in hundreds of sizes fitting dozens of makes and models, this simple, no-nonsense holster is available in either right- or left-hand draw and has a slim profile for maximum comfort and concealment. The pocket is mounted in a straight draw position and has an adjustable cant clip for various carry positions. The Freedom holster is built to accommodate firearms with lasers, lights and similar attachments and can be customized for side-mount red dot sights. (\$64.50; CrossbreedHolsters.com)

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Kimber K6s



Who says you must carry a semi-automatic? Kimber's K6s hammerless revolver packs six .357 Magnum/.38 Special rounds in the smallest six-round cylinder on the market. It's just 1.39 inches in diameter and has a compact 2-inch barrel, making it a snap to hide in your waistband. It's made from stainless steel and includes a match-grade trigger, an internal hammer and rounded edges for fast, snag-free draws. The ergonomic grip makes it a snap to hold and shoot. At just 23 ounces, you'll forget it's even there. That is, until you need it. (\$899; KimberAmerica.com)

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Custom Carry Concepts Shaggy IWB Holster



Want to carry over your appendix instead of on your side? Custom Carry Concepts' Shaggy IWB holster is exactly what you need. Built from .08-inch Thermoform plastic and coated stainless steel hardware, all CCC holsters are made by hand in America. It has an adjustable retention and a positive click for secure re-holstering. Belt attachments include a hard loop, a standard clip and one-way snap loops. Options include an adapter plate for height and cant angle adjustments, leather backings and a tuckable adapter. It's available in multiple color options and is custom-made for dozens of makes and models. It's also available in left-hand. (\$73; CustomCarryConcepts.com)

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Hogue Stage 1



Hogue's patented Automatic Retention System assures you that your favorite carry gun stays in place until you need it. The polymer-formed holster secures your gun but allows for an easy, swift, straight-pull draw by unlocking the ARS with your thumb as you draw. Available in dozens of configurations that fit virtually every carry gun including Ruger LCR revolvers, it offers a draw angle adjustable paddle and belt plate to customize the holster to you. (\$49.95; HogueInc.com)

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https://www.gunsamerica.com/blog/everymans-ar-ruger-ar-556-full-review/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20170306_BlogDigest_214&utm_campaign=/blog/everymans-ar-ruger-ar-556-full-review/

An Everyman's AR? The Ruger AR-556 – Full Review.

by Justin Opinion on March 3, 2017

For more information, visit <http://ruger.com/products/ar556/models.html>.

To purchase on GunsAmerica.com, click this link: <https://www.gunsamerica.com/Search.htm?T=AR-556&Itid-all=1&as=730&cid=4&ns=0&numberperpage=50&>.

When it comes to rifles in the U.S., none has ever been more popular than the AR-15. I personally think that one of the reasons for the mind-numbing popularity of the AR-15 is because the platform has a military-proven pedigree, can be had at a reasonable price, and is ear-to-ear-smile fun all day long. It makes perfect sense then, that Ruger would make it a point to market an AR rifle for everyday Americans – because providing quality affordable guns to mainstream America is what Ruger does. And it did it with the [AR-556](#).



The Ruger AR-556 brings a quality black rifle to the “every home” market at a sweet price. Photo: Ruger.



RUGER AR-556

- Chambering: 5.56 NATO / .223 Remington
- Barrel: 16.1" 1:8 RH twist
- OA Length: 32 ¼ - 35 ½"
- Weight: 6.5 lbs.
- Grips: Glass-filled Nylon
- Sights: Folding rear / front post
- Action: Direct impingement
- Finish: Type III Hard Coat Anodized
- Capacity: 1 - 30 round magazine
- MSRP: \$799

That said; one concern I had when I heard that Ruger was going to produce an AR-15 was that they might Ruger-ize it mechanically, by adding extra safeties or creating some sort of proprietary aspect. They have been known to be a bit overzealous in those areas in the past. Either of those would have rendered the rifle good for propping open doors, but little else in my opinion. Thankfully, the engineers at Ruger seem to have agreed. This rifle is essentially a mil-spec basic kit in a box. Don't worry, if you are a Ruger fanatic there is nothing to fear – Ruger stamped their name and logo in just about every spot they could think of on the AR-556, but tastefully. What Ruger has given us is as close to a generic direct gas impingement black rifle as anyone, but with just the right amount of Ruger “flavor.” And, when I say ‘generic’ I mean it in a positive way. There is literally no shortage of AR builders in the marketplace that each try to separate from the pack by customizing the rifle, or adding more bling, or both. What they do, in reality is the opposite, especially when it comes to the new buyer. Buying a firearm can be intimidating for the unseasoned, and the AR platform is likely the most so. Ruger did what very few others have done by making the purchase of an AR-15 easy and comforting. They make it easy by building a “just what you need” rifle that doesn't intimidate your skillset or wallet (with an MSRP of \$799), and they make it comforting because – well, simply because the box says “Ruger”.



The gas block, milled from billet, has a serrated ramp leading up to the front sight post, and below includes a bayonet lug and QD socket.

WHAT MATTERS MOST

I said before that Ruger didn't “Ruger-ize” this rifle. What they didn't do was negatively change the specifications of the rifle in such a way that would either detract from its usefulness, or create a proprietary parts list. One thing Ruger did do that impressed this writer, was created a Delta ring that one person who has only two hands can remove – without tools or a vise. The Delta ring was designed so that one person could easily remove the handguard. Traditional AR Delta ring removal requires pulling rearward against some significant resistance, while simultaneously turning the ring, which can be tight. Unless you have a vise handy this can sometimes require the help of another person. With the Ruger AR-556, all you need to do is simply twist to loosen, and twist to tighten. It works wonderfully, and unless Ruger has a patent on it, we might start seeing this copied a lot.



The barrel of the AR-556 is topped with a Ruger-style flash suppressor and has a 1:8-inch rate of twist. Photo: Ruger.

A cold hammer-forged 4140 chrome-moly steel barrel with 1:8" twist rate should handle bullets from 35 to 77 grains nicely, and the chamber is 5.56 NATO. The barrel is finished off with matte black oxide which reduces glare and provides corrosion resistance. The barrel is not lined, nor is it coated. No chrome, no Melonite. In part, this keeps costs down. You can't build a frills gun and sell it at a no-frills price. It is very likely too that the people at Ruger understand the reality that very few rifle owners are going to shoot out the barrel. It's fun to put on tactical pants and skip a shave and talk about whether chrome lining or Melonite coating is better for accuracy and long barrel life – but in the real world, very few people will use their sporting rifle to the extent that it matters. And frankly, those who will are not looking at this rifle – except as a gift idea for a family member.



The pistol grip and other furniture bear the Ruger logo and are good quality.

Ruger did put money into the rifle in several places – just the right places, I think. The gas block that is milled from billet was one of the first things that caught my eye. The ramp up to the front sight post (which is

adjustable for elevation) is nicely serrated to eliminate glare. It also has a quick-disconnect (QD) socket and the always necessary bayonet lug. Just rear of that is the most lackluster piece of furniture on the rifle in my opinion, the plastic handguard. It is the epitome of “no frills”, but it serves its purpose. Again, money saved here lets you take the rifle home cheap and upgrade later. The gas tube runs inside that, taking us back to the upper receiver. This is where Ruger cut no corners. The fit and finish is nice, and the parts are high quality materials and well made. The bolt carrier’s inside diameter and the gas key’s inside diameter are both chrome-plated, which should provide very good resistance to hot gases. The gas key is staked so that it will not loosen after extensive firing. Once again, a matte black oxide finish on the exterior of the bolt carrier provides corrosion resistance. The bolt itself is machined from 9310 alloy steel and is shot peened and pressure tested to ensure strength, structural integrity and durability.



The six-position telescoping stock includes a sling mounting ring, and of course – the Ruger logo.

The upper receiver is a flattop, made from aerospace-grade 7075-T6 aluminum forging, and includes a forward assist, dust cover and brass deflector, and is Type III hard coat anodized for maximum durability. The flattop includes an adequate portion of 1913 Picatinny rail, some of which is occupied by the flip-up rear sight. Mounting a short electronic optic can be done without removing the rear sight, but if you want a full-length scope on it, that rear sight has to come off. It’s easy if you have the right sized hex wrench, but the nut is not captured and easy to lose if you’re not careful. A scope mounted with just medium height rings easily clears the front post for a clear look down range.

Moving back along the mil-spec buffer tube, Ruger has equipped the AR-556 with a six-position adjustable stock. It proudly bears the Ruger logo, so the question of who supplies it remains a mystery for the moment. It is the essential stock we’ve come to expect on our sporting rifle, and though the cheek weld is a wee bit sparse, it’s a nice stock and it locks firmly into each position. It also includes a sling mount ring, an appreciated touch.

The lower receiver is also well built from top material and the fit between upper and lower on our test rifle was nice and snug. The pistol grip is a polymer material with some stippling for grip. I found it comfortable and practical, and as it does not have that annoying A2 protrusion for giant-sized fingers, I was pleased! The trigger is a single stage mil-spec type, and nothing to write home about. It is heavy and gritty, just like single-stage-mil-spec triggers are – but I found it to be consistent and it did not really prevent me from shooting respectable groups. If the buyer wants to sink \$100+ into a new trigger, I have no doubt it will improve the rifle – but the average new buyer doesn’t need to pay for a trigger they can’t appreciate right off the bat. Once again, Ruger made smart choices with respect to which elements to spend the money on.



Ruger didn't skimp on the important parts. The AR-556 has quality components throughout. And yes, the gas key is staked... do we really have to say so?

SHOOTING THE RUGER AR-556

The AR-556 is a shooter. During extensive evaluation and testing with this rifle, I put somewhere around five-hundred rounds through it. And the ammo ran the whole spectrum – from bargain bulk buy stuff, to the “*holy crap, they want how much... for how many!?*” exotic brands. I shot everything from 40 grains to 77 grains, and at varying distances and with different sighting systems. The rifle performed well through all of it, proving beyond any doubt that it can perform better than I can.

100 Yard Results - Rested
Ruger AR-556 w/Burris AR-5.56 scope

Ammunition Brand	Ammunition Type	Conditions	5-Shot Group (inches)	3-Shot Group (inches)
Winchester Silvertip .223	55 gr. Poly Tip	Windy	2.794	1.242
Colt .223	62 gr. FMJ	Windy	3.763	2.599
American Eagle 5.56	55 gr. FMJ	Windy	2.340	1.519
PMC Bronze .223	55 gr. FMJ	Windy	3.321	1.739
Herter's Select .223	62 gr. JHP	Windy	3.518	1.534
Norma TAC-223	55 gr. FMJ	Light Breeze	1.954	1.368
IMI 5.56	69 gr. FMJ	Light Breeze	1.955	0.856
Tula .223	55 gr. FMJ	Light Breeze	3.154	0.993
Norma USA Match-223	77 gr. FMJ	Light Breeze	1.280	0.983
Australian Outback .223	69 gr. Sierra JHP	Light Breeze	1.579	0.659
Averages			2.566	1.349

Starting with the open sights, it's an easy rifle to get acquainted with. The front post is adjustable for elevation, and the rear flip-up sight is adjustable for windage. I didn't make any adjustments to them because they were "close enough" out of the box for the ranges I'd be using them. Putting on a quality electronic optic like the Aimpoint PRO, allowed me to stretch the distance a little and increase the precision of my aim. But where I really started to learn that this Ruger rifle is serious was when I mounted a good quality scope. I was fortunate to have Burris provide their excellent [AR-5.56 4.5-14x 42mm scope](#), which paired beautifully with the rifle. With the adjustable telescoping stock set to the 'just right' position for my hold, the cheek weld and eye relief of the Burris was perfect. Now, with a tack sharp view of my target, I could do some 100 yard tests and see how she groups. Of course, whenever I make such elaborate plans, the forces of the Universe get together in a huddle, point at me and giggle, and then unite against me. The first time I did my 100 yard tests, the wind was gusting and swirling at speeds up to 35 mph. That's part of it – as they say, but I'm not skilled enough to do the hardware justice in those conditions. Those groups were understandably larger, but surprisingly impressive.



The AR-556 showed a preference for heavier bullets, like this Norma Match 77-grain ammo.



The rifle really liked the 69-grain Australian Outback load.

The next outing provided only 'breezy' conditions and yielded more consistent results. What I learned during both sessions was that I could trust the AR-556 to perform consistently. It likes the heavier bullets a little better, but across the range of ammo the results were good. The trigger is fairly pedestrian – basic mil spec single stage. I measured the break at about 8 ½ lbs. and it does have some grit. But it remained consistent, which was the important thing.



Testing the accuracy of the AR-556 was made much easier with the Burris AR-5.56 scope, which fits nicely on the Picatinny rail provided.



Ruger didn't eliminate expected components like a forward assist, included sights or dust cover in order to keep the price down.

JUST MY OPINION

Trying to sift through the AR-15 marketplace is like trying to find a blind date in Times Square on New Year's Eve. That confusion is only amplified for new gun buyers, who often fall victim to the sales pitch at the counter and wind up either over spending for gear they don't need or being fed some bargain junk the store owner stocked up on during the pre-election panic. For decades, Americans have come to rely on the name Ruger for good quality firearms that won't break the budget. Not having America's favorite modern sporting rifle in their catalog was curiously conspicuous. Perhaps realizing that the next logical step from the iconic Ruger 10/22 is the AR-15, there was a lot of money being left on the table. If Johnny or Susie cut their teeth on the 10/22, why not let their next Ruger rifle be the most popular style – the AR? Whatever their motives, I think it was a good move to put the AR-556 SKU into the catalog. I also think the team at Ruger did a fine job of outfitting this rifle to be just what the entry-level user truly needs. I think if there was a Norman Rockwell painting that showed a black sporting rifle leaning in the corner, a closer look with a magnifying glass would probably reveal the Ruger logo. I can count on one hand the number of ARs I would recommend to a new shooter. Rugged and affordable; accurate and reliable – the Ruger AR-556 is one of them.

For more information, visit <http://ruger.com/products/ar556/models.html>.



The AR-556 comes standard with a flip-up rear sight mated up to a fixed front sight assembly. Photo: Ruger.



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Bloomberg Group Poised to Spend \$25M to Fight Concealed Carry Law



(Sergio Flores/Bloomberg via Getty Images)

By Mark Swanson | Monday, 10 Apr 2017 08:42 AM

The gun control group founded by billionaire former Mayor Michael Bloomberg is poised to spend \$25 million to fight concealed carry legislation being touted by Republicans and pro-gun lobbyists, [Politico reported](#).

With its eye on the 2018 midterms, Everytown for Gun Safety is adding staff and bracing to challenge the reciprocity legislation that would loosen regulation between states on concealed carry permits.

Though not on the front burner for Republicans, separate reciprocity bills are being worked in the House and Senate. Further, the National Rifle Association is [pushing hard](#) and President Donald Trump supports it.

Everytown is promoting its efforts in New Hampshire that resulted in former Sen. Kelly Ayotte's defeat — she had \$8 million spent against her by gun control groups — as a warning to lawmakers who support the further loosening of gun laws, Politico reported.

"This is a line in the sand on this issue, there's no question about it," Everytown president John Feinblatt told Politico. "We're putting people on notice today that we're watching ... and that we expect to hold people accountable."

Reciprocity — along with approved use of silencers for hunters — are the two big initiatives the [NRA](#) is poised to get passed with Republicans in control of Congress and the White House.

Thomas Jefferson wrote that "A bill of rights is what the people are entitled to against every government on earth, general or particular, and what no just government should refuse."

Thank you,

Paul Curtis

President - CARGO

www.cargogunclub.org

"If you can read this, thank a teacher. For the fact that it is in English, thank a Veteran."

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