



Firearms Terminology
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Firearms Safety Rules:

- All weapons are always loaded.
- Keep your finger of the trigger until your sights are on the target.
- Never point the weapon at anything you are not willing to destroy.
- Be certain of your target and the backstop beyond.

Weapon Positions:

- Holstered:** level II retention - holster fastened to your body, weapon snapped into holster.
- Low ready:** finger straight (outside trigger guard) - weapon at 45 degree angle.
- High ready:** finger straight - weapon just below line of sight - eyes on target.
- Tactical ready:** threat intimate - finger on trigger - eyes focused on threat area.
- Fire:** focus on front sight - sight alignment - sight picture - trigger squeeze - follow thru.

Shooting Positions:

- Isosceles:** body parallel to target - feet shoulder width apart - arms straight - equal triangle.
- Weaver:** body 45° to target (interrogation position) - right arm straight - left arm bent 45°.
- Tactical:** body parallel to target - right foot back @18 inches - arms slightly bent-equal triangle.

Grip:

- Strong hand:** weapon seated in web of hand, bottom 3 fingers support 30%.
- Support hand:** wrist tilted forward, thumb leads @1" (not on frame), fingers support 70%.
- Trigger finger:** 1/2 pad or less, finger does not touch frame - moves independent.

Sighting:

- Sight alignment:** focus on front sight - equal distance on both side and top level.
- Sight picture:** sights aimed at the target (Maintain sight alignment and sight picture during trigger squeeze. Sight alignment is more critical than sight picture.)

Reloads:

- Tactical reload:** remove partial magazine from weapon - insert between ring and little finger of the shooting hand - insert full magazine - place partial magazine in a pocket (only full magazines go into mag pouches.)
- Tactical "L" reload:** remove full magazine and place in front of non-shooting hand - remove partial magazine and place in back of non-shooting hand - rotate hand 90 degrees - insert full magazine into weapon - place partial magazine in a pocket.
- Combat (speed) reload:** drop used magazine to the ground and retrieve a full magazine at the same time - insert full magazine.

Malfunctions:

- Stoppage:** tap - rack - bang (re-access) (maintain target acquisition)
- Stove pipe:** tap - rack - bang (if necessary).
- Double feed:** Clear Weapon: lock - strip - rack, rack, rack. Reload: tap - rack - bang (re-access).

Additional Terminology:

- Trigger control:** smooth, consistent pull - surprise shot (Avoid a "now" shot, do not frame the shot.) Follow thru after the shot has fired.
- Clear weapon:** drop magazine - lock slide to the rear - weapon down range at all times.
- Target acquisition:** attention focused on the threat area - weapon down range at all times.
- Fundamentals** (basics), **Techniques** (intermediate), **Tactics** (advanced - combat).