



Gun Owner's Responsibilities

Americas enjoy a right that citizens of many other countries do not - the right to own guns. But with this right comes responsibility.

It is the gun owner's responsibility to store, operate, and maintain his or her guns safely. It is the gun owner's responsibility to ensure that unauthorized and untrained individuals cannot gain access to his or her guns. And it is the gun owner's responsibility to learn and follow all applicable laws that pertain to the purchase, possession and use of guns in his or her jurisdiction.

Guns are neither safe nor unsafe by themselves. When people practice responsible gun ownership, guns are safe.



NRA Home Firearms Safety

Welcome!

Our goal is to teach the basic knowledge and skills, and to explain the attitude necessary for safe handling and storage of guns in the home.



Preliminaries

- Facilities.
- Do you have any *firearms* with you?
- Do you have any *live ammunition* with you?
- Handbooks, brochures and other materials.
- Sign Waivers



Agenda

- NRA Home Firearms Safety
 - The basic elements of gun safety
 - The fundamental rules of safe gun handling
 - How to identify and unload different types of firearms
 - The different types and uses of ammunition
 - How to clean and care for guns
- Mass Firearms Law
 - Permit types
 - Storage, transport, and other laws
 - The permitting process, and application examples



Why We Own Guns

- Recreational shooting
- Hunting
- Competitive shooting
- Gun collecting
- Personal protection

Gun ownership is a Constitutional right

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Why We Are Here

- What do you think is our primary concern when handling firearms?

Safety is always the primary concern when handling firearms.

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Firearm Safety

- The major causes of gun accidents are:
- IGNORANCE – You do not know or understand the rules for gun safety
- CARELESSNESS – Forgetting that safety is the primary concern

The three basic elements of gun safety – a positive attitude, knowledge, and skill – eliminate both of these causes

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Arm Yourself... With Knowledge

- Attitude: Accept the responsibility to act safely
- Know the gun safety rules and how to apply them to any situation
- Know how guns and ammo operate
- "Skill" in handling firearms means actually applying the gun safety rules
- (By the way, it's working...)

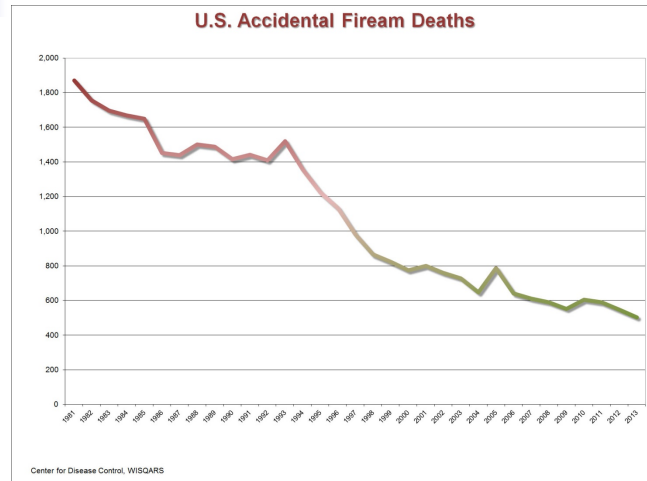
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Firearm Accidental Deaths



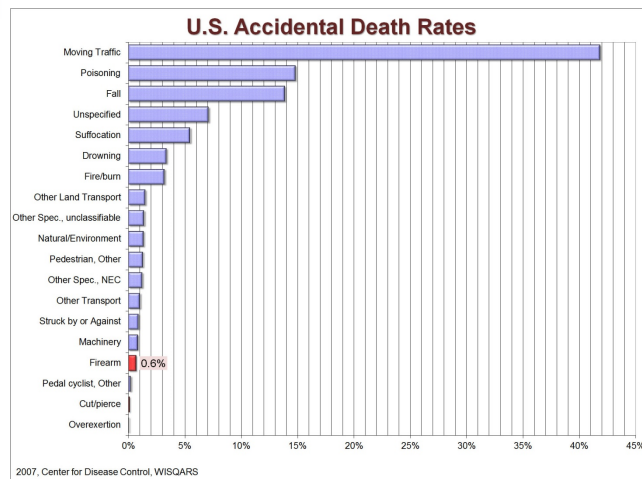
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Causes of Accidental Death



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Rule #1:

ALWAYS keep the gun pointed in a safe direction

- Safe Direction = "If the gun were to discharge, it will not cause injury"
- Common sense will dictate the safest direction depending on circumstances

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Rule #2:

ALWAYS keep your finger OFF the trigger until you are ready to shoot

- People have a natural tendency to place their finger on the trigger
- The correct method is to rest your finger along the side of the gun

Don't touch the trigger until your sights are on the target and you are ready to fire.

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Rule #3:

ALWAYS keep the gun unloaded until you are ready to use it

- Assume every gun is always loaded
- When you pick up a gun, remove the ammunition source (magazine) and open the chamber

If you do not understand how a particular gun operates. Leave it alone and get help from someone who does

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Other Safety Rules

- Know your target and what is beyond
- Be sure the gun is safe to operate
- Know how to use the gun safely
- Use only the correct ammunition for your gun
- Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate
- Never use drugs or alcohol while shooting
- Store gun so that they are not accessible to unauthorized persons

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Children and Gun Safety

- To help avoid the possibility of accidents, children should be taught to apply the following gun safety rules:
 - STOP!
 - DON'T TOUCH
 - LEAVE THE AREA
 - TELL AN ADULT
- These rules are part of a special accident prevention program developed by the NRA for young children (Pre-K to 3rd Grade)

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Children and Gun Safety

- Parents who own guns have a special responsibility to practice safe gun handling
- The first time a child shows interest in guns is a signal that some type of training is necessary
- Otherwise, children's curiosity may make them investigate guns on their own
- The type of training a child receives depends on a number of factors such as age, maturity, and the ability to communicate and reason

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Definitions

- Firearm – A firearm is a device from which a projectile is discharged by means of a rapidly-burning propellant contained in a cartridge.
- Action – The action is the moving parts of a firearm that allow you to load, fire, and unload

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Types of Firearms

- Pistols (handguns) are designed to be fired with one hand, have short barrels, and a grip instead of a stock
- Rifles and shotguns (long guns) have longer barrels and are design to be fired from the shoulder
- Rifles and shotguns are similar in how their actions operate, but they fire different kinds of ammunition

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Rifles



Rifles have a rifled barrel and are designed to fire a single projectile a long distance

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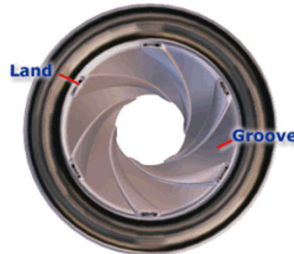
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Rifling



- Imparts a spin on the bullet to stabilize it
- Made up of lands and grooves in a spiral pattern down the barrel



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Shotguns



Shotgun barrels are smooth-bore (no rifling) and are designed to fire multiple projectiles at short distances

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General Unloading Procedures

- Remember Rules 1 & 2:
 - Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction
 - Keep your finger off the trigger – ESPECIALLY WHEN UNLOADING!
- If the firearm has a detachable/removable magazine, ALWAYS remove it first, before you open the gun's action

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Types of Handguns

- Single shot
- Revolvers
- Semi-Automatic

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Handgun Types – Single Shot



- Break-action – cartridges are inserted and removed manually
- Primarily used for hunting and competition
- Some feature interchangeable barrels for easy caliber changes

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Handgun Types - Revolvers



- Has a rotating cylinder that holds from 5 to 10 cartridges.
- When the hammer is cocked, the cylinder rotates to bring a fresh cartridge directly behind the barrel.
- Revolvers are reliable and accurate, but slow to reload.

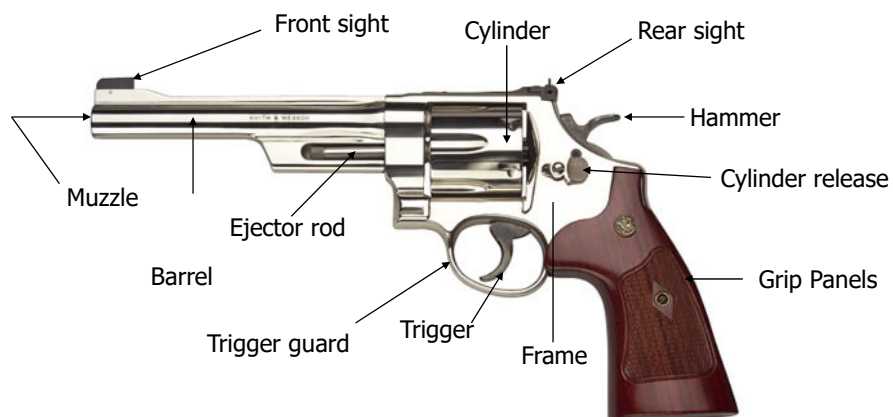
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Revolver Parts



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Revolver Parts (cont.)



Chamber

Ejector

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Revolvers – Single vs. Double Action

- Revolvers can be Single or Double Action
- The trigger on a Single-Action revolver does one thing: It releases the hammer. The hammer must be cocked manually as a separate step.
- The trigger on a Double-Action revolver both cocks the hammer and releases it. Many Double Action revolvers can also be fired in Single Action by cocking the hammer first.
- “Hammerless” revolvers have an internal hammer and can only fire in double action.

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Double Action Revolver Unloading

- Keep the gun pointed in a safe direction, with your finger off the trigger...
- Push the cylinder release latch and swing the cylinder out.
- Turn the gun so the chamber mouths are facing downward.
- Operate the ejector rod and eject the cartridges into your hand
- Inspect the cylinder to verify that all chambers are empty.

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Single Action Revolver Unloading

- Keep the gun pointed in a safe direction, with your finger off the trigger.
- Open the loading gate (you might have to cock the hammer half way)
- Manually rotate the cylinder so that a chamber lines up with the ejector, and briskly operate the ejector rod.
- Repeat until all chambers are empty.
- Check that all chambers are empty.

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Revolver De-cocking

- What is de-cocking?
 - To lower a previously cocked hammer in a controlled manner, without firing a cartridge.
- When is it necessary to de-cock a revolver?
 - To unload a revolver, you must open the cylinder or loading gate.
 - This cannot be done while the hammer is cocked.
 - If the hammer is cocked, and you wish to unload the revolver without firing the cartridge under the hammer, you must first de-cock the hammer.

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Revolver De-cocking

- Keep the gun pointed in a safe direction, with your finger off the trigger.
- Using the thumb on your weak hand, pull the hammer back slightly (even though the hammer is cocked, you will still be able to move it back slightly).
- While maintaining a thumb-grip on the hammer, pull the trigger.
- Begin lowering the hammer slowly. Be careful! If your thumb slips off the hammer, the gun will fire.
- When the hammer is about ½ way down, release the trigger while gently lowering the hammer – this will engage the internal transfer bar or hammer block safety and make accidental discharge less likely.

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Handgun Types – Semi-Automatic



- Has a magazine, usually inserted into the grip, that holds the extra cartridges.
- When the gun is fired, the slide moves back, ejects the spent case and re-cocks the hammer; then moves forward stripping a new cartridge out of the magazine and reloading the chamber.
- The gun will continue to reset itself in this way until the magazine is empty

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Semi-Automatic Parts



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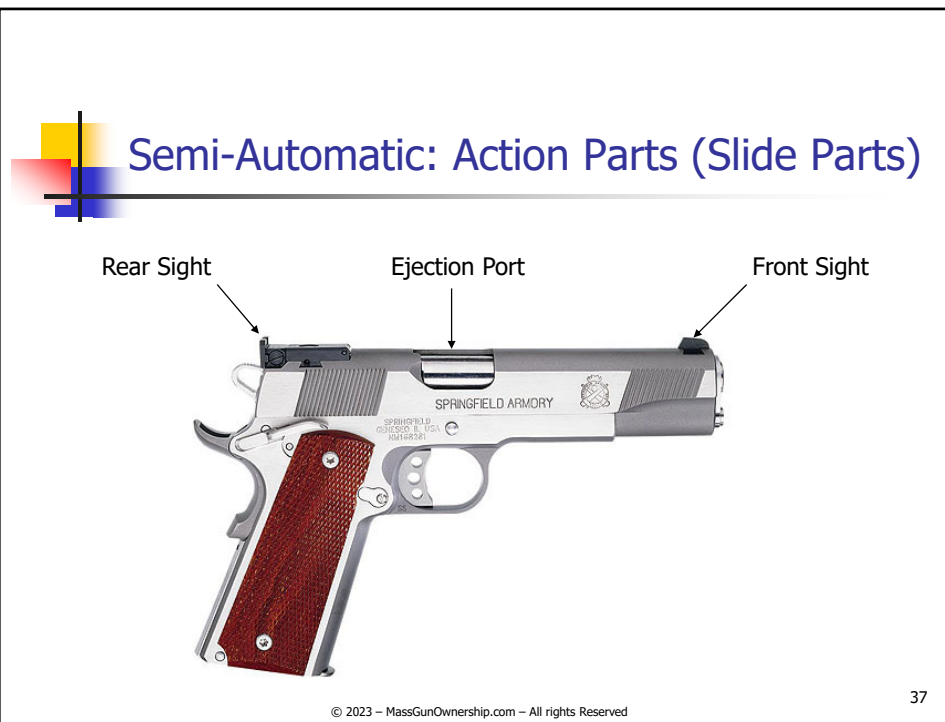
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Semi-Automatic Pistol –Single Action

- Like a revolver, a single action semi-automatic pistol must be cocked before it can be fired.
- The hammer is initially cocked when you operate the slide to load the pistol.
- When firing, the action of the slide automatically re-cocks the pistol.
- The trigger pull is short, and is the same on every shot.

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Semi-Auto Pistol – “Traditional” Double Action

- On the first shot, the trigger on a “Traditional” double action semi-auto pistol both cocks and releases the hammer.
- After the first shot, the action of the slide re-cocks the pistol.
- The trigger pull for the first shot is long, subsequent pulls are short.

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Semi-Auto Pistol – Double Action Only (DAO)

- The trigger on a Double Action Only (DAO) semi-auto pistol both cocks and releases the hammer (or striker).
- After the first shot, the action of the slide does not fully re-cock the pistol.
- The trigger pull is longer than that of a single action, and is the same on every shot.
- Some DAO pistols use the action of the slide to partially cock the striker (Glocks do this). This reduces the length of the trigger pull.

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Double Action Only Striker Fired Pistol



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Semi-Automatic Unloading

- Keep the gun pointed in a safe direction, with your finger off the trigger.
- Press the magazine release, and remove the magazine.
- Cycle the slide to eject the cartridge in the chamber.
- Lock the slide open by pushing the slide lock up with your thumb and then releasing the slide.
- Check by sight or feel that the chamber is empty.

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Why Double Check the Chamber?

- Short answer: To ensure the round really came out
- A part of the gun called the “extractor” pulls the round out of the chamber
- The extractor is a small hook that only contacts a minimal portion of the cartridge’s rim
- A damaged extractor, damaged cartridge, or weak extractor spring call all result in a cartridge failing to eject
- The extractor is often the first part to fail on a semi-auto pistol

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Extractor



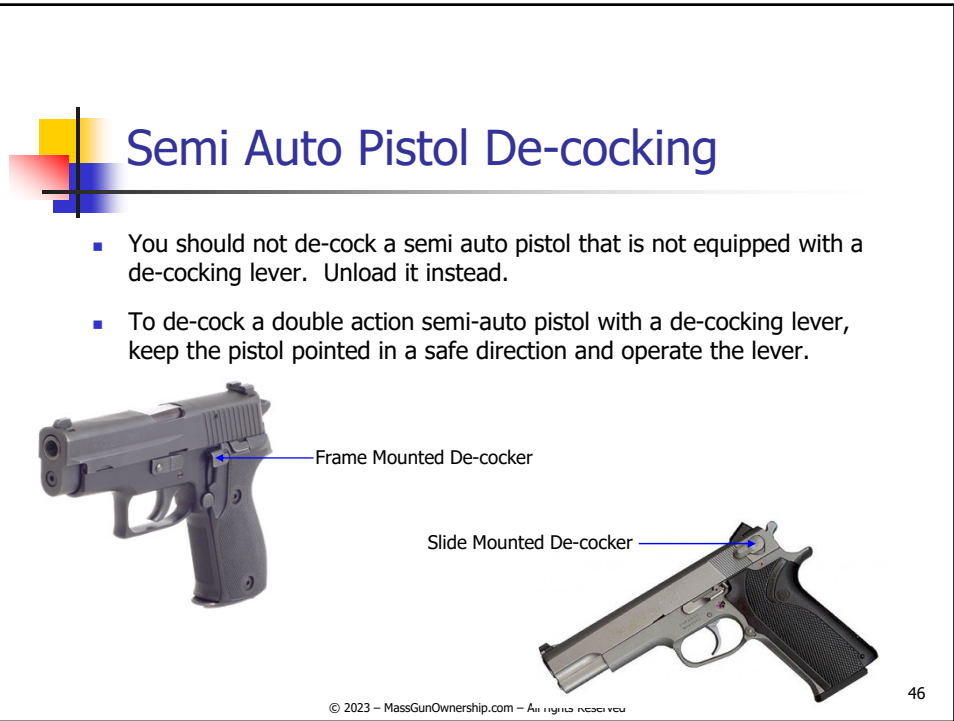
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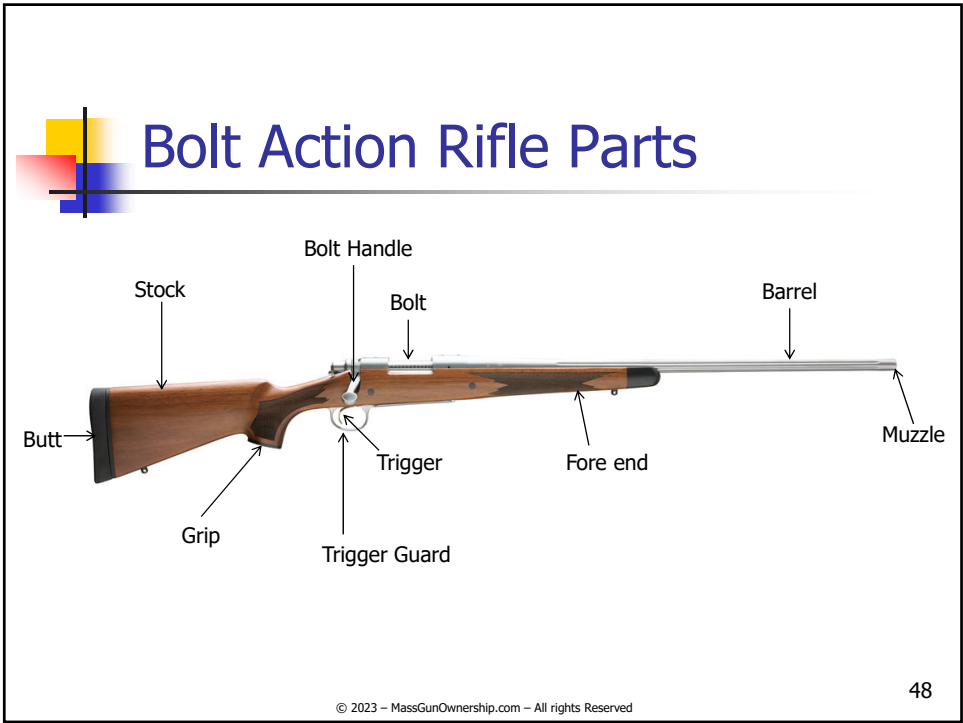
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Unloading a Bolt Action Rifle

- If the rifle has a detachable magazine, remove it
- If the rifle has a hinged floorplate, unlatch it and remove the cartridges
- Lift the bolt to open it, and pull it rearward to extract the round in the chamber (if there is one). Leave the bolt open.
- If the rifle has a non-detachable internal magazine without a hinged floorplate, open the bolt and extract the cartridge in the chamber, then move the bolt *partially* forward to dislodge the top round in the magazine and remove it by hand. Repeat this until the gun is empty, and leave the bolt open.

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Semi-Auto Rifle

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Unloading a Semi Auto Rifle

- If the rifle has a detachable magazine, remove it
- Pull the bolt or charging handle rearward to extract the round in the chamber (if there is one).
- Lock the bolt open. If it won't stay open on its own, insert a plastic plug or wooden dowel to keep it open
- Some firearms require an empty magazine to be inserted in order to lock the bolt open. If this is the case, empty the cartridges out of a magazine and insert it into the gun

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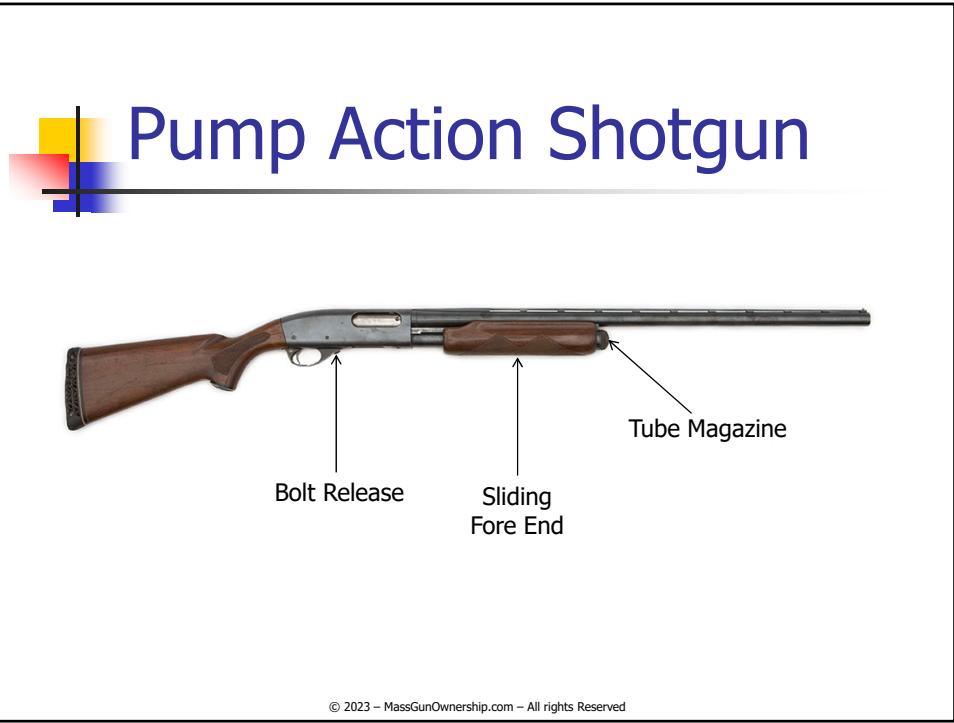
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Unloading a Lever Action Rifle

- Notice that trigger guard is part of the lever mechanism While unloading, keep your fingers out of the portion of the lever that guards the trigger.
- Cycle the lever downward to open the bolt and eject the cartridge in the chamber.
- Repeat this process until the rifle is empty and leave the bolt open

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Muzzleloaders and Black Powder Arms

- Black powder and muzzle loading firearms cannot be easily unloaded. They should be discharged at the range instead
- If this is not possible, remove the ignition source (cap or primer) and bring the gun to a qualified individual to unload it
- Use a ramrod, dowel, or cleaning rod to determine if a muzzle loader is loaded.
- Keep in mind that a loaded muzzleloader can be dangerous even after many years. And that they can be set off by static electricity

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Safeties

- A “safety” is a part or series of parts designed to lessen the chances of an unintended discharge.
- A safety is not foolproof.
- The most important safety is between your ears.
- Revolvers and many DAO semi-autos do not have external safeties.

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General Unloading Procedures

- Remember Rules 1 & 2:
 - Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction
 - Keep your finger off the trigger – ESPECIALLY WHEN UNLOADING!
- Apply the safety (if applicable)
- If the firearm has a detachable magazine, ALWAYS remove it first, before you open the gun's action

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Practical Exercise in Safe Gun Handling

Unloading Firearms

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Ammunition

Learning Objectives

- State the different types of rifle cartridges, handgun cartridges, and shotgun shells
- State the firing sequence of modern ammunition
- Explain how to properly clean firearms
- Explain how to store firearms and ammunition in accordance with the law

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Handgun and Rifle Cartridges

- A “cartridge” (also known as a “round”) packages the bullet, propellant and primer into a single metallic case precisely made to fit the firing chamber of a firearm. It consists of 4 parts:
 - The Case
 - The Primer
 - The Propellant
 - The Bullet

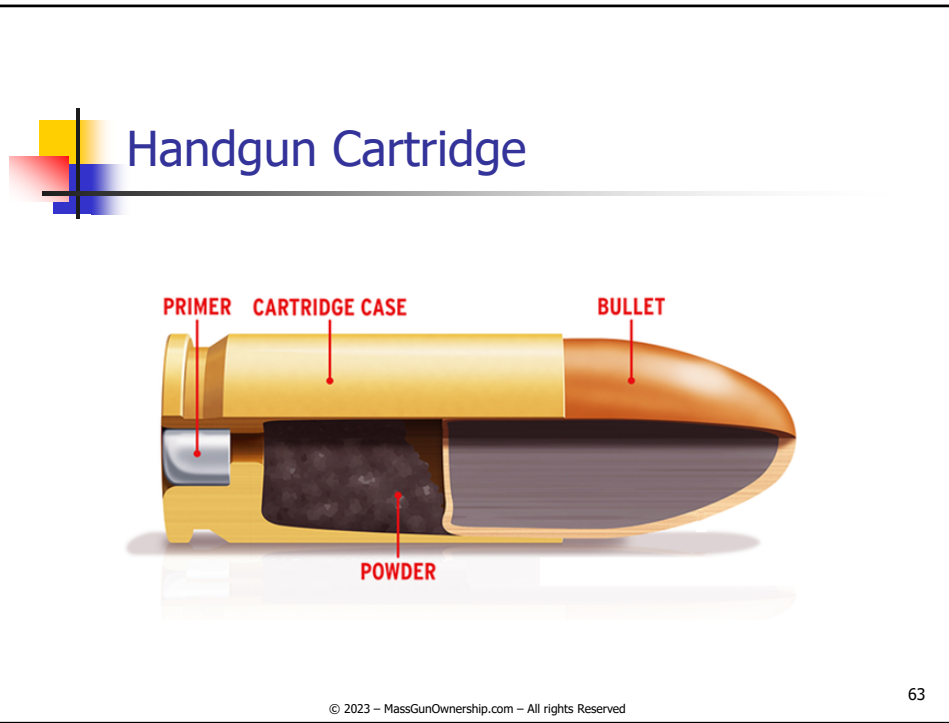


These cartridges are known as “Metallic Cartridges”

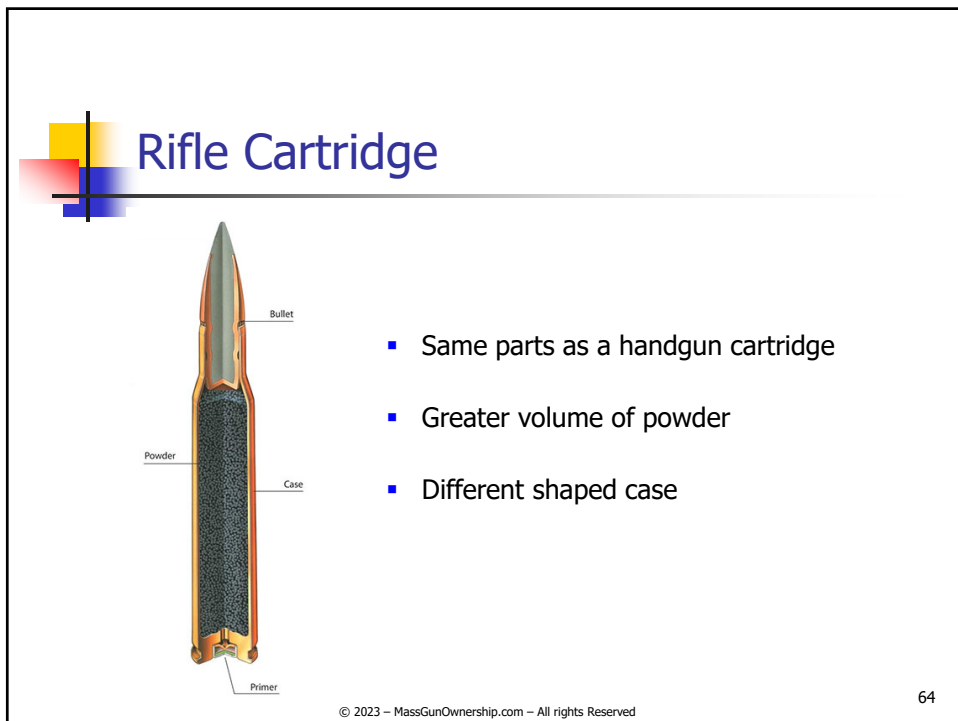
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Cartridge Cases

- The cartridge case serves two important functions:
 - To hold the other components,
 - To expand and seal the firing chamber in all directions except down the bore.
- Cases for rifle and handgun rounds are metallic – usually made from brass, aluminum, or steel.
- Shotgun shells are plastic with a metal base



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Primers



- Primers contain a pressure-sensitive chemical that ignites when the primer is hit by the firing pin.
- Primers can be built into the case (rimfire ammunition) or can be a separate part inserted into the bottom of the case (centerfire ammunition).

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Propellant



- Prior to the start of the 20th Century, black powder was the most commonly used propellant.
- Black powder (a.k.a. gunpowder) is an explosive
- Modern ammunition uses smokeless powder
- Smokeless powder is a “flammable solid”, not an explosive
- Although it burns slower, smokeless powder produces more gas pressure and is more powerful than black powder, and enables higher bullet velocities

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Bullets



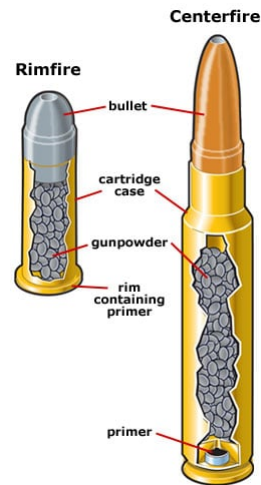
- Bullets are usually made from solid lead or from lead covered by a thin copper jacket.
- A wide variety of bullet sizes and shapes are available for any given caliber.
- Common types are lead round nose (LRN), full metal jacket (FMJ), and jacketed hollow-point (JHP).

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Rimfire vs. Centerfire



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Cartridge Types - Rimfire

- Rimfire
 - No visible primer
 - The cartridge fires when the firing pin compresses the priming mixture inside the cartridge's rim
 - Popular rimfire calibers include: .22 LR, .22 Magnum .17 HMR, .17 Mach IV, and .22 Short

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Cartridge Types - Centerfire

- Centerfire
 - Primer is visible in the center of the case head
 - The cartridge fires when the firing pin compresses the priming mixture inside the primer
 - Centerfire cartridges are more powerful than rimfire

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Metallic Cartridge Caliber

- Generally speaking, the caliber is the bore diameter of the barrel
- It can expressed in 1/100ths of an inch...
 - Example: A .22 caliber bullet is 22/100ths of an inch in diameter
- It can also be expressed in 1/1000ths of an inch...
 - Example: A .357 Magnum bullet is 357/1000ths of an inch in diameter
- Or it may be expressed in millimeters
 - Example: A 9mm bullet is 9mm (.355") in diameter

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Caliber Sizes are not always accurate

- Whoever creates the cartridge gets to name it.
- Some names are inaccurate...
 - Example 1 - A .44 Magnum bullet is .429" in diameter
 - Example 3 - A .32 ACP bullet is .311" in diameter
 - Example 2 - A .38 Special bullet is .357" in diameter
- A more recent example (from 2005) is the .460 S&W Magnum which uses .452" diameter bullets.

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Shotgun Shell Sizes

- Shotgun bore size is expressed in "Gauge" a.k.a. "bore"
- The gauge (abbreviated GA) of a shotgun is the quantity of solid lead bore-diameter balls it would take to weigh one pound
- The lower the number, the larger the bore size
- Common sizes (from large to small) are 10, 12, 16, 20, and 28 GA
- A .410 bore shotgun shell is has an inside diameter of .410".

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Shotshell Types



The image displays three types of shotshells. On the left is a Birdshot shell, which is short and filled with many small, dark pellets. In the center is a Buckshot shell, which is longer and contains several larger, dark pellets. On the right is a Slug shell, which is the longest and contains a single, large, cylindrical projectile.

Birdshot
Small projectiles
($< .15''$ diameter)
Used for bird
hunting and
clay target
competition

Buckshot
Medium sized
projectiles (from
.25" to .33" in
diameter) Used
for personal
defense and hunting

Slug
An single large
projectile used
mostly for hunting

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Ammunition Safety

- Remember the rule, "Use only the correct ammunition for your gun"?
- How do you know whether the ammunition you have is the correct type for your gun?
 - Check the cartridge or shotshell box
 - Check the base of the cartridge (this is called the "headstamp")
 - Check the gun itself (cartridge/gauge is usually on the barrel)
 - Read the manual

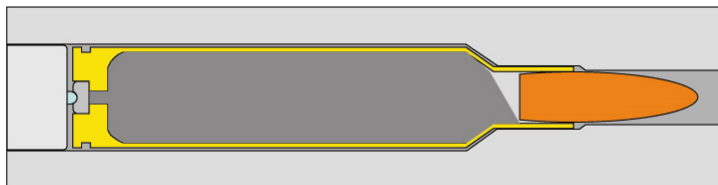
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The Firing Sequence

- *When the trigger is pulled, the firing pin strikes the primer*



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The Firing Sequence

- *The primer explodes*




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The Firing Sequence

- *The exploding primer ignites the powder, the powder burns, and creates rapidly expanding gases*




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The Firing Sequence

- *Rapidly expanding gases cause the case to expand, and the bullet to exit the barrel at high velocity*



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The Firing Process

- *Afterwards, the chamber and other parts of the gun are coated with powder and primer residue that must be cleaned off*



Firearm Cleaning

- After completing this lesson, you should be able to:
 - Identify the seven materials needed to clean a firearm
 - Outline the three safety guidelines to be followed when cleaning a firearm.
 - Observe how to clean a pistol safely.



Cleaning Your Firearms

- An additional safety rule: "Be sure the gun is safe to operate".
- Regular cleaning and proper storage is an important part of the upkeep of your guns.
- A gun should be cleaned after every shooting session.
- You should perform a thorough cleaning before firing newly acquired guns, or guns that have been in long-term storage.
- A well-maintained firearm will better retain its value

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Pistol Cleaning Materials

- Cloth patches
- Cleaning rod
- Soft cloth
- Cleaning rod attachments (tips, brushes)
- Small brush
- Bore cleaner
- Gun oil



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Firearm Cleaning Safety

- Ammunition must not be present in the area.
- The gun must be unloaded
- The action must be open - or the gun disassembled (field stripped)
- Whenever possible, the barrel should be cleaned from the rear (breech)

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Cleaning Exercise

1. Attach a patch holder to the cleaning rod, apply solvent to the patch, and pass it through the bore
2. Attach the bore brush to cleaning rod and apply solvent to the brush
3. Run brush through bore 8-10 times.
4. Reattach the patch holder and run a solvent-soaked patch through bore.
5. Run several dry patches through bore.
6. If the patches keep coming out dirty, repeat the above two steps until they come out clean.

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Cleaning Exercise, cont.

7. Repeat the above steps for every chamber of a revolver.
8. Use a small brush, rag, Q-tips, and solvent to clean the other parts of the gun.
9. Wipe external metal parts with lightly oiled cloth
10. Lubricate the gun according to the manufacturers recommendations
11. If the gun will be stored for longer than a couple of months, run a lightly oiled patch through the bore. Remember to run a few dry patches through it before you shoot it.

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Some Notes on Hygiene

- Refrain from eating, drinking, smoking, applying makeup, or otherwise placing your hands or fingers in near your mouth or nose while on the range or cleaning your gun.
- Primers contain Lead Styphnate which is a poison. Primer and powder residue are left on the pistol after firing.
- After leaving the range or cleaning a gun, wash your hands and face thoroughly before placing your hands or fingers near your mouth or nose.

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Massachusetts Firearms Laws

(I'm not making this stuff up)

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Massachusetts Gun Laws

- Massachusetts gun laws are very confusing
- The law uses terms that are often inaccurate, undefined, or not clearly defined
- The punishments for breaking the laws are severe
- Always take a more conservative view of what the law states
- Conviction for any firearms law violation that carries a potential jail sentence is a permanent disqualifier for a Mass gun license

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Why You're Here

- MGL Chapter 140, section 131P

Any person making application for the issuance of a firearms identification card under section 129B, a Class A or Class B license to carry firearms under section 131 or 131F or a permit to purchase under section 131A who was not licensed under the provisions of this chapter on June 1, 1998 shall, in addition to the requirements set forth in said section 129B, 131, 131A or 131F, submit to the licensing authority a basic firearms safety certificate

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Massachusetts Gun Laws

- Firearm Storage
- Firearm Transport
- "Assault" Weapons Ban
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Storing Firearms

- This is the NRA's rule: "Store guns so they are not accessible to unauthorized persons".
- There is no universal solution for storage as each individual's situation is unique.
- However, Massachusetts law is very specific when it comes to storing and transporting firearms.

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Massachusetts Storage Laws

- In the home, all guns must be "under the control of a licensed individual", "secured in a locked container or equipped with a tamper-resistant mechanical lock or other safety device"
- Firearms cannot be accessible to unlicensed individuals.
- Massachusetts law says nothing about storing guns unloaded, or storing ammo separately from firearms.
- A room with a typical push-button lock on the door or a closet with something heavy in front of it are not locked containers.

(Both of these last two examples are from Massachusetts case law)

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Mass Transport Laws

- When transporting guns in your car, they must be unloaded*
- Handguns and large capacity long guns must be locked in the trunk or in a locked case/container in the car. Trigger locks don't qualify.
- A locked console or glove compartment does not qualify
- Non-large capacity long guns do not have to be locked up during transport, but it's a good idea to do so.

* If you have an unrestricted Class A LTC, you may transport handguns (either loaded or unloaded) on your person, or "under your direct control." You can't legally transport a loaded long gun under ANY circumstances regardless of what license you hold

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Magazines in Massachusetts

- In 1994, the Federal government instituted an "Assault" weapons ban (AWB), that (among other things) made it illegal for non-law enforcement to possess rifle or pistol magazine capable of holding more than 10 rounds, or shotgun magazines capable of holding more than 5 rounds
- Magazines made before September of 1994 were exempt (these are commonly called "pre-ban" mags)
- The Federal AWB expired in 2004
- The Massachusetts legislature voted to keep it in effect here permanently

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Massachusetts Assault Weapons Ban

- In addition to high-capacity magazines, the AWB limited certain (mostly cosmetic) features on modern sporting rifles.
- If a rifle is semi-automatic and has a detachable magazine, it may only have ONE of the following features:
 - A pistol grip
 - A bayonet lug
 - A collapsible stock
 - A flash hider
- Rifles made before September 1994 are exempt (pre-ban)

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Approved Firearms Roster

- In order for a dealer to transfer a handgun in Massachusetts, the gun must either:
 - Have been registered in Massachusetts prior to May of 1998
 - Be currently be included on the Massachusetts Approved Firearms Roster,
 - Be currently included on the Olympic or Target roster
- It is not illegal to possess these guns, just for a dealer to transfer them. It's only illegal for the dealer, not for the receiver of the handgun
- It is not illegal to privately transfer non-roster handguns

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Private Firearms Transfers

- Private sales (transfers) of firearms are legal in Massachusetts provided both parties are residents of MA, and both parties have the appropriate license
- You must register the transfer online using the Massachusetts Gun Transaction Portal (E-FA-10 form)
- You may only sell (be the transferor) 4 times per calendar year
- You can buy (or be the transferee) as many times as you want

**Massachusetts Gun Transaction Portal**
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Massachusetts General Law c. 140, §§128A and 128B, requires all individuals who sell, transfer, inherit, or lose a firearm to report the sale, transfer, inheritance, or loss of the firearms to the Department of Criminal Justice Information Services Firearms Records Bureau (FRB). This on-line system will allow you to report the sale, transfer, inheritance, or loss/theft data electronically to the FRB.

Before you continue, you should have the following information available:

1. A detailed description of the transferred weapon (serial number/make/model/caliber etc.)
2. The Seller/Transferor's license information
3. The Buyer/Transferee's license information

Additionally:

1. It is unlawful to conduct a personal sale or transfer of a weapon to anyone other than an individual lawfully licensed in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It is strongly recommended that you require the buyer/transferee to produce a valid FID/LTC License Validation Certificate (obtained by the buyer/transferee using this system) prior to conducting a personal sale or transfer.
2. You may need your PIN number to complete a transaction. You may obtain your PIN number at your licensing authority.

NOTICE: Firearms records are exempted from the public records statute, G.L. c.4, §7 (clause twenty-six)(j). FRB may not disseminate firearms records "to any person, firm, corporation, entity or agency except criminal justice agencies as defined in chapter six and except to the extent such information relates solely to the person making the request and is necessary to the official interests of the entity making the request." G.L. c. 66, § 10(d).

Continue

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Massachusetts law requires all gun owners to report ALL private sales, transfers, and surrenders of firearms to the Massachusetts Firearms Records Bureau via the Massachusetts Gun Transaction Portal. Paper FA-10 forms are no longer accepted for these transaction types.

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Massachusetts Department of Criminal Justice Information Services
Firearms Record Bureau (FRB)
200 Arlington Street, Suite 2200, Chelsea, MA 02150
Phone: 617-660-4782

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Buying Guns Out Of State

- You can buy a long gun out of state and carry it back with you
- You must register it online using the Massachusetts Gun Transaction Portal within 7 days (check the "register" box)
- You cannot buy a handgun out of state and carry it back. It must be shipped to a Mass dealer, and transferred to you (and you'd better first be sure it's on one of the approved rosters)
- You cannot have any gun shipped from out of state directly to you. It must be shipped to a dealer then transferred to you
- It's up to you to make sure the gun and magazines are legal in Mass

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Massachusetts Firearms Permit Types

- License to Carry (LTC):
 - Permits the purchase, possession and carrying of all ammunition, handguns, rifles, shotguns and feeding devices (both large and non-large capacity). This is the only license that allows the carrying of concealed handguns-either loaded or unloaded.
 - The applicant must be at least 21 years old
 - Application fee is \$100, license is good for 6 years

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Massachusetts Firearms Permit Types

- Firearms Identification Card (FID):
 - The FID card permits the purchase, possession and carrying of NON-LARGE CAPACITY RIFLES, SHOTGUNS and AMMUNITION ONLY.
 - The applicant must be 18 years old (or 15 w/parental consent – applicants as young as 14 can apply, but the license will be held until their 15th birthday)
 - Additional restrictions may be applied at the discretion of the local police chief. (Typically, “Must be accompanied by an adult”)
 - Application fee is \$100, license is good for 6 years

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Disqualifiers

- Any felony conviction
- Conviction for any crime that carries a maximum jail sentence of over two years (including DUI if it occurred after 5/94)
- Conviction of any weapons law violation that carries a potential jail sentence
- Any controlled substance conviction
- Currently subject to a restraining order (209A)

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Disqualifiers (cont.)

- Treatment for or confinement for drug addiction or habitual drunkenness (Unless you stay clean for five years and get a note from a doctor or counselor stating that you are cured).
- Confinement in any hospital or institution for mental illness unless you stay out for 5 years and get a note from a doctor stating that you are sane enough to own a gun (Good Luck).
- Currently the subject of an outstanding arrest warrant in any state or federal jurisdiction.
- If you are disqualified from owning a gun anywhere else.
- Refer to MGL c. 140, s. 131(d) for more details

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Change of Address

- **Massachusetts General Law Chapter 140, Section 129B states:**
 - A cardholder shall notify, in writing, the licensing authority that issued such card, the chief of police into whose jurisdiction such cardholder moves and the executive director of the criminal history systems board of any change of address. Such notification shall be made by certified mail within 30 days of its occurrence. Failure to so notify shall be cause for revocation or suspension of such card.

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More Mass Laws

- It is also illegal for an unlicensed person to possess ammunition or any *ammunition component* (including spent cartridge cases)
- Concealed means concealed – no open carry!
 - While technically, open carry is not illegal, you will very likely be charged with “creating a public disturbance” and will have your LTC revoked as an “unsuitable person”.

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More Mass Laws

- **MGL Ch 140 Sec 131f**
 - ... A license may be revoked or suspended by the licensing authority if it appears that the holder is no longer a suitable person to possess such license.

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Massachusetts Gun Laws

You have been provided with a copy of the Massachusetts Gun Law reference booklet published by GOAL (the Gun Owners Action League of Massachusetts)

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Applying for a Gun License

- You may apply in the town in which you reside or in a town where you own a business.
- Call the local police department and ask for an appointment. Also ask if they require anything in addition to your training certificate, picture ID, and \$100
- They will either ask you to fill out an application, or they will conduct an interview with you during which they will complete the application
- Be prepared – Fill out the application ahead of time and take it with you

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Application – Page 2 - Question 4

"Have you ever been arrested or appeared in court as a defendant for any criminal offense?"

- Noticed that it says "arrested or appeared in court"
- If you have been arrested or appeared in a court for a criminal offense, you must answer "Yes" even if you were found innocent, the charges were dismissed, you were a juvenile, the record was sealed, the record was expunged, or you received a pardon, etc.
- If you don't answer this question truthfully, you will be denied and possibly permanently disqualified

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Application – Page 3

"Have you ever been known by another name?"

- Fill this out if you have a maiden name or legally changed your name.

"Have you ever held a firearms license in any other state, territory or jurisdiction?"

- Indicate where you held a license, and the number if you remember it.

"List the name and addresses of two references"

- They must be adults not living with you. If you need letters of reference, I can provide one.

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Final Question

"Reason(s) for requesting the issuance of a card or license:"

- Check "Unrestricted"
- In the space provided, write, "All Lawful Purposes"
- Everybody writes this

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THANK YOU!

Please take a minute to fill out the course evaluation form

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