



Firearm Maintenance Guide

Proper firearm maintenance is essential for safety, reliability, and performance. Whether you're a new firearm owner or an experienced shooter, keeping your gun in peak condition ensures it functions as intended when you need it most. Regular care also extends the life of your firearm, preserves accuracy, and helps prevent malfunctions.

1. Why Firearm Maintenance Matters

- **Safety:** Prevents misfires and malfunctions.
- **Reliability:** Reduces buildup and ensures consistent operation.
- **Accuracy:** Keeps barrels clean for precision.
- **Longevity:** Protects finish and moving parts.
- **Resale Value:** Maintains firearm condition.

2. Safety First – Before Maintenance

1. Unload the firearm completely. 2. Point the muzzle in a safe direction. 3. Work in a clean, well-lit area. 4. Wear safety glasses and gloves when handling chemicals.

3. Essential Tools and Supplies

- Cleaning rod or bore snake
- Patches
- Bore brush
- Cleaning solvent
- Lubricant
- Nylon brush
- Cotton swabs
- Gun mat

4. Step-by-Step Cleaning Process

1. **Field Strip:** Follow manufacturer's guide. 2. **Clean the Barrel:** Solvent, brush, dry patches, light oil. 3. **Clean the Action:** Remove fouling from bolts, slides, chambers. 4. **Clean Small**

Parts: Focus on extractor, ejector, firing pin, feed ramp. 5. Lubricate: Apply light coat of oil to moving parts. 6. Reassemble & Function Check.

5. Preventing Common Issues

- Rust Prevention: Store in a dry safe.
- Fouling: Clean after each use.
- Wear: Replace worn springs, pins, small parts.
- Ammo: Use only approved ammunition.

6. Long-Term Storage Tips

- Store unloaded in a safe.
- Use treated gun socks or cases.
- Avoid over-oiling.
- Inspect periodically.

7. Shooting Techniques & Maintenance Connection

- Clean triggers improve consistency.
- Clean optics/sights enhance accuracy.
- Smooth cycling aids recoil management.
- Clean barrels provide consistent trajectory.

8. Professional Instruction

BlackStar Arms instructors provide training on advanced cleaning techniques, maintenance for pistols, rifles, shotguns, and field-expedient cleaning methods.

9. Maintenance Schedule

- After Every Use: Clean barrel, action, lubricate.
- Monthly: Inspect and oil.
- Annually: Full breakdown, deep clean, replace worn parts.

Conclusion

Regular firearm maintenance ensures safety, reliability, and accuracy. By caring for your firearm, you protect your investment and enhance your shooting experience.