



Smith & Wesson®

Safety & Instruction Manual For Smith & Wesson® RESPONSE™



RESPONSE™



**Read the instructions and
warnings in this manual
CAREFULLY BEFORE
using this firearm.**

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www.smith-wesson.com

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WARNING:



**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS
AND WARNINGS CAREFULLY.
BE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND THESE
INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS
BEFORE USING THIS FIREARM.
FAILURE TO READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS
AND TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS MAY
RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH
TO YOU AND OTHERS AND
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.**

**THIS SAFETY & INSTRUCTION
MANUAL SHOULD ALWAYS
ACCOMPANY THIS FIREARM AND
BE TRANSFERRED WITH IT UPON
CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OR
WHEN PRESENTED TO ANOTHER PERSON.
A COPY OF THE SAFETY & INSTRUCTION
MANUAL IS AVAILABLE FREE
VIA DOWNLOAD AT
WWW.SMITH-WESSON.COM
OR UPON REQUEST FROM:**

**SMITH & WESSON®
CUSTOMER SUPPORT CENTER
2100 ROOSEVELT AVENUE
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01104
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E-mail: qa@smith-wesson.com**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

YOUR SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES	3-6
SAFE STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION	7-8
AMMUNITION	9-11
MODEL & FEATURES IDENTIFICATION	12-13
INSPECTING THE S&W® RESPONSE™	14-16
PREPARATION FOR FIRING	16-17
LOADING THE S&W® RESPONSE™	18-20
FIRING THE S&W® RESPONSE™	20-22
HANGFIRES AND MISFIRES	22-24
CLEARING A MISFEED/JAM	25-26
UNLOADING THE S&W® RESPONSE™	26-27
DISASSEMBLY/FIELD STRIPPING	28-32
INTERCHANGEABLE PALMSWELL GRIP INSERTS (if so-equipped).....	33-34
FLEXMAG™ MAGAZINE WELL ADAPTER	35-40
S&W® RESPONSE™ ASSEMBLY	41-44
ADJUSTABLE STOCK (if so-equipped)	45
INSTALLATION OF SIGHTS/OPTICS	45
MAGAZINES	46-47
CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE	47-49
LIMITED WARRANTY - For Owners Within United States	50-51
CONTACT & SHIPPING INFORMATION - For Owners Within United States	52-53
CUSTOM SERVICE, PATENT INFORMATION	54
BATTERY WARNINGS	55

YOUR SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

SAFETY IS YOUR NUMBER ONE RESPONSIBILITY!

- At home, in the field, at the range, or anywhere, the first concern of every firearm owner should be safety. Apply the following safety rules in every situation, with any kind of firearm. If you feel uncertain about any operational aspects of your firearm, please contact Smith & Wesson® at 1-800-331-0852, ext. 4125 before proceeding with its operation.
- If you are unfamiliar with firearms you should seek formal training before using your firearm.



WARNING: YOU MUST FOLLOW ALL OF THESE SAFETY RULES TO ENSURE THE SAFE USE OF YOUR FIREARM. THE FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS IN THIS MANUAL COULD CAUSE PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU OR OTHERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

- As a firearm owner, you accept a demanding responsibility. How seriously you take this responsibility can be the difference between life and death. There is no excuse for careless or abusive handling of your firearm. At all times, handle your firearm with intense respect for its power and potential danger.



YOUR SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES - CONTINUED

- **ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF THE FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.** Never point a firearm at anyone or anything you do not intend to shoot whether or not it is loaded. This is particularly important when loading, unloading, or field stripping the firearm. ALWAYS control the direction of the firearm.
- **ALWAYS TREAT EVERY FIREARM AS IF IT IS LOADED AND WILL FIRE.** Do not take anyone's word that the firearm is unloaded – always check for yourself. Never pass your firearm to another person until the cylinder or action is open and you visually check that it is unloaded. Keep your firearm unloaded and safely stored when not in use.
- **NEVER PLACE YOUR FINGER INSIDE THE TRIGGER GUARD OR ON THE TRIGGER UNLESS YOU INTEND TO FIRE.** Ensure that other objects do not touch the trigger.
- **ALWAYS BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND WHAT IS BEYOND IT.** Always be sure of where the bullet will strike and shoot only where there is a safe back stop free of obstructions, water or other surfaces which can cause a ricochet. Be sure your bullet will stop behind your target. Bullets can glance off many surfaces like rocks or the surface of water and travel in unpredictable directions with considerable velocity. Do not fire randomly into the sky.
- **NEVER CROSS OBSTACLES SUCH AS FENCES OR STREAMS WITH A LOADED FIREARM.** Always make certain your firearm is unloaded before crossing a fence, climbing a tree, jumping a ditch or negotiating other obstacles.
- **SAFE FIREARM HANDLING IS YOUR PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AT ALL TIMES.** Firearms are dangerous and can cause injury or death if they are misused or used inappropriately. Safety must be the prime consideration of any one who owns or handles firearms. Accidents are the result of violating the rules of safe firearm handling and common sense. Firearm safety training is available. Contact your firearms dealer, law enforcement agency, local sportsman's club, etc. for availability.
- **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FIREARM AT ALL TIMES.** In owning a firearm, you must undertake full-time responsibility for your firearm's safety and security. You must protect yourself and all others against injury or death from misuse of the firearm 24 hours a day.
- **FIREARM SECURITY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.** You must secure firearms safely from children and/or unauthorized users. Your firearm should always be kept unloaded and locked when not in use. A lock has been provided for this purpose. Never assume that the use of this lock is sufficient to safely secure your firearm. You must always evaluate your personal situation and employ the security systems that meet your needs to prevent children and unauthorized users from gaining access to your firearm.



YOUR SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES - CONTINUED

- **APPROPRIATE USE FOR YOUR FIREARM MEANS USING YOUR FIREARM FOR LEGAL PURPOSES.** For example - target shooting, hunting and lawful resistance of deadly criminal force. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in compliance with all applicable laws and ordinances regarding the use of your firearm.
- **NEVER RELY ON MECHANICAL FEATURES ALONE.** Only your safe firearm-handling habits will ensure the safe use of your firearm. This is your responsibility.
- **ALWAYS SAFELY STORE AND SECURE YOUR FIREARM.** Safe and secure storage of your firearm is one of your most important responsibilities. It is a full-time responsibility. You must always secure your firearm and ammunition separately so that they are not accessible to children and/or other unauthorized persons.
- **NEVER KEEP AMMUNITION IN THE SAME LOCATION AS THE FIREARM.** Store each in a separate and secure place.
- **ALWAYS WEAR EYE PROTECTION THAT IS SPECIFIED FOR USE WITH FIREARMS EVERY TIME YOU HANDLE YOUR FIREARM FOR CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE.**
- **ALWAYS WEAR EYE AND HEARING PROTECTION THAT ARE SPECIFIED FOR USE WITH FIREARMS EVERY TIME YOU DISCHARGE YOUR FIREARM.** Make sure others in the vicinity of where you will be shooting do so as well.
- **NEVER USE ALCOHOL OR DRUGS BEFORE OR WHILE SHOOTING.** Do not use your firearm if you are on any medication which impairs, even slightly, your mental or physical ability.
- **ALWAYS HAVE ADEQUATE VENTILATION.** Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms, or handling ammunition may result in exposure to lead and other substances known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm, and other physical injury. Review the warnings and labels for all ammunition and cleaning products carefully. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure.
- **BEFORE HANDLING ANY FIREARM, UNDERSTAND ITS OPERATION.** Not all firearms are the same. Familiarize yourself with the mechanical features of any firearm you intend to use. If you feel uncertain about any operational aspects of your firearm, please contact Smith & Wesson® at 1-800-331-0852, ext. 4125 before proceeding with its operation.
- **NEVER ALLOW A FIREARM TO BE USED BY ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO DOES NOT UNDERSTAND ITS SAFE OPERATION OR HAS NOT READ THIS SAFETY AND INSTRUCTION MANUAL.**

YOUR SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES - CONTINUED

- **ALWAYS USE THE CORRECT AMMUNITION FOR YOUR PARTICULAR FIREARM AS INDICATED BY THE MARKING ON THE FIREARM.** Never use non-standard, reloaded, or “handloaded” ammunition which has not been subjected to internal ballistic pressure testing.
- **BEWARE OF BARREL BORE OBSTRUCTIONS.** Be sure the barrel bore is clear of obstructions before shooting. Mud, water, snow, or other objects may inadvertently lodge in the barrel bore. A small obstruction can cause a dangerous increase in pressure and cause injury to yourself and others and may damage your gun.
- **BE SURE ALL HOLSTERS, GRIPS, AND OTHER ACCESSORIES ARE COMPATIBLE WITH THE FIREARM AND THAT THE ACCESSORIES DO NOT INTERFERE WITH SAFE OPERATION.** It is your responsibility to understand and follow all of the instructions in this manual, as well as those which may be supplied with your ammunition and any accessory.
- **NEVER DISASSEMBLE YOUR FIREARM BEYOND THE FIELD STRIPPING PROCEDURE OUTLINED IN THIS MANUAL.** Improper disassembly or reassembly of your firearm may be dangerous and can lead to injury or death.
- **NEVER MANIPULATE, ADJUST OR CHANGE ANY OF THE INTERNAL COMPONENTS OF YOUR FIREARM UNLESS SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED TO DO SO IN THIS MANUAL.** Improper manipulation of any internal component may affect the safety and reliability of your firearm and may cause injury or death.
- **NEVER ALLOW ANY ALTERATION OR REPLACEMENT OF PARTS IN YOUR SMITH & WESSON® FIREARM UNLESS SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED TO DO SO IN THIS MANUAL OR PERFORMED BY A QUALIFIED GUNSMITH USING GENUINE SMITH & WESSON PARTS.** If you do otherwise, improper functioning of your firearm may occur and injury or death and damage to property may result.



WARNING: SAFE USE OF A FIREARM IS YOUR PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND THE FAILURE TO FOLLOW ALL OF THESE BASIC SAFETY RULES MAY RESULT IN SEVERE PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU OR OTHERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY. YOU ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT SAFETY DEVICE WHEN IT COMES TO THE USE OF YOUR FIREARM AND SMITH & WESSON® WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE THAT RESULTS FROM: (1) THE CRIMINAL OR NEGLIGENT USE OF THIS FIREARM; (2) A DISREGARD OF THESE SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS; (3) IMPROPER OR CARELESS HANDLING OF THIS FIREARM; (4) THE USE OF NON-STANDARD, DEFECTIVE OR IMPROPER AMMUNITION OR; (5) IMPROPER OR NEGLIGENT MODIFICATIONS OR REPAIRS TO THE FIREARM.

SAFE STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION



WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF THE FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.



WARNING: FIREARMS ARE DANGEROUS WHEN USED AND STORED IMPROPERLY. THEY POSE A RISK OF SERIOUS OR FATAL INJURIES. FIREARMS CAN BE ESPECIALLY DANGEROUS TO CHILDREN WHEN THEY ARE STORED IN AN IRRESPONSIBLE AND UNSAFE MANNER. FOR YOUR SAFETY AND THE SAFETY OF OTHERS, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU KEEP YOUR FIREARM LOCKED AND UNLOADED IN A SECURE PLACE. THE AMMUNITION SHOULD BE STORED IN A SEPARATE, SECURE LOCATION WHEN IT IS NOT IN USE. SAFE AND SECURE STORAGE OF YOUR FIREARM IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RULES OF FIREARM SAFETY. YOUR FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE RULES MAY RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU OR OTHERS.

- **ALWAYS SECURE YOUR FIREARM IN A MANNER THAT WILL PREVENT UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS.** Whenever your firearm is not in use, keep it unloaded and locked. Your safety and the safety of others requires that you always secure and store your firearm in a manner that will prevent unauthorized access. Never leave a firearm unattended unless it is locked, unloaded and secured.
- **ALWAYS USE THE LOCK PROVIDED BY SMITH & WESSON® TO SECURE YOUR FIREARM.** Please read and follow the instructions packaged separately for the use of this lock. A lock, when properly used, can be an effective tool in preventing unauthorized access to your firearm. There are other alternative locks and safe storage containers available in the marketplace which may also be appropriate for your particular needs. Consult your local firearm shop, hardware store, or local police department for guidance on the variety of other safe storage devices or practices which may be appropriate for your particular needs. By purchasing this firearm you have accepted the responsibility of safely securing the firearm at all times and preventing its unauthorized use. Never assume that the use of this lock alone is sufficient to safely secure your firearm. It is your personal responsibility to select and use whatever measures or practices that will enable you to be absolutely certain that your firearm is secure at all times.



WARNING: NEVER LOCK A LOADED FIREARM AND NEVER LOAD A LOCKED FIREARM!

- **ALWAYS STORE YOUR FIREARM AND AMMUNITION SEPARATELY SO THAT THEY ARE NOT ACCESSIBLE TO CHILDREN OR OTHER UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS.** Safe and secure storage of your firearm and ammunition are your responsibility. It is a full-time responsibility.



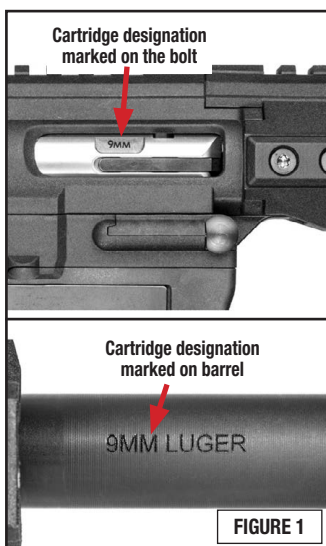
SAFE STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION - CONTINUED

- **NEVER ASSUME THAT A “HIDING” PLACE IS A SECURE STORAGE METHOD.** Others may be aware of your storage location or come upon it by chance. It is your personal responsibility to use common sense when storing your firearm and ammunition and to always make sure they are not accessible to children or other unauthorized persons.
- **NEVER TRANSPORT A LOADED FIREARM.** When transporting your firearm, be sure it is unloaded and locked. Safe and secure transportation of your firearm is your responsibility.
- **ALWAYS FOLLOW THE LAW!** Many jurisdictions have laws that make it a crime to keep a firearm unlocked and in an area accessible to children or others. Keeping a firearm locked and unloaded when not in use is not only common sense safety practice... IT IS THE LAW. You must be familiar with all local, state, and federal laws regarding the safe storage and transportation of your firearm. Failure to know and follow the law may result in unauthorized access or use of your firearm by another. Obey all laws relating to the storage and transportation of firearms. Your local police department or firearm shop can furnish you with available information on storing and/or transporting a firearm safely and legally.
- **YOUR FIREARM IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.** You must prevent your firearm from being stolen or from being used by untrained or unqualified individuals. Keep it locked, unloaded and secured when not in use.
- Never leave the key with the stored firearm.

AMMUNITION

WARNING: NEVER USE AMMUNITION NOT SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED FOR USE IN YOUR FIREARM. FAILURE TO USE THE CORRECT TYPE OR CALIBER OF AMMUNITION MAY CAUSE THE FIREARM TO JAM, FAIL TO FIRE, OR MAY GENERATE EXCESSIVE PRESSURE WHICH CAN DAMAGE OR EVEN RUPTURE YOUR FIREARM, CAUSING PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS.

- Locate the cartridge designation marked on the firearm's bolt and barrel. This information indicates the correct ammunition that must be used in your firearm (FIGURE 1).
- You are responsible for selecting ammunition that meets industry standards and is appropriate in type and caliber for this firearm.
- Never mix ammunition.



WARNING: IN SOME CASES AMMUNITION NOT SPECIFIED ON YOUR FIREARM AND NOT LISTED AS ALTERNATE AMMUNITION IN THIS MANUAL MAY FIT INTO THE CHAMBER. FIRING THIS AMMUNITION MAY CAUSE A RUPTURE, RESULTING IN PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER AND/OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING GENERALLY ACCEPTED FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION INTERCHANGEABILITY, AS PUBLISHED BY SPORTING ARMS AND AMMUNITION MANUFACTURERS' INSTITUTE (SAAMI), FIND IT AT [HTTPS://SAAMI.ORG](https://saami.org)

WARNING: ALWAYS INSPECT YOUR AMMUNITION BEFORE USING IT. NEVER USE DIRTY, CORRODED OR DAMAGED AMMUNITION. A BURST CARTRIDGE OR BORE OBSTRUCTION MAY RESULT CAUSING DAMAGE TO THE FIREARM AND PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER AND/OR BYSTANDERS.

WARNING: NEVER USE AMMUNITION OF THE INCORRECT GAUGE OR CALIBER. USING AMMUNITION OF THE INCORRECT GAUGE OR CALIBER MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO YOUR FIREARM AND POSSIBLE INJURY TO YOU AND TO OTHERS.

AMMUNITION - CONTINUED



WARNING: DISCHARGING FIREARMS IN POORLY VENTILATED AREAS, CLEANING FIREARMS, OR HANDLING AMMUNITION MAY RESULT IN EXPOSURE TO LEAD AND OTHER SUBSTANCES KNOWN TO CAUSE BIRTH DEFECTS, REPRODUCTIVE HARM AND OTHER PHYSICAL INJURY. HAVE ADEQUATE VENTILATION AT ALL TIMES. WASH HANDS THOROUGHLY AFTER EXPOSURE.



WARNING: NEVER USE NON-STANDARD, RELOADED OR “HANDLOADED” AMMUNITION WHICH HAS NOT BEEN SUBJECTED TO INTERNAL BALLISTIC PRESSURE TESTING. RELOADED OR HANDLOADED AMMUNITION MAY HAVE MANY MANUFACTURING AND QUALITY VARIABLES (SUCH AS THE TYPE AND AMOUNT OF GUN POWDER). CARTRIDGE CASES THAT HAVE BEEN RELOADED AND FIRED MULTIPLE TIMES MAY SUFFER PHYSICAL DAMAGE WHICH COULD SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACT OR REDUCE THE INTEGRITY OF THE CARTRIDGE, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN BULLET SETBACK OR UNSEATING. CASE FAILURE AND INJURY TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO THE FIREARM MAY RESULT WHEN SUCH A CARTRIDGE IS FIRED. ANY AMMUNITION THAT IS IMPROPERLY MANUFACTURED OR RELOADED, EVEN IN THE SLIGHTEST DEGREE, MAY FAIL TO FIRE OR MAY GENERATE EXCESSIVE INTERNAL PRESSURES WHICH CAN DAMAGE OR EVEN RUPTURE THE FIREARM, CAUSING PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR THOSE IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY.



WARNING: NEVER USE CARTRIDGES OTHER THAN THOSE DESIGNATED BY THE MARKING ON THE FIREARM UNLESS SPECIFIED IN THIS MANUAL. DOING SO MAY CAUSE INJURY OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.



WARNING: NEVER APPLY LUBRICANTS OR CLEANER DIRECTLY ONTO AMMUNITION. APPLYING LUBRICANT OR CLEANER TO AMMUNITION CAN CONTAMINATE THE AMMUNITION AND RESULT IN A SQUIB LOAD. A SQUIB LOAD CAN RESULT IN A BORE OBSTRUCTION WHEN THE BULLET BECOMES LODGED IN THE BORE. INJURY OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY COULD RESULT WHEN A SUBSEQUENT CARTRIDGE IS FIRED.

- A firearm and ammunition are a system and must work together. There are different types of ammunition for different types of firearms. Your firearm has been designed for ammunition of a specific type and a specific gauge or caliber. It is important to select the proper ammunition for your firearm.

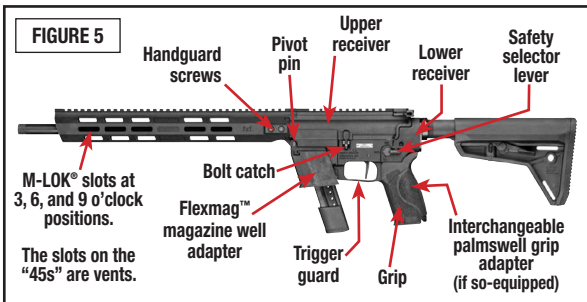
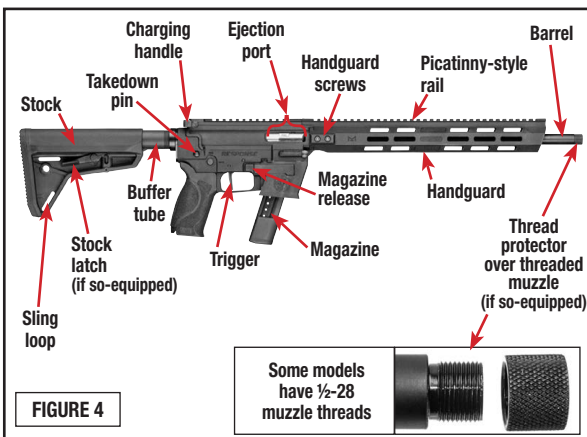
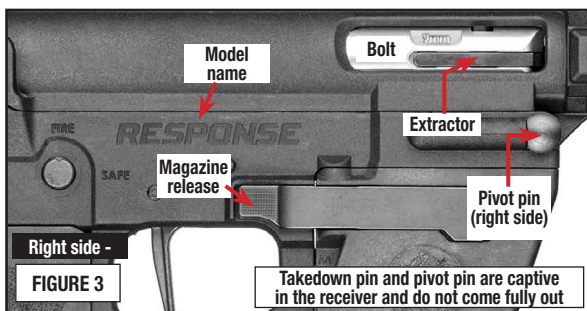
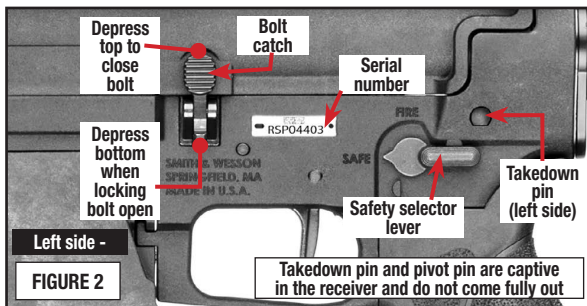
AMMUNITION - CONTINUED

- Different combinations of bullet velocity, bullet weight and firearm weight can have major impact on felt recoil; high felt recoil can be uncomfortable to some shooters.
- “Plus-P” (+P) ammunition generates pressures in excess of the pressures associated with standard ammunition. Such pressures may affect the wear characteristics and may result in the need for more frequent service.
- “Plus-P-Plus” (+P+) ammunition must NOT be used in Smith & Wesson® firearms. This marking on the ammunition designates that it exceeds established industry standards, but the designation does not represent defined pressure limits and therefore such ammunition may vary significantly as to the pressures generated and could be DANGEROUS.

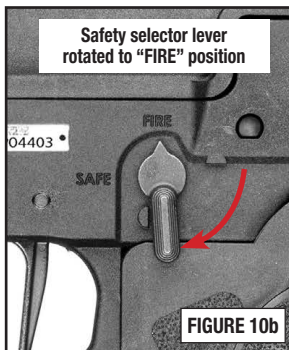
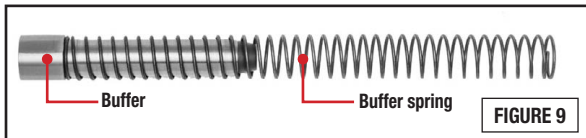
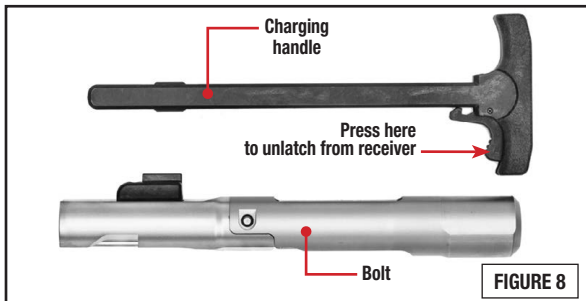
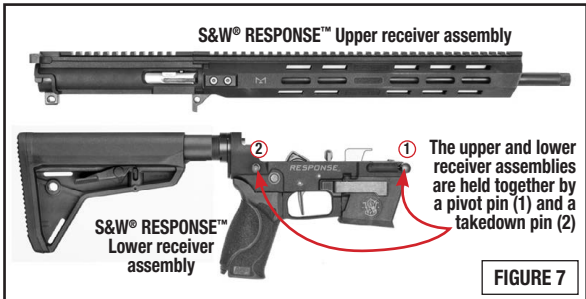
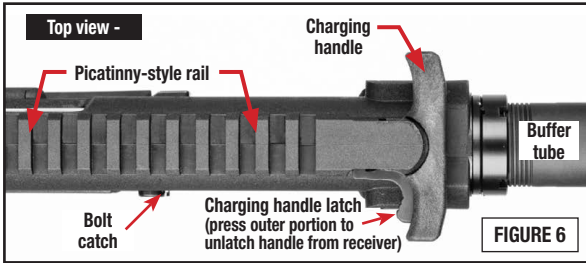
Marking on Firearm	Ammunition Type		
	Standard	+P	+P+
5.7x28mm	OK	NO	NO
30 SUPER CARRY™	OK	NO	NO
380 AUTO	OK	NO	NO
9mm Luger	OK	OK	NO
9x21mm	OK	NO	NO
38 Super	OK	OK	NO
357 SIG	OK	NO	NO
40 S&W	OK	NO	NO
10mm AUTO	OK	NO	NO
45 AUTO	OK	OK	NO

- Some brands of ammunition may cause difficulty in extracting spent cartridge cases from the chamber. If this situation occurs, thoroughly clean the chamber with solvent. If this condition persists, we recommend changing to another brand of ammunition.

MODEL & FEATURES IDENTIFICATION



MODEL & FEATURES IDENTIFICATION - CONTINUED



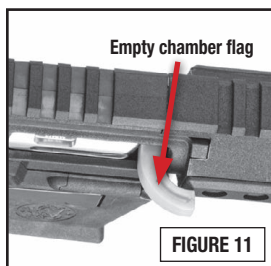
INSPECTING THE S&W® RESPONSE™

WARNING: ENSURE THAT THE FIREARM IS UNLOADED WHEN INSPECTING, DISASSEMBLING, ASSEMBLING, CLEANING, ADDING OR REMOVING ACCESSORIES, AND ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF THE FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

WARNING: NEVER RELY ON MECHANICAL FEATURES ALONE. ONLY YOUR SAFE FIREARM HANDLING WILL ENSURE THE SAFE USE OF YOUR FIREARM. THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

WARNING: REMOVING THE MAGAZINE FROM THE S&W® RESPONSE™ DOES NOT UNLOAD THE CHAMBER. ENSURE THAT THE MAGAZINE IS REMOVED AND THE CHAMBER IS EMPTY BEFORE INSPECTING.

- As shipped from the factory, the Smith & Wesson® RESPONSE™ has an empty chamber flag in place (FIGURE 11).

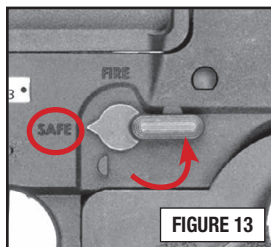


- Whenever you inspect your firearm, you must check for yourself that it is unloaded. To do this, grasp the Smith & Wesson® RESPONSE™ with your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard, pointing the muzzle of the firearm in a safe direction.

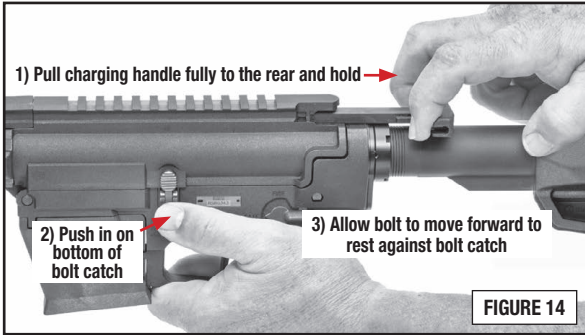


- If a magazine is present in the Smith & Wesson® RESPONSE™, press the magazine release and remove the magazine (FIGURE 12).

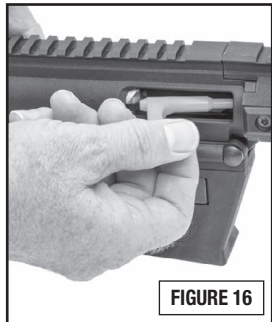
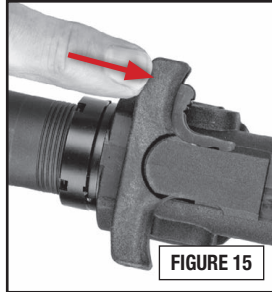
- Rotate the safety selector lever to the "SAFE" position (FIGURE 13). If the safety selector lever does not rotate readily to the "SAFE" position see the "NOTE" on page 15.



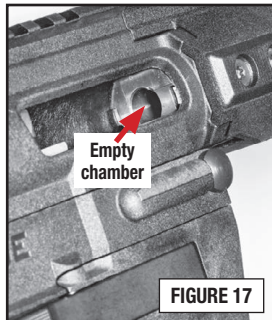
INSPECTING THE S&W® RESPONSE™ - CONTINUED



NOTE: If the safety selector lever won't rotate readily to the "SAFE" position, don't force it - pull the charging handle (uniformly by both sides) all the way back and hold it there while you press and hold the bottom of the bolt catch (FIGURE 14). Release pressure on the charging handle and allow the bolt to move forward against the bolt catch. This will lock the bolt in the open position. It will also allow the safety to be rotated to the "SAFE" position.



- Return the charging handle manually (fully forward) to the latched (locked forward) position (FIGURE 15).
- Remove the empty chamber flag from the firearm if one is present (FIGURE 16).
- Verify that the chamber is empty (FIGURE 17).
- Refer to the "*Disassembly/Field Stripping*" section of this manual (page 28) to tip the upper receiver open, remove the bolt and verify that the bore is clear of obstructions (by looking through the bore from the breech end). If any obstruction is observed, remove it from the bore before proceeding.



INSPECTING THE S&W® RESPONSE™ - CONTINUED

- You must follow this procedure every time a firearm leaves your hand, is cleaned, handed to you or another person, transported or stored.
- If a magazine has been loaded with any number of cartridges, unload it by holding it with the bullet end of the cartridge pointing away from you and pressing each cartridge forward and out of the magazine (FIGURE 18), catching the cartridges with your other hand as they come out of the magazine.



FIGURE 18

- Before using your firearm for the first time, it should be cleaned. See the “*Cleaning and Maintenance*” section of this manual for details (page 47).

PREPARATION FOR FIRING



WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF THE FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.



WARNING: FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE FIREARM SAFETY REQUIREMENTS MAY RESULT IN PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU OR OTHERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

- **ALWAYS TREAT ALL FIREARMS AS IF THEY ARE LOADED.**
- **ALWAYS BE SURE THAT THE CHAMBER IS EMPTY AND THE MAGAZINE HAS BEEN REMOVED, AND THAT THE FIREARM IS POINTING IN A SAFE DIRECTION.**



PREPARATION FOR FIRING - CONTINUED

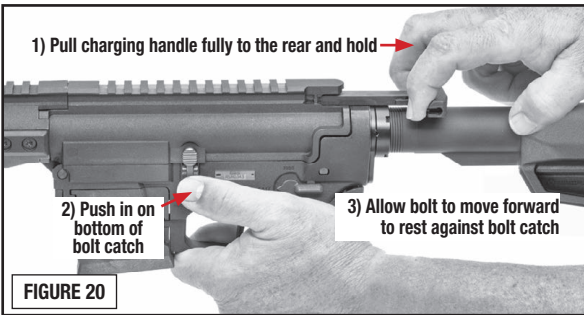
- **ALWAYS BE SURE THAT THE BORE IS CLEAR AND THAT THERE IS NO OBSTRUCTION PRESENT IN THE BORE PRIOR TO LOADING AND FIRING.**
- **ALWAYS KEEP FINGERS AND OTHER BODY PARTS AWAY FROM THE MUZZLE AND AWAY FROM THE EJECTION PORT.**
- **ALWAYS WEAR ADEQUATE AND PROPER HEARING PROTECTION SPECIFIED FOR FIREARM USE.** To prevent permanent damage to your hearing, you must always use hearing protection. Make sure others who are nearby are wearing hearing protection as well.
- **ALWAYS WEAR SAFETY GLASSES SPECIFIED FOR FIREARM USE.** Whether indoors or out, safety glasses should protect your eyes from the firing flash and particles associated with the discharge of ammunition. Failure to do so creates a risk of personal injury from particle or debris spitting or a ricochet.
- **ALWAYS BE ALERT AND ALWAYS FOLLOW THE SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS OF THE RANGE OFFICER.** Never shoot if you are tired, cold, or otherwise impaired in any way.
- **ALWAYS BE AWARE OF OTHER PEOPLE.** Be aware of others to ensure that persons do not accidentally walk into the line of fire.
- **THE SHOOTER (AND ALL OTHERS IN THE SHOOTING AREA) MUST ALWAYS BE IN A POSITION THAT IS OUT OF THE LINE OF FIRE AND NOT WITHIN AN AREA WHERE THEY MAY BE STRUCK BY A RICOCHET, OR PARTICLES SPITTING FROM A FIREARM, OR BY EJECTED CASES FROM THE FIREARM.**
- **NEVER SHOOT AT SURFACES THAT MAY CAUSE A RICOCHET.** Always select a place to shoot that has a safe backstop, is free from obstructions, and has no surfaces which may cause a ricochet.
- **NEVER FIRE RANDOMLY INTO THE SKY.** Always select a place to shoot that has a safe backstop.
- **NEVER USE ALCOHOL OR DRUGS BEFORE OR WHILE SHOOTING OR HANDLING ANY FIREARM.**

LOADING THE S&W® RESPONSE™

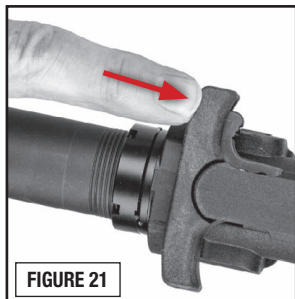


WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF THE FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

- Do not load the rifle until you have read and fully understand this manual.
- Do not load the rifle until you are ready to use it. Keep your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until you are ready to fire.
- Never load your rifle until you are sure of your target, what is beyond it, and are fully prepared to fire.
- Press the magazine release and remove the magazine from the firearm (FIGURE 19).
- Pull the charging handle all the way back and press the bottom of the bolt catch. Allow the charging handle to move slightly forward against the bolt catch. This will lock the bolt in the open position (FIGURE 20).



- Return charging handle fully forward until it locks into the forward position (FIGURE 21).

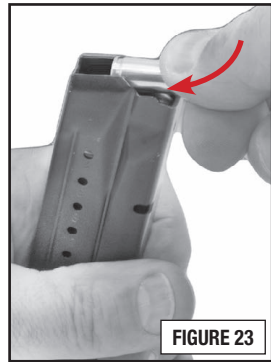
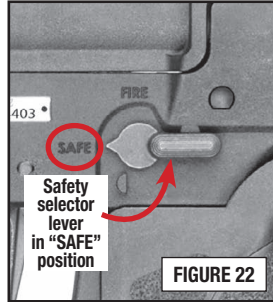


LOADING THE S&W® RESPONSE™ - CONTINUED

- Rotate the safety selector lever to the “SAFE” position (FIGURE 22) if it is not already in that position.
- Orient the magazine as shown (FIGURE 23). Place a cartridge between the lips of the magazine with the bullet toward the open end of the magazine. Press the cartridge down and back until it is held by the magazine lips. Slide the next cartridge in on top of the previous cartridge and repeat until the desired number of cartridges are loaded.



WARNING: ALWAYS LOAD A CARTRIDGE INTO THE CHAMBER BY FEEDING IT FROM THE MAGAZINE. NEVER ATTEMPT TO LOAD THE FIREARM BY INSERTING A CARTRIDGE INTO THE OPEN EJECTION PORT. AN UNINTENTIONAL DISCHARGE COULD RESULT, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN INJURY OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

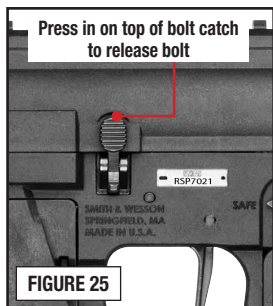


- Follow instructions in this manual and any other specific instructions which may be marked onto, or accompany, a magazine. Failure to use the particular type of magazine specified for your model, caliber, and installed Flexmag system of the firearm may result in a malfunction. See the “Flexmag Magazine Well Adapter” section of this manual for more details (page 35).
- With the bullet end of the cartridge pointing forward, insert the loaded magazine into magazine well (FIGURE 24) until it is securely latched. Check for proper latching of the magazine by applying some downward pressure on magazine to confirm that it is latched in place.



LOADING THE S&W® RESPONSE™ - CONTINUED

- Keep your fingers away from ejection port, finger off the trigger, and keep the muzzle of the firearm pointed in a safe direction. Press in on the top of the bolt catch (FIGURE 25) to release the bolt, allowing it to move forward and feed a cartridge from the magazine into the chamber.



- The firearm is now loaded and will fire if the safety selector lever is rotated into the “FIRE” position and the trigger is then pulled.



WARNING: ALWAYS POINT THE MUZZLE IN A SAFE DIRECTION WHEN YOU RELEASE THE BOLT.



WARNING: UPON RELEASING THE BOLT FROM THE OPEN POSITION, THE BOLT MOVES FORWARD WITH SIGNIFICANT FORCE AND SPEED. TO AVOID INJURY, BE SURE NO BODY PART IS IN THE PATH OF THE BOLT DURING ITS MOVEMENT.



WARNING: IF THE CARTRIDGE FAILS TO STRIP FROM THE MAGAZINE OR FULLY SEAT INTO THE CHAMBER, IMMEDIATELY STOP THE LOADING PROCESS. REMOVE THE MAGAZINE, LOCK THE BOLT OPEN AND VERIFY THAT THE CHAMBER IS EMPTY. REFER TO THE “INSPECTING THE S&W RESPONSE” SECTION OF THIS MANUAL (PAGE 14).



WARNING: THE SMITH & WESSON® RESPONSE™ CAN BE FIRED WITH THE MAGAZINE REMOVED FROM THE FIREARM. KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER AND OUTSIDE THE TRIGGER GUARD UNTIL YOU HAVE MADE THE COMMITMENT TO FIRE.

FIRING THE S&W® RESPONSE™



WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF THE FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.



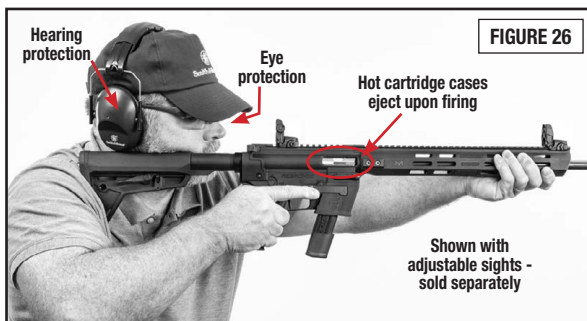
WARNING: WEAR EYE AND HEARING PROTECTION SPECIFIED FOR FIREARM USE EVERY TIME YOU DISCHARGE YOUR FIREARM. MAKE SURE OTHERS IN THE VICINITY OF WHERE YOU WILL BE SHOOTING DO SO AS WELL.



WARNING: AVOID DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE HANDGUARD SCREWS AND THE BARREL AFTER CONTINUOUS, REPEATED DISCHARGE OF THE FIREARM AS THE SURFACES MAY BE HOT. CONTACT WITH A HOT SURFACE MAY CAUSE PHYSICAL INJURY OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

FIRING THE S&W® RESPONSE™ - CONTINUED

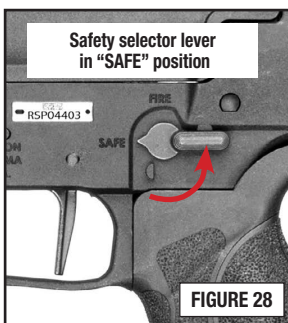
- Grasp firearm with one hand on handguard and other hand on the grip with finger resting outside the trigger guard. Raise the firearm and pull buttstock firmly into your shoulder (FIGURE 26).



- Rotate the safety selector lever until it points to the "FIRE" position (FIGURE 27).
- Keeping steady aim, place your finger on trigger and gently pull until the rifle fires. Immediately after firing, the firearm ejects the empty case and chambers the next cartridge and is ready to fire by fully releasing the trigger (allowing the trigger to move fully forward between shots) and then pulling the trigger again.



- You may continue to fire by pulling the trigger until the magazine is empty.
- If the last cartridge from the magazine has been fired, the bolt will remain open. Rotate the safety selector lever to the "SAFE" position (FIGURE 28).



The firearm can now be reloaded by replacing the empty magazine with a loaded magazine.

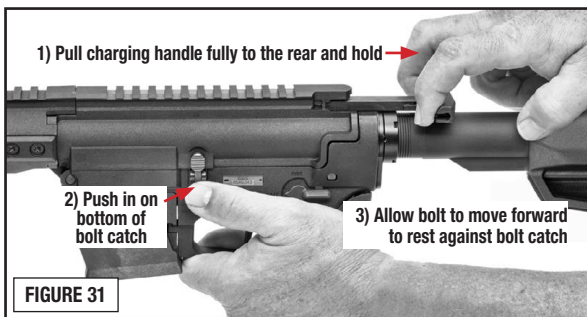
- If you wish to stop firing before the magazine is empty, remove your finger from the trigger and keep it outside the trigger guard. Rotate the safety selector lever to the "SAFE" position (FIGURE 28). Remember, the bolt is closed and there is still a cartridge in the chamber.

FIRING THE S&W® RESPONSE™ - CONTINUED

- Press the magazine release button and withdraw the magazine from the firearm with the opposite hand (FIGURE 29).



- Pull the charging handle all the way back. This will extract and eject the cartridge from the chamber, (FIGURE 30). Press the bottom of the bolt catch, then allow the charging handle to move slightly forward against the bolt catch (FIGURE 31). This will lock the bolt in the open position.



- If you don't want to reload, check the chamber and magazine to ensure that the firearm is empty before cleaning, transporting, or storing.

HANGFIRES AND MISFIRES



WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF THE FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.



WARNING: WEAR EYE AND HEARING PROTECTION THAT IS SPECIFIED FOR USE WITH FIREARMS WHEN FIRING AND CLEARING MISFIRES OR MISFEEDS.

HANGFIRES AND MISFIRES - CONTINUED



WARNING: KEEP YOUR FACE A SAFE DISTANCE FROM THE EJECTION PORT WHEN CLEARING A CARTRIDGE. IF A CARTRIDGE IGNITES WHILE BEING CLEARED FROM THE FIREARM, INJURY OR DEATH MAY RESULT.



WARNING: IF YOUR FIREARM GIVES ANY INDICATION THAT IT IS NOT PERFORMING PROPERLY OR THE OPERATION OF YOUR FIREARM HAS CHANGED “THE WAY IT FEELS OR SOUNDS,” STOP FIRING. MAKE SURE THE FIREARM IS POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, UNLOAD THE FIREARM AND HAVE IT INSPECTED AND TEST FIRED BY A GUNSMITH QUALIFIED TO PERFORM SERVICE ON SMITH & WESSON® FIREARMS.

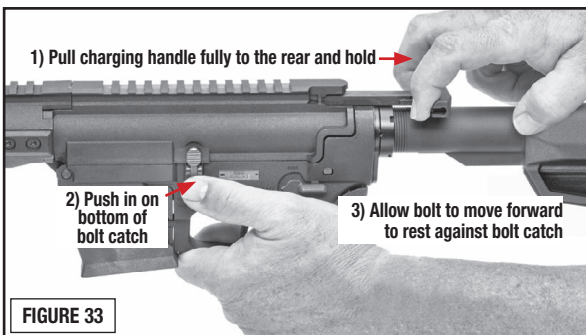
NOTE: In the case of either a hangfire or misfire, keep the muzzle of the firearm pointed in a safe direction and keep your finger off the trigger. Wait 60 seconds, then press the magazine release button and remove the magazine from the firearm (FIGURE 32). Proceed to clear the unfired cartridge from the chamber.



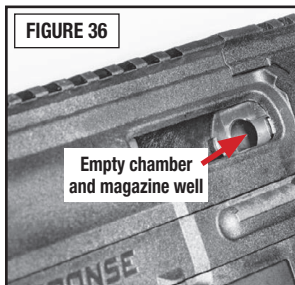
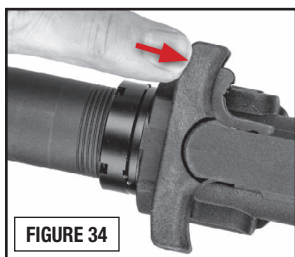
- A **HANGFIRE** is described as a noticeable delay between the impact of the firing pin on the primer of the cartridge and the actual discharge of the firearm. This is generally caused by defective or damaged ammunition.
- If a cartridge has delayed ignition, with the firearm pointed in a safe direction, the magazine should be removed and the firearm should be unloaded. The remainder of similar ammunition should be inspected to determine if it has been contaminated or damaged and dealt with accordingly.
- A **MISFIRE** is the failure of the chambered cartridge to fire at all after the trigger has been pulled. This is generally caused by defective or damaged ammunition or a dirty or fouled firearm.
- A light primer strike caused by a dirty or fouled firearm can lead to misfires. If a light strike on the primer of a misfire is noted, unload the firearm and clean it as instructed in the “*Cleaning and Maintenance*” section of this manual (page 47). If a cartridge does not go off when the trigger is pulled, the “dud” cartridge needs to be removed from the firearm and disposed of properly.

HANGFIRES AND MISFIRES - CONTINUED

- Pull the charging handle all the way back and then press the bottom of the bolt catch. Let the bolt move forward against the bolt catch (FIGURE 33). This will lock the bolt in the open position.



- Remove your finger from bolt catch.
- Return the charging handle fully forward until it latches (FIGURE 34).
- Rotate the safety selector lever to the SAFE position (FIGURE 35).
- Visually check the chamber to be sure no cartridges are present (FIGURE 36).
- The firearm should be inspected and cleaned before returning it to use.
- The ammunition should be inspected. Damaged or defective cartridges should not be used.
- Dispose of defective cartridge(s) in a method specifically approved for live cartridge disposal.



CLEARING A MISFEED/JAM

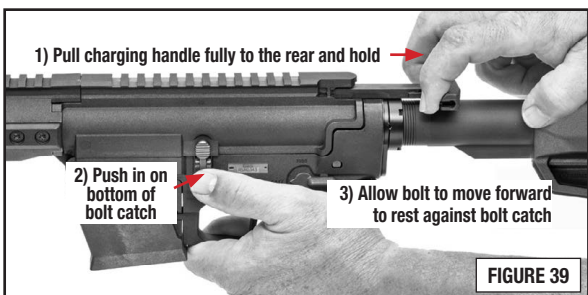
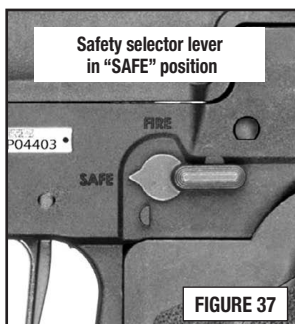
NOTE: Any autoloading firearm may, on occasion, fail to feed a cartridge properly from the magazine and into the chamber. If this should occur:

WARNING: KEEP YOUR FACE A SAFE DISTANCE FROM THE EJECTION PORT WHEN CLEARING A MISFEED/JAMMED CARTRIDGE. A CARTRIDGE MAY IGNITE IF THE PRIMER OF THE CARTRIDGE IS STRUCK WITH SUFFICIENT FORCE. IF A CARTRIDGE IGNITES WHILE BEING CLEARED FROM THE FIREARM, INJURY AND/OR DEATH MAY RESULT.

To clear a misfeed/jam:

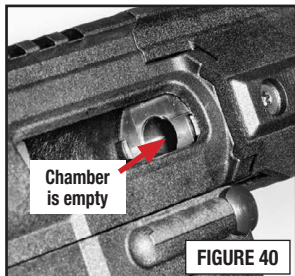
- Make certain that the muzzle of the firearm is pointed in a safe direction.
- Rotate the safety selector lever to the "SAFE" position (FIGURE 37).
- Press the magazine release and remove the magazine from the firearm (FIGURE 38).
- Pull the charging handle all the way back and press the bottom of the bolt catch. Allow the charging handle to move slightly forward against the bolt catch. This will lock the bolt in the open position (FIGURE 39).

NOTE: Drawing the bolt fully to the rear should allow clearance for the jammed cartridge to fall free and clear of the firearm.



CLEARING A MISFEED/JAM - CONTINUED

- It may be necessary to manually remove a jammed cartridge. When attempting to clear a jam manually, use only wood or plastic 'tools', such as a pointed dowel or a pencil, and use extreme care to avoid striking the primer of the cartridge.
- Visually check to make sure all cartridges have been removed from the firearm (FIGURE 40).
- Once the misfed cartridge is cleared, proceed to load the firearm as instructed in the "Loading the S&W Response" section of this manual (page 18).
- Dispose of defective cartridge(s) in a method specifically approved for live cartridge disposal.



UNLOADING THE S&W® RESPONSE™



WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF THE FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.



WARNING: REMOVING THE MAGAZINE FROM THE S&W® RESPONSE™ DOES NOT UNLOAD THE CHAMBER. ENSURE THAT THE MAGAZINE IS REMOVED AND THE CHAMBER IS EMPTY WHEN UNLOADING.

- Rotate the safety selector lever to the "SAFE" position (FIGURE 41).
- Press magazine release and remove magazine from the rifle (FIGURE 42).

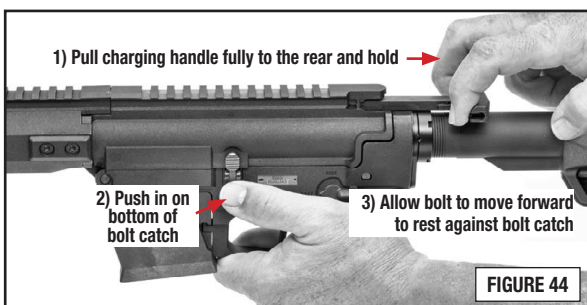


UNLOADING THE S&W® RESPONSE™ - CONTINUED

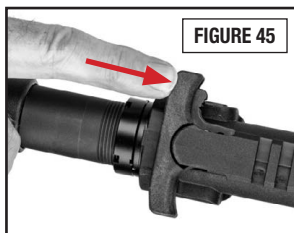
- Pull the charging handle fully to the rear to extract and eject a cartridge that may have been chambered (FIGURE 43).



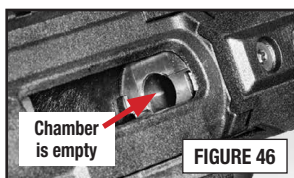
- 1) Pull charging handle fully to the rear and hold it there 2) push in on the bottom of the bolt catch 3) allow the bolt to move forward and rest against bolt catch. This holds the bolt open (FIGURE 44).



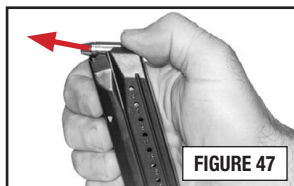
- Return the charging handle to the forward (closed) position (FIGURE 45).



- Look into the chamber through ejection port to ensure that the chamber is empty (FIGURE 46).



- Remove remaining cartridges from the magazine by sliding them forward, out of the magazine (FIGURE 47), catching them with your other hand.



- Collect live ammunition for safe storage and spent cartridge cases for proper disposal.

DISASSEMBLY/FIELD STRIPPING



WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF THE FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.



WARNING: ENSURE THAT THE FIREARM IS UNLOADED BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO DISASSEMBLE/FIELD STRIP.



WARNING: NEVER DO ANYTHING BEYOND WHAT YOU ARE SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED TO DO IN THIS MANUAL. NEVER ALTER OR MODIFY THE PARTS IN YOUR FIREARM.



WARNING: WEAR SAFETY GLASSES THAT ARE SPECIFIED FOR FIREARMS USE EVERY TIME YOU DISASSEMBLE OR ASSEMBLE YOUR FIREARM.



WARNING: ANY MAINTENANCE, ADJUSTMENT OR SERVICE NOT SPECIFIED IN THIS MANUAL MAY AFFECT THE SAFETY AND RELIABILITY OF YOUR FIREARM AND MUST BE PERFORMED BY A QUALIFIED GUNSMITH USING GENUINE SMITH & WESSON® PARTS. IF YOU DO OTHERWISE, IMPROPER FUNCTIONING OF YOUR FIREARM MAY OCCUR AND INJURY OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY MAY RESULT.

- Rotate the safety selector lever to the “SAFE” position (FIGURE 48).
- Press the magazine release and remove the magazine from the firearm (FIGURE 49).

NOTE: When handling the Smith & Wesson® RESPONSE™, if the safety selector lever does not easily rotate to the “SAFE” position, DO NOT attempt to force it into “SAFE”. While keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, remove the magazine and lock your bolt open and then rotate the safety selector lever to “SAFE” before proceeding.



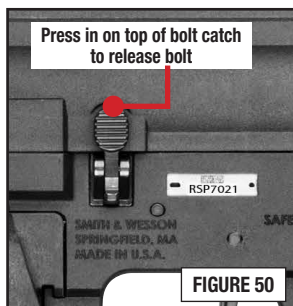
FIGURE 48



FIGURE 49

DISASSEMBLY/FIELD STRIPPING - CONTINUED

- Push the top of the bolt catch to allow the bolt to move fully forward to the closed position (FIGURE 50).
- Push the rear takedown pin (from left side) (FIGURE 51) to gain access to the larger end on the right side (FIGURE 52).



- Grasp the pin on the right side of the receiver and pull it until it comes to a positive stop (FIGURE 52).

NOTE: The takedown pin and the pivot pin are captive and do not come fully out of the receiver. The pins may also be tight in the receiver. If the pin(s) do not move readily by normal pressing, tap the pins with a light strike to start their movement, and then complete their travel by pressing with a non-marring tool like a punch or drift. The empty chamber flag works well for this task.

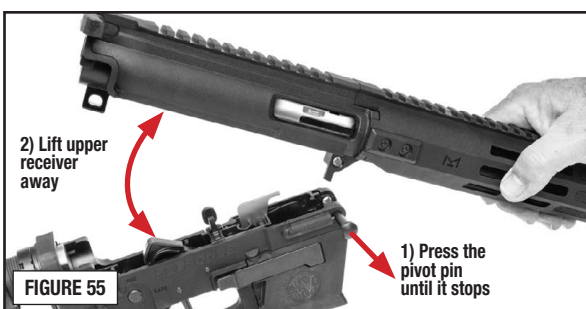
- Pivot the upper and lower receivers apart (FIGURE 53). The upper receiver will open approximately 45 degrees - relative to the lower receiver.



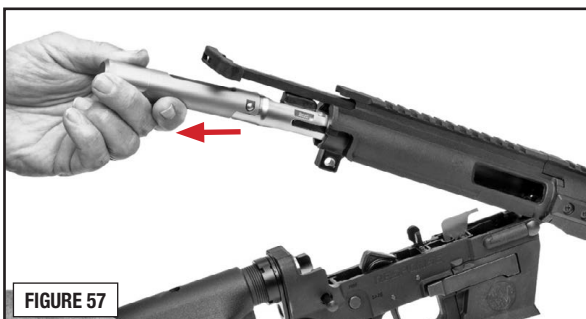
CAUTION: Never dry-fire the Smith & Wesson® RESPONSE™ when it is disassembled. Damage to the firearm may result.

DISASSEMBLY/FIELD STRIPPING - CONTINUED

- In order to disassemble the upper receiver from the lower receiver, press the pivot pin at the front of the lower receiver until it stops (the empty chamber flag works well for this task) (FIGURE 54).
- Once the pivot pin is moved, separate the upper receiver from the lower receiver completely (FIGURE 55).



- Unlatch and pull the charging handle to rear as shown (FIGURE 56). This draws the bolt out of the upper receiver so you can grasp it.
- Pull the bolt rearward, drawing it back (and down slightly) out of the upper receiver (FIGURE 57).



DISASSEMBLY/FIELD STRIPPING - CONTINUED

- Remove the charging handle by pulling it out of the upper receiver (FIGURE 58).

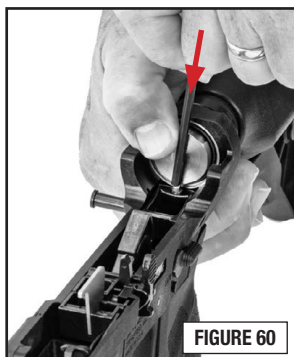


- (FIGURE 59) shows the bolt and charging handle removed from the upper receiver for cleaning.

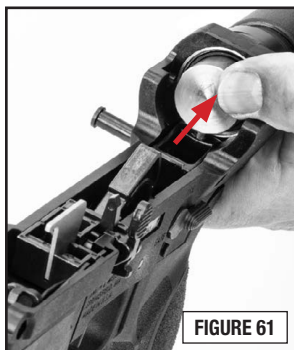


Buffer and buffer spring disassembly

- Push the buffer in slightly (at the rear of the receiver/front of the stock's buffer tube) and depress buffer retainer with a drift or punch to release the buffer (FIGURE 60).



- Remove buffer and buffer spring from the buffer tube (FIGURE 61).



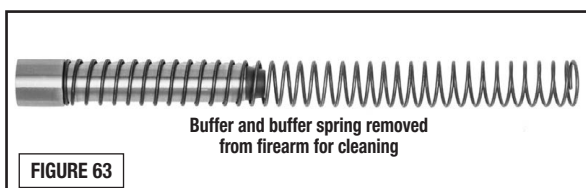
DISASSEMBLY/FIELD STRIPPING - CONTINUED

CAUTION: Once freed from the buffer retainer, the buffer and buffer spring can come out of the buffer tube with considerable force. Control the movement of the buffer and buffer spring (FIGURE 62).

- (FIGURE 63) shows the buffer and buffer spring removed from the firearm.



FIGURE 62



Buffer and buffer spring removed
from firearm for cleaning

FIGURE 63

WARNING: NEVER DISASSEMBLE YOUR FIREARM BEYOND THE FIELD STRIPPING PROCESS OUTLINED IN THIS MANUAL. NEVER MANIPULATE ANY INTERNAL COMPONENTS BEYOND WHAT YOU ARE SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED TO DO IN THIS MANUAL SINCE THIS MAY AFFECT THE RELIABILITY, FUNCTIONING AND SAFETY OF YOUR FIREARM.

INTERCHANGEABLE PALMSWELL GRIP INSERTS (if so-equipped)

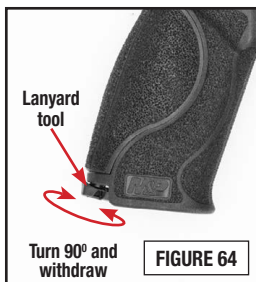


WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF THE FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.



WARNING: MAKE SURE THAT THE FIREARM IS UNLOADED BEFORE CHANGING THE INTERCHANGEABLE PALMSWELL GRIP INSERTS.

- The Smith & Wesson® RESPONSE™ comes from the factory with the Medium interchangeable palmswell grip insert installed. If this does not fit your hand comfortably, you can install one of the (3) other sizes that come with the firearm (Small, Medium-Large or Large).



- Remove the lanyard tool (FIGURE 64) from the bottom of the grip by rotating it $\frac{1}{4}$ turn (either direction) and pulling it down and out of the frame (FIGURE 65).



- Take the current interchangeable palmswell grip insert off the Smith & Wesson RESPONSE™ (FIGURE 66).



- Replace the interchangeable palmswell insert with the one you prefer. To install, insert the tab at the top into the slot in the grip frame (FIGURE 67) before tipping the insert against the grip frame.



- Reinsert the lanyard tool into the grip once the interchangeable palmswell insert is in position.

INTERCHANGEABLE PALMSWELL GRIP INSERTS - CONT'D

NOTE: The Smith & Wesson® RESPONSE™ comes with four interchangeable palmswell grip inserts: Small (S), Medium (M), Medium-Large (ML), and Large (L) sizes. The size of each is marked on the interchangeable palmswell grip inserts (FIGURES 68a and 68b).



CAUTION: Some solvents may cause damage to the interchangeable palmswell insert material. See the “*Cleaning and Maintenance*” section of this manual (page 47) for more information.

FLEXMAG™ MAGAZINE WELL ADAPTER



WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF THE FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.



WARNING: ENSURE THAT THE S&W® RESPONSE™ IS UNLOADED BEFORE STARTING TO CHANGE THE MAGAZINE WELL ADAPTER.

NOTE: The Smith & Wesson® RESPONSE™ can adapt to accept magazines from other firearms through the use of interchangeable Flexmag™ magazine well adapter kits (magazines from other firearms sold separately).

NOTE: Check our website for available magazine well adapter kit options at www.smith-wesson.com

- The S&W® RESPONSE™ is shipped from the factory with the M&P®9 double-stack pistol magazine well adapter in place (FIGURE 69) and a M&P®9 double-stack pistol magazine.
- The parts related to the S&W® RESPONSE™ Flexmag™ interchangeable magazine well adapter system are identified in (FIGURE 70).



FIGURE 69

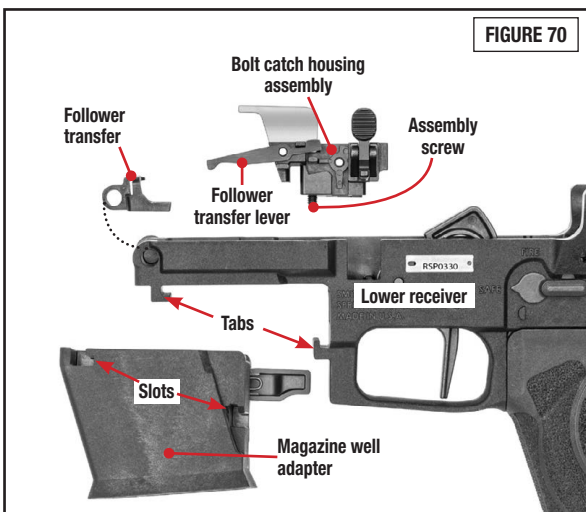


FIGURE 70

FLEXMAG™ MAGAZINE WELL ADAPTER - CONTINUED

- Each of the magazine well adapters is identified by a character on the right external surface (FIGURE 71).

Right side of magazine well adapter - with identifying marking.

The magazine well adapter capable of accepting M&P® 9mm double-stack magazines is in place in the firearm as shipped from the factory.



FIGURE 71

- The last-round hold open system requires a follower transfer component that is specific to the magazine type used. Each follower transfer is identified with a letter indicating the magazine type it should be used with (FIGURE 72).

Follower transfer types are marked



Match with the letter of the magazine well adapter being used.

FIGURE 72

- Start the process of changing the magazine well adapter by separating the upper and lower receivers as detailed earlier in the “Disassembly/Field Stripping” section of this manual (page 28) to gain access (FIGURE 73).

Location of assembly screw

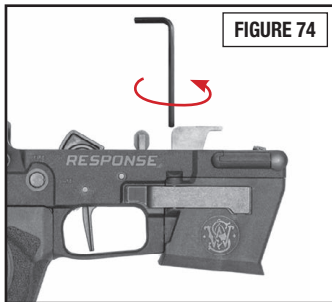
Push takedown pin and pivot pin out and separate the upper and lower receivers

FIGURE 73

FLEXMAG™ MAGAZINE WELL ADAPTER - CONTINUED

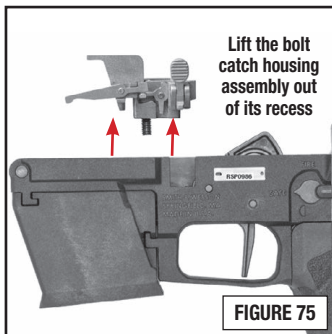
- Using a 9/64" Allen wrench, loosen the assembly screw in the bolt catch housing assembly (FIGURE 74).

NOTE: The assembly screw is captive and does not come completely out of the bolt catch housing assembly.

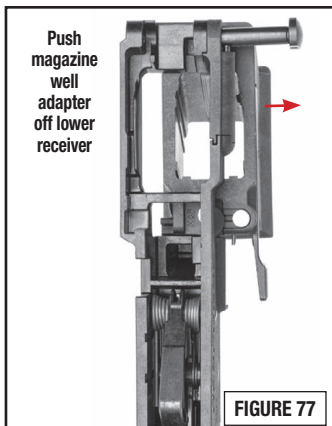
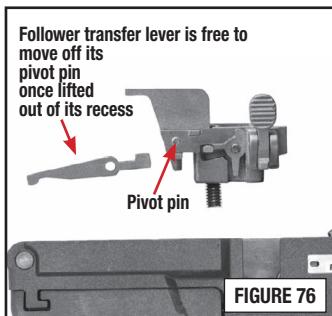


- Lift the bolt catch housing assembly out of its lower receiver recess (FIGURE 75).

NOTE: The follower transfer lever on the assembly is free to fall off its pivot pin once it is lifted out of its recess. Be careful to avoid losing this part when the assembly comes out of its recess (FIGURE 76).

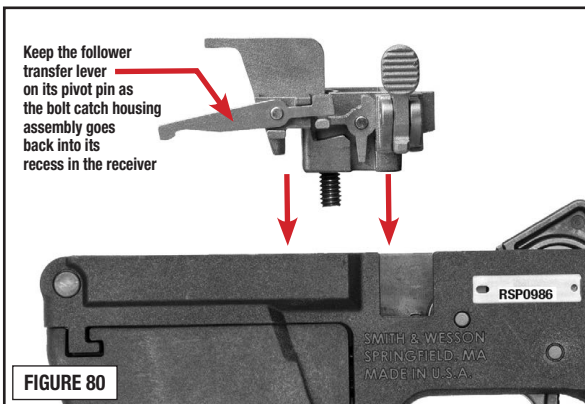
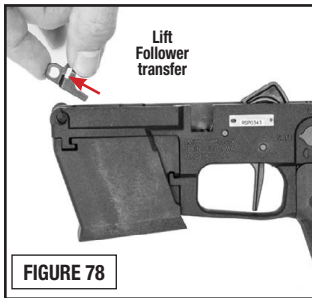


- Slide/push the magazine well adapter off the tabs of the lower receiver. Push from left to right as shown (FIGURE 77).

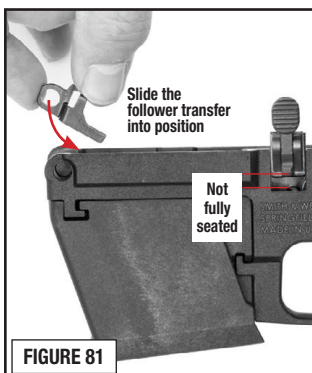


FLEXMAG™ MAGAZINE WELL ADAPTER - CONTINUED

- Grasp the follower transfer and lift it out of its recess (FIGURE 78).
- Choose the adapter you wish to install, align the slots with the receiver tabs and press it into position (FIGURE 79) until it is aligned with the sides of the receiver.
- Press the bolt catch housing assembly partially back into its recess, taking care to include the follower transfer lever in its correct position (FIGURE 80). Do not seat the assembly all the way at this point.

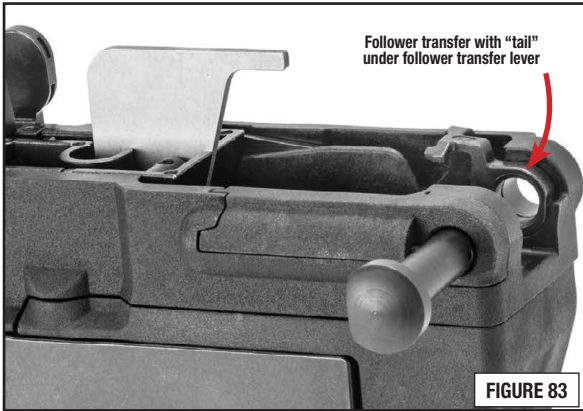
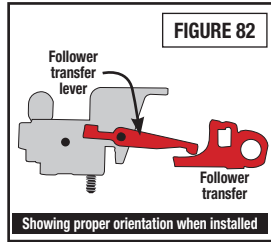


- Slide the follower transfer that matches the letter of the magazine well adapter that you have installed, into its recess at the front of the receiver (FIGURE 81).

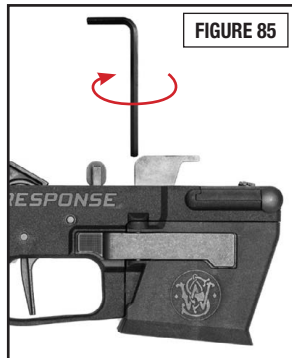
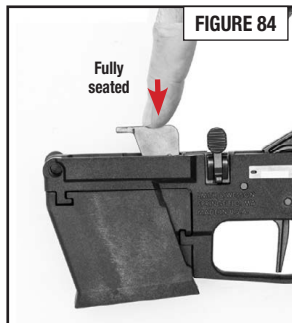


FLEXMAG™ MAGAZINE WELL ADAPTER - CONTINUED

NOTE: The “tail” of the follower transfer goes under the follower transfer lever when installed correctly. It is generally easier to slide it under before the bolt catch housing is fully seated in the receiver recess (FIGURES 82 and 83).

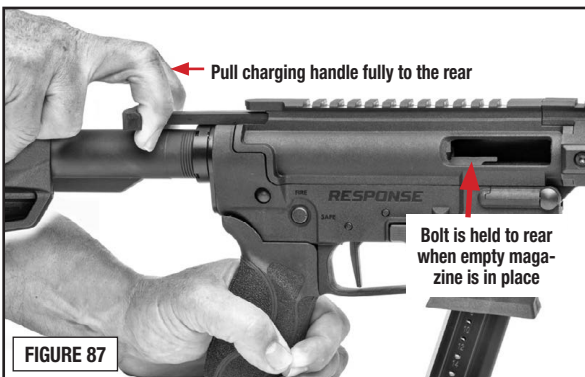


- Press the bolt catch housing assembly down fully into its recess (FIGURE 84).
- Using the 9/64” Allen wrench, tighten the assembly screw until snug (FIGURE 85).
- Reassemble the upper receiver onto the lower receiver by aligning the pivot pin and takedown pin and pressing them both into position. See the “S&W® RESPONSE™ Assembly” section of this manual for more details (page 41).



FLEXMAG™ MAGAZINE WELL ADAPTER - CONTINUED

- Insert the unloaded magazine that matches the magazine well adapter that you have installed and check for proper function of the magazine release (FIGURE 86).
- Pull the charging handle fully to the rear to check that the last-round bolt hold-open is functioning properly (FIGURE 87).



S&W® RESPONSE™ ASSEMBLY



WARNING: WEAR SAFETY GLASSES EVERY TIME YOU DISASSEMBLE OR ASSEMBLE YOUR FIREARM.



WARNING: ALWAYS FOLLOW THE FIELD STRIPPING INSTRUCTIONS EXACTLY. NEVER DO ANYTHING BEYOND WHAT YOU ARE SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED TO DO IN THIS MANUAL. NEVER ALTER OR MODIFY THE PARTS IN YOUR FIREARM.

Buffer and buffer spring assembly

- Grasp the buffer, insert it into the end of the buffer spring (FIGURE 88).
- Compress the buffer/buffer spring into the buffer tube (FIGURE 89) against spring pressure.
- Once pressed in past the retainer, the buffer is captured by the retainer (FIGURE 90).
- Release tension on the buffer and proceed to the next step in assembling (continued on page 42).



FIGURE 88

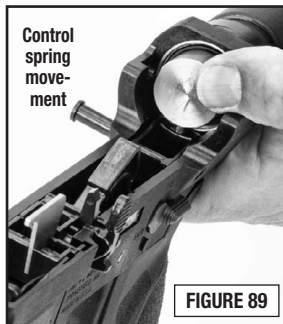


FIGURE 89

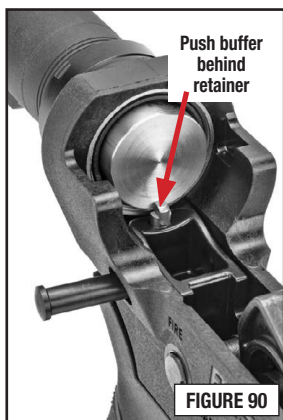
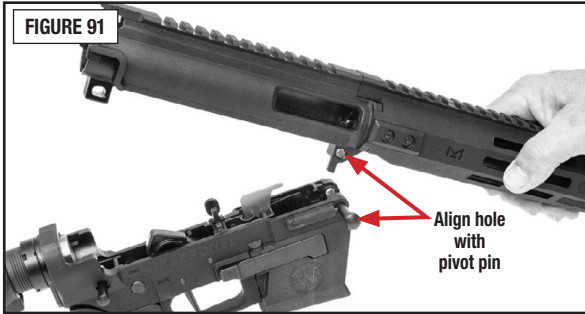


FIGURE 90

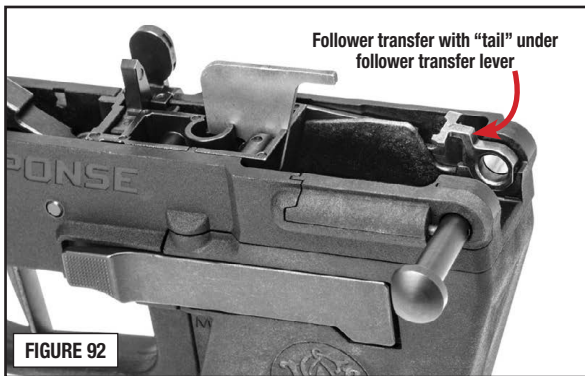
S&W® RESPONSE™ ASSEMBLY - CONTINUED

Reassembly of Upper and Lower Receivers

- Grasp the upper and lower receivers and align the front pivot pin hole with the pivot pin (FIGURE 91).



CAUTION: Keep the follower transfer in line with the pivot pin hole when bringing upper receiver into position (FIGURE 92).



- Press the pivot pin into place once the holes in the upper and lower receivers are aligned (FIGURE 93).

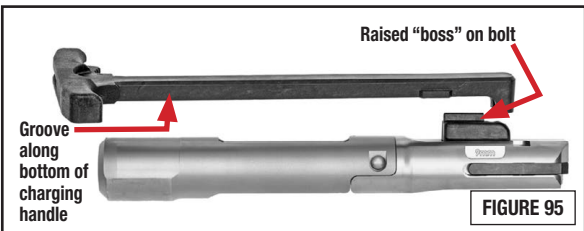


S&W® RESPONSE™ ASSEMBLY - CONTINUED

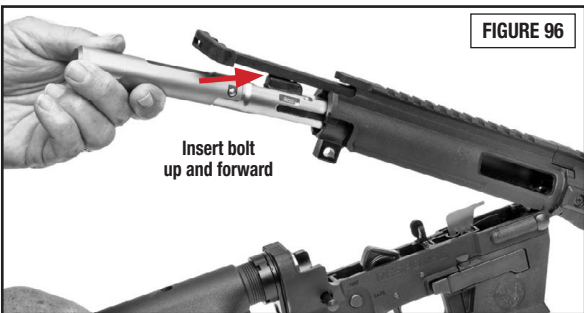
- Insert the charging handle (about half its length) into the upper receiver “track” (FIGURE 94).



- (FIGURE 95) Identifies the bolt “boss” that goes into the charging handle groove (along its bottom side) when it is in the receiver.



- Insert the bolt into the upper receiver, engaging the raised “boss” into the charging handle groove (FIGURE 96).



- Push the bolt and charging handle fully into the upper receiver, engaging the latch on the charging handle to hold it in place (FIGURE 97).

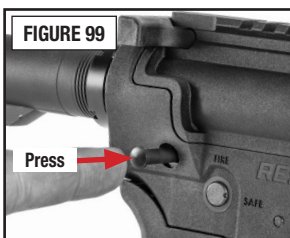


S&W® RESPONSE™ ASSEMBLY - CONTINUED

- Pivot the upper receiver down onto the lower receiver (FIGURE 98) and align the holes for the takedown pin.



- Push the takedown pin into the hole once the receivers are aligned (FIGURES 99 and 100).



- Insert an empty magazine into the S&W® RESPONSE™ (FIGURE 101).
- Grasp the charging handle and draw it fully rearward (FIGURE 102). The bolt will remain open.

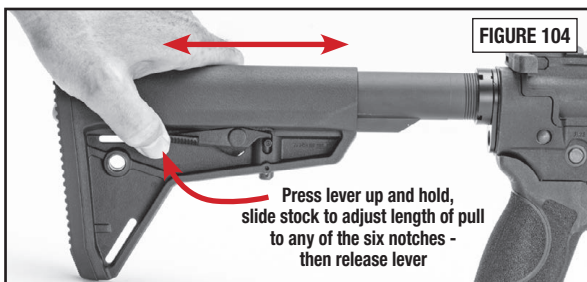


- Return the charging handle fully forward (FIGURE 103).



ADJUSTABLE STOCK (if so-equipped)

- To change the length of pull with the adjustable stock, depress the lever (FIGURE 104) and move the stock to any of six notches. Release the lever and move the stock slightly until it “clicks” into the new position.



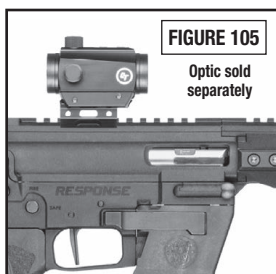
INSTALLATION OF SIGHTS/OPTICS

WARNING: ENSURE THAT THE FIREARM IS UNLOADED BEFORE INSTALLING A SIGHT, A SCOPE, OR ANY OTHER ACCESSORIES. FAILURE TO DO THIS CAN RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU OR OTHERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

WARNING: FIRING A FIREARM WITH YOUR EYE TOO CLOSE TO THE EYE PIECE OF A SCOPE OR OPTICAL SIGHT, OR FAILING TO HOLD THE FIREARM SECURELY AGAINST RECOIL, MAY RESULT IN PERSONAL INJURY INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, BLINDNESS.

WARNING: A SIGHT OR SCOPE WHICH IS NOT SECURELY MOUNTED MAY BECOME DETACHED UPON RECOIL OF THE FIREARM. IF IT BECOMES DETACHED IT MAY FLY BACK AND STRIKE THE SHOOTER OR A BYSTANDER AND CAUSE INJURY. OBSERVE THE CONDITION OF ALL THE SCOPE MOUNT SCREWS AFTER FIRING. IF THE MOUNTING SCREWS SHOW SIGNS OF LOOSENING DO NOT FIRE THE GUN AGAIN; CALL THE CUSTOMER SERVICE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE AT 1-800-331-0852 EXT 4125.

- We recommend that you have a competent gunsmith install your scope and mount.
- Scopes and optical sights have varying lengths of recommended eye relief. You need to choose a combination that allows for adequate clearance between the scope and your eye. Follow the instructions supplied with the scope and mounts for proper installation (FIGURE 105).



MAGAZINES



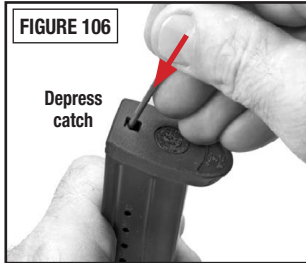
WARNING: WEAR SAFETY GLASSES EVERY TIME YOU DISASSEMBLE OR ASSEMBLE YOUR MAGAZINE.



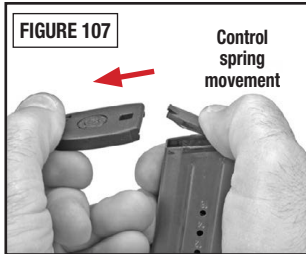
WARNING: THE MAGAZINE SPRING IS UNDER PRESSURE. CONTROL THE SPRING AND FOLLOWER SO THAT THEY DO NOT FLY OUT AND CAUSE INJURY.

Smith & Wesson® double-stack magazine disassembly

- Use a small tool (like a punch or drift) to depress floor plate catch through the hole in the floor plate (FIGURE 106).

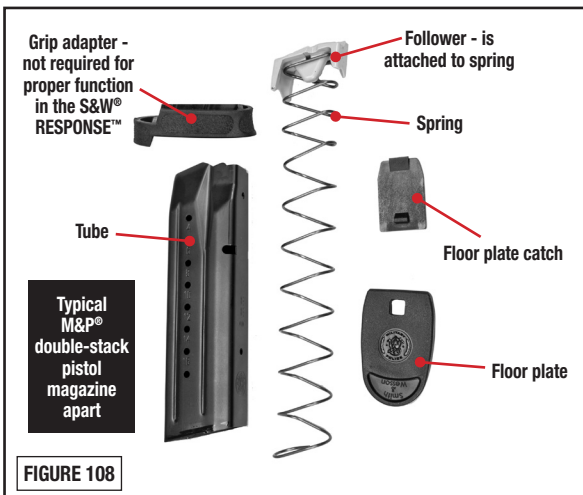


- While holding floor plate catch down against spring pressure (FIGURE 107), slowly slide the floor plate forward off of the tube, being careful to control the spring movement.



- Remove the floor plate catch, the spring and the attached follower out through bottom of the magazine tube.

- (FIGURE 108) shows the parts of a typical Smith & Wesson® double-stack pistol magazine when disassembled for cleaning.



MAGAZINES - CONTINUED

Smith & Wesson® double-stack magazine assembly

- Install magazine spring (with follower attached) and floor plate catch back into the tube in the same orientation as they were in when they were first removed during disassembly.
- Holding floor plate catch in the tube against spring pressure, slide the floor plate onto the tube's base so that the projection of the floor plate catch engages the floor plate. Verify that the floor plate is locked in place by exerting some pressure on the floor plate - as if trying to slide it off the tube.
- When using magazines from other firearm brands with the S&W® RESPONSE™, refer to that manufacturer's owner's manual for their magazine disassembly and maintenance instructions.

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE



WARNING: ENSURE THAT YOUR FIREARM IS UNLOADED BEFORE BEGINNING TO CLEAN IT. SEE THE "INSPECTING THE S&W® RESPONSE™" SECTION ON PAGE 14. ALWAYS FOLLOW THE RULES OF SAFE FIREARM HANDLING.



WARNING: WEAR SAFETY GLASSES EVERY TIME YOU ASSEMBLE OR DISASSEMBLE YOUR FIREARM AND ATTEMPT CLEANING OR MAINTENANCE.

- Before using your firearm for the first time, it should be cleaned.
- Your firearm was treated at the factory with either a preservative or oil to protect it against corrosion during shipping and storage.
- Preservative and oil should be wiped from the bore, chamber and exposed areas using a clean swab or patch before using the firearm.


CAUTION: Never disassemble your firearm beyond the instructions in the "*Inspecting The S&W RESPONSE*" section (page 14) and the "*Disassembly/Field Stripping*" section (page 28) of this manual.


- Purchase cleaning supplies from your firearms dealer that are specifically designated for your type and caliber of firearm. Many suppliers offer these in kit form for your convenience.
- Follow the instructions provided with your cleaning supplies.


CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE - CONTINUED

NOTE: A basic firearm cleaning kit should include: a brass bore brush and a cleaning jag of appropriate size for the bore being cleaned, high-quality gun cleaning solvent and gun oil/lubricant, cotton cleaning patches and a cleaning rod that is long enough to push the brush and jag completely through the barrel.

- Remove excessive firing residue from the bore and chamber using a properly fitted brass brush dipped in gun cleaning solvent. Finish the bore cleaning process by running a dry cotton cloth patch through the bore and chamber to remove residue and solvent.
- Clean the exterior of the firearm using a non-abrasive cleaning cloth.
- After cleaning, lightly coat the metal parts, internal and external with a high quality firearm oil.
- Whenever your firearm has been exposed to sand, dust, extreme humidity, water or other adverse conditions, it must be cleaned and lubricated.

 **WARNING: ALWAYS HAVE ADEQUATE VENTILATION. CLEANING FIREARMS IN POORLY VENTILATED AREAS, DISCHARGING FIREARMS, OR HANDLING AMMUNITION MAY RESULT IN EXPOSURE TO LEAD AND OTHER SUBSTANCES KNOWN TO CAUSE BIRTH DEFECTS, REPRODUCTIVE HARM AND OTHER PHYSICAL INJURY. WASH HANDS THOROUGHLY AFTER EXPOSURE.**

 **WARNING: NEVER MANIPULATE, ADJUST OR CHANGE ANY OF THE INTERNAL COMPONENTS OF YOUR FIREARM UNLESS SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED TO DO SO IN THIS MANUAL. IMPROPER MANIPULATION OF ANY INTERNAL COMPONENT MAY AFFECT THE SAFETY AND RELIABILITY OF YOUR FIREARM AND MAY CAUSE INJURY OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER AND/OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.**



 **WARNING: ANY MAINTENANCE, ADJUSTMENT OR SERVICE NOT SPECIFIED IN THIS MANUAL MAY AFFECT THE SAFETY AND RELIABILITY OF YOUR FIREARM AND MUST BE PERFORMED BY A QUALIFIED GUNSMITH USING GENUINE SMITH & WESSON® PARTS. IF YOU DO OTHERWISE, IMPROPER FUNCTIONING OF YOUR FIREARM MAY OCCUR, LEADING TO INJURY OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER AND/OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.**

CAUTION: Always follow the instructions provided with your firearm cleaner and firearm lubricant.



CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE - CONTINUED

CAUTION: Some cleaners can cause damage to your firearm. You should avoid prolonged solvent immersion and prolonged ultrasonic cleaning of your firearm. Choice of solvent should be restricted to those products specifically developed for firearms maintenance. Damage to a firearm's finish may occur if these cautions are ignored. Ammoniated solvents or other strong alkaline solvents should not be used on any Smith & Wesson® firearm. Cleaning is essential to ensure the proper functioning of your firearm.

- Your firearm is a precision instrument. To ensure reliable function it is necessary to follow a routine maintenance procedure. After firing your firearm, be sure to unload it following the procedure outlined in the section entitled “*Unloading The S&W® RESPONSE™*” (page 26) before performing any cleaning or maintenance procedure.
 - Remove any firearm cleaning solution, oil and fingerprints from the outside surfaces of the firearm. Finger moisture, if left, could start a corrosion process.
 - If your firearm will be used in a cold climate, be sure to use an oil of an appropriate weight so that it will not congeal in cold temperatures, causing the interaction of important parts to be slowed or halted.
 - Every time you clean your firearm, check it for signs of wear. If excessive wear is noted, do not use the firearm. Return it to Smith & Wesson® for service or have it checked by a qualified gunsmith.
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MAINTENANCE BEFORE STORAGE

- When storing, do not encase your firearm in anything that will attract or hold moisture, for example, leather or heavy cloth. Also, do not store firearms with a plug inserted in the barrel, for this can be a contributing factor to moisture accumulation. If your firearm is to be stored for an extended period, the bore, chamber and internal surfaces should be oiled with a high quality lubricating oil or preservative intended for firearms.
- The metal parts of the firearm; bolt and barrel should be lightly coated with an anti-rust oil. Before using your firearm again, be sure to clean it.




LIMITED WARRANTY

For Owners Within The United States


This warranty is granted by Smith & Wesson® Brands Inc. This warranty is effective from the date of purchase and applies to the original owner of any firearm. With respect to such firearms, this warranty supersedes any and all other warranties.

Smith & Wesson® firearms are warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship. Any such defects of which Smith & Wesson® receives written notice within one year from the date of purchase by the original owner, will be remedied by Smith & Wesson® without charge within a reasonable time after such notification and delivery of the firearm as provided below.

In the event of an emergency (repairs needed by law enforcement, an upcoming match or hunting trip), call 1-800-331-0852, ext. 4125 and ask for 911 Priority Repair Service. This allows you to speak with a Smith & Wesson® representative. Immediately upon receipt, your firearm will be assigned to a gunsmith. After the work is completed, we will return your Smith & Wesson® firearm via overnight delivery.



Warranty claims (in writing) and the firearm concerned should be delivered to Smith & Wesson's Customer Service Department, 2100 Roosevelt Avenue, Springfield, Massachusetts 01104. In addition, a copy of the bill of sale in the owner's name, or a copy of ATF Form 4473 indicating date of purchase must be included. It is important that the owner comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations in the shipment of firearms to Smith & Wesson®.



NOTE: See the “*Contact and Shipping*” section of this manual for further details regarding returns.

Warranty claims should state the model and serial number of the firearm concerned and the description of the difficulty experienced. It is recommended that shipments be insured by the owner, since Smith & Wesson® will accept no responsibility for loss or damage in transit. Transportation and insurance charges for return to owner will be paid by Smith & Wesson® if the claim is covered by the warranty.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL SMITH & WESSON® BE RESPONSIBLE FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES WITH RESPECT TO ECONOMIC LOSS, INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE, WHETHER AS A RESULT OF BREACH OF THIS WARRANTY, NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.





LIMITED WARRANTY - CONTINUED

Smith & Wesson® will not be responsible for:

- Defects or malfunctions resulting from careless handling, unauthorized adjustments or modifications made or attempted by anyone other than a qualified gunsmith following Smith & Wesson® authorized procedures, or failure to follow the disassembly instructions in the Smith & Wesson® Safety and Instruction Manual.
- Use of defective or improper ammunition, corrosion, neglect, abuse, ordinary wear and tear, or unreasonable use.
- Criminal misuse, negligence or use under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Smith & Wesson's Lifetime Service Policy begins after the warranty period has expired. Smith & Wesson® will repair, without charge, for the lifetime of the original owner, any Smith & Wesson® RESPONSE™, and any M&P® series carbine, that is found to have a defect in material or workmanship. Eligibility for this Lifetime Service Policy requires returning the Product Registration Card within 30 days of purchase. The Lifetime Service Policy covers functional defects; it does not include the firearm's finish, grips, magazines or sights. The Lifetime Service Policy is in addition to and not an extension of the Smith & Wesson® Warranty. This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights that vary from state to state.



NOTE: All liability is excluded in the event that the instructions in this Smith & Wesson® Safety and Instruction Manual are not observed.

CONTACT & SHIPPING INFORMATION

For Owners Within The United States

NOTE: A Return Merchandise Authorization (RMA) is the first step in the process of returning a product in order to receive a repair, replacement or refund. Please contact Smith & Wesson's Customer Service Dept. (via e-mail: qa@smith-wesson.com or by phone at 1-800-331-0852 ext. 4125) to obtain authorization to return your firearm so we can process it quickly and efficiently. The RMA number that is supplied by Smith & Wesson® must be displayed on the outside of the returned product's packaging; returns without an RMA number will be routed differently which will result in delayed processing.

The issuance of an Return Merchandise Authorization (RMA) allows Smith & Wesson® an opportunity to try to diagnose and correct a customer's concerns with the product (such as ammunition problems) before it is returned. Accordingly, please contact us before returning your Smith & Wesson® firearm.

CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE

Tel: 1-800-331-0852 • 1-413-781-8300 ext. 4125

E-mail: qa@smith-wesson.com

RETURNS - FOR SERVICE


ALL SMITH & WESSON FIREARMS

**Smith & Wesson
2100 Roosevelt Avenue
Springfield, MA 01104**

- Should your Smith & Wesson® firearm require service, it should be returned to the Smith & Wesson® factory.
- Call or e-mail the Customer Service Dept. for authorization and shipping instructions.
- Ensure that the firearm is unloaded.
- Do not attempt to ship a firearm via US Postal Service; only federally licensed dealers may ship a firearm by US Postal Service.
- **DO NOT SHIP ANY AMMUNITION.**
- Enclose a letter which includes your full name and address (no P.O. Boxes, please), daytime telephone number, e-mail address, the serial number of the firearm, and details of the problem experienced (stating the brand and type of ammunition used when the problem occurred) or work desired.

CONTACT & SHIPPING INFORMATION - CONTINUED

- Record the serial number before shipping, in case you wish to check on the repair status of your firearm.
- Please remove all custom parts and accessories, such as stocks, special sights and scopes, or slings from your firearm before returning.
- Place the firearm in its original case or in a similarly secure container and pack it securely.
- The package must NOT bear any markings which indicate the identity of the contents.
- It is most important that you comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. The following guidelines are meant to help, but you must seek assistance from the appropriate authorities if necessary.
- If your firearm must be replaced, it may be necessary to ship the replacement to a dealer rather than directly to you. You will be requested to furnish a signed FFL (Federal Firearms License) from your dealer in such an instance.
- Warranty repair work will begin upon receipt and examination of the firearm. In the case of repairs or work not covered by the warranty, a quotation covering the cost of the work plus round-trip transportation charges will be sent to you. Repairs or modification will be scheduled upon receipt of payment.
- A parts list can be obtained by contacting Smith & Wesson®.

 **WARNING: YOU MAY PURCHASE ACCESSORIES FOR YOUR SMITH & WESSON® FIREARM. YOU MUST HAVE SOME OF THESE PARTS INSTALLED BY A GUNSMITH QUALIFIED TO PERFORM SERVICE ON SMITH & WESSON® FIREARMS. YOU MUST NEVER ATTEMPT TO MODIFY YOUR FIREARM OR INSTALL REPLACEMENT PARTS IN YOUR FIREARM. ALWAYS USE A QUALIFIED SMITH & WESSON® GUNSMITH EVEN IF THE REPAIR SEEMS SIMPLE.**



CUSTOM SERVICE

We understand that Smith & Wesson® gun owners may want to enhance their guns with custom gunsmithing, refinishing or accessories. Our gunsmiths offer specialized services and exclusive products to enhance your shooting experience.

Accessories for your Smith & Wesson® firearm are available from your local Smith & Wesson® Authorized Dealer, or directly from Smith & Wesson®.

Contact the Customer Service Department at 1-800-331-0852, extension 4125 for information about these services.

When ordering directly from the factory, please provide the following information:

- Model Number
- Dash Number
- Serial Number
- Approximate date of purchase
- Complete Return Address
- VISA/Discover/MasterCard Number & Expiration Date
- For Foreign Orders Only, Fax Number or E-mail Address

PATENT INFORMATION

- This product may be covered by one or more patents. Visit <https://www.smith-wesson.com/company/virtual-patent-marking> for virtual patent information.



BATTERY WARNINGS



WARNING: IF A BATTERY OPERATED ACCESSORY OR ATTACHMENT (I.E., LASER, OPTICAL SIGHT OR FLASHLIGHT, ETC.) IS SUPPLIED OR USED WITH THIS FIREARM, THE FOLLOWING WARNINGS AND INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE ADHERED TO.



WARNING: KEEP BATTERIES AWAY FROM CHILDREN. THERE IS A CHEMICAL BURN HAZARD ASSOCIATED WITH BATTERIES.



WARNING: IF A NEW OR USED LITHIUM BUTTON/COIN CELL BATTERY IS SWALLOWED OR ENTERS THE BODY, IT CAN CAUSE SEVERE INTERNAL BURNS AND CAN LEAD TO DEATH IN AS LITTLE AS 2 HOURS. ALWAYS COMPLETELY SECURE THE BATTERY COMPARTMENT. IF THE BATTERY COMPARTMENT DOES NOT CLOSE SECURELY, STOP USING THE PRODUCT, REMOVE THE BATTERIES, AND KEEP IT AWAY FROM CHILDREN. IF YOU THINK BATTERIES MIGHT HAVE BEEN SWALLOWED OR PLACED INSIDE ANY PART OF THE BODY, SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION.

- When used correctly, batteries provide a safe and dependable source of portable power. However, misuse or abuse may result in leakage, fire, or explosion.
- Batteries can explode or leak and cause burns if installed backwards, disassembled, charged, or exposed to water, fire or high temperature.
- Always take care to install your batteries correctly observing the “+” and “-” marks on the battery and the device.
- Always replace the whole set of batteries at one time, taking care not to mix old and new batteries, or batteries of different types.
- Store unused batteries in their original packaging and away from metal objects that may short-circuit them.
- Remove discharged batteries from equipment promptly to avoid possible damage from leakage.
- Never dispose of batteries in fire. Failure to observe this precaution may result in an explosion.
- The batteries are supplied in a charged state and are not designed for recharging. Recharging may cause leakage, fire, or explosion.
- The batteries should be disposed of properly, including keeping them away from children.
- Dispose of used batteries immediately. Even used batteries may cause injury.



Smith & Wesson[®]

EMPOWERING AMERICANS™



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56