



Chocolate Warfare

Pistol basics

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Introduction

The pistol is both a symbol of power and the weapon of the specialist. Compact and effective, it can be carried openly to project a deterrent presence, or concealed to remain discreet while staying ready to respond.

This document covers only the **basic instruction** with common semi-automatic pistols, typically service-type weapons. It is intended primarily for security forces and sport shooters.

We deliberately exclude older pistols, pocket pistols, and revolvers.

The components of this course are:

- **Safety and weapon handling**
- **Shooting fundamentals**
- **Shooting techniques**
- **Understanding the role of the pistol**

This manual serves as a starting point for building solid and safe skills.

Elements of basic training

Safety

4 Fundamental Firearms Safety Rules

Weapon ⇒ Loaded

Accidents often happen with guns that people thought were empty.

Muzzle ⇒ Aware

Because the firearm is loaded, my muzzle is always in a safe direction.

Finger ⇒ Off

Because I can be surprised, my finger stays off the trigger until I want to fire.

Target ⇒ Responsible

I am sure of my target, the environment around it, and the consequences of my shot.

On the person, the pistol is loaded and ready.

When I put my pistol down (for transport or storage), I unload it because I don't know who might pick it up or what they might do with it.

Manipulation

3 fundamental manipulations

- Press check
- Loading
- Unloading

Keep your firearm ready to fire

- Reload
- Reload with retention
- Immediate action
- Remedial action
- Maintenance

Shooting

Stances

They describe the shooter's body language.

The 5 Fundamental Principles of Shooting

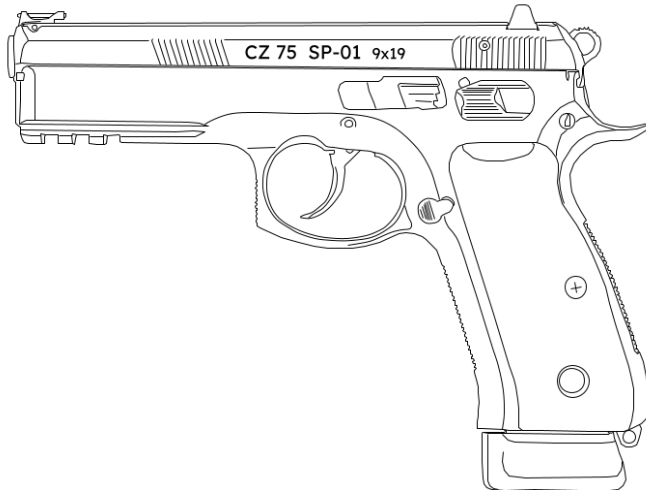
1. Grip
2. Stance
3. Aiming
4. Breathing
5. Trigger squeeze

7 Chronological steps of shooting

1. Positive ID
2. Elevation
3. Aiming
4. Finger-Trigger
5. Press
6. Analysis
7. Scanning

Types of pistol

There are generally three types of semi-automatic pistols.



Single Action

The hammer must be cocked for the pistol to fire.

The trigger pull weight is constant.

When holstered, the safety must be engaged (weapon on safe).

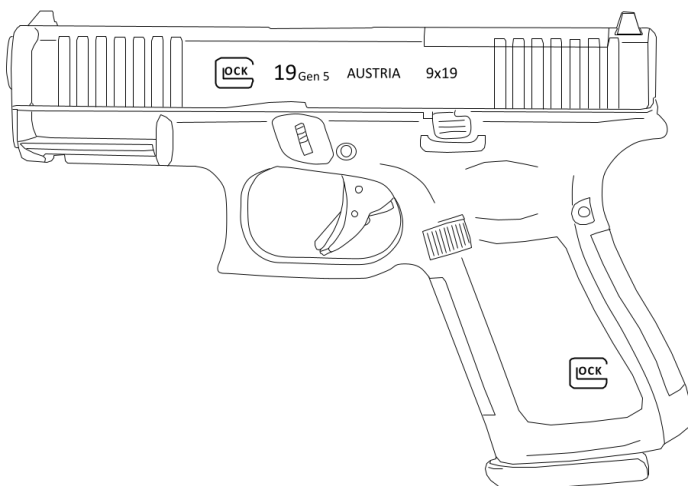


Single Action / Double Action (SA/DA)

The trigger can cock the hammer (double action). The pistol can fire with the hammer either down or cocked.

The trigger pull weight is different in double action (heavier) and in single action (lighter).

When holstered, the hammer must be decocked.



Striker-Fired

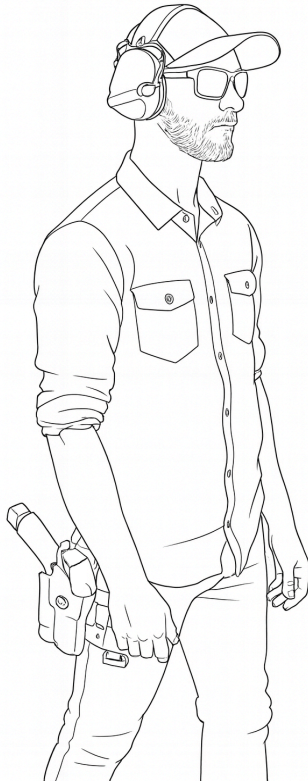
These pistols have no hammer. The striker is kept under spring tension.

The trigger pull weight is constant.

Generally, there is no manual safety.

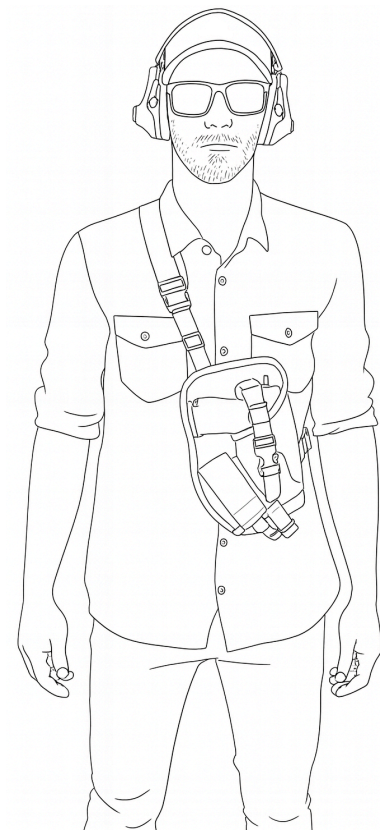
Open Carry

There are multiple ways to carry a pistol openly.
We recommend the two methods below.



Thigh Carry (High Thigh Holster)

- Allows the fastest possible draw of the pistol from the holster.
- Enables easy use of a ballistic vest.



Tanker

- Convenient for drawing in confined spaces such as a vehicle.
- Allows quick equipping with a pistol.

Concealed Carry



Concealment

Choose appropriate clothing (not-too-tight T-shirt, slightly loose shirt, light hoodie).

Be mindful of movements: bending over, raising your arms, sitting down, going to the restroom.

These are often the moments when the weapon becomes noticeable.

Comfort

If it feels uncomfortable, it will show.

Safety

The trigger must be covered by a rigid holster.

Access

Only one layer of clothing should cover the weapon.

Practice dry-fire drills regularly.

If it's too complicated or too slow, it's useless.

2 recommended methods



Three-quarter rear

Advantage: most comfortable and safest carry.

Disadvantage: more visible.



Appendix

Advantage: most discreet carry.

Disadvantage: less comfortable and reholstering is more dangerous.

Stances



Holster



Low weapon



Low ready



shooting



Low profile



Low profile

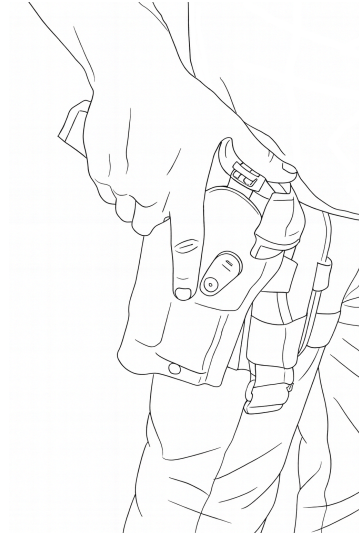
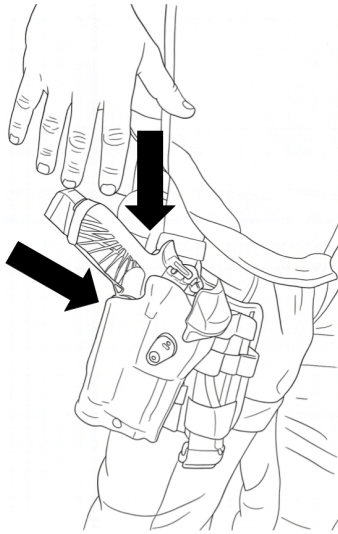


High ready



High ready

Draw



Holstering

Slowly, watch your holster if necessary.

You may probe the holster's opening with your thumb.



Important Note:

Most pistol accidents occur during reholstering.

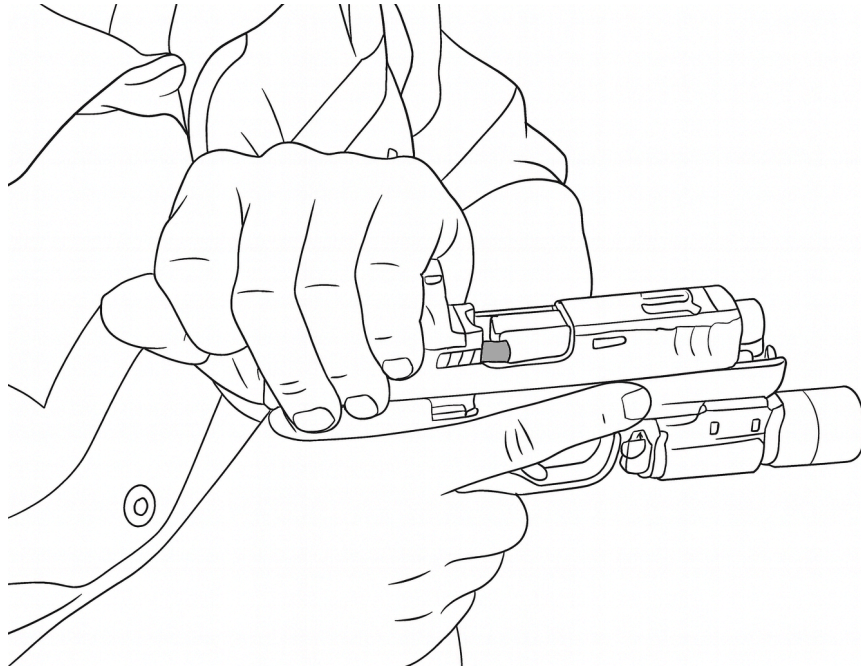
The causes are varied: a defective holster, an obstruction (clothing, cord, object) entering the trigger guard, or reholstering too quickly with the finger unintentionally still on the trigger.

Remember one simple rule: if you are reholstering, it means there is no longer an immediate threat. In other words, there is no rush. You can—and must—take the time to check visually and by touch that the holster is clear, that your finger is straight and outside the trigger guard, and that your movement is slow, controlled, and deliberate.

Reholstering quickly proves nothing—except that you are unnecessarily increasing your chances of a negligent discharge.

3 fundamental manipulations

1 Press check



Check if a round is present in the chamber.



Inspect the magazine.

2 Loading



Take a magazine with your index finger on the tip of the first cartridge.



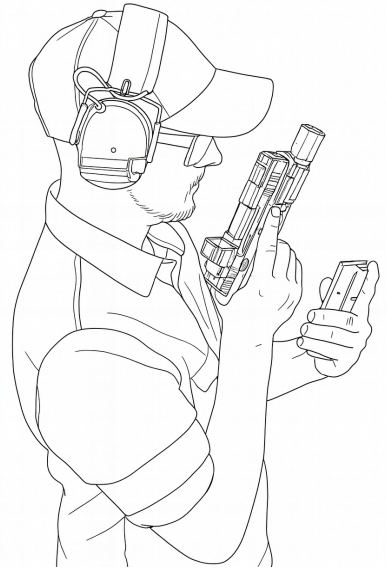
Insert the magazine firmly.
Check that it is locked in place by applying a counter-pull.



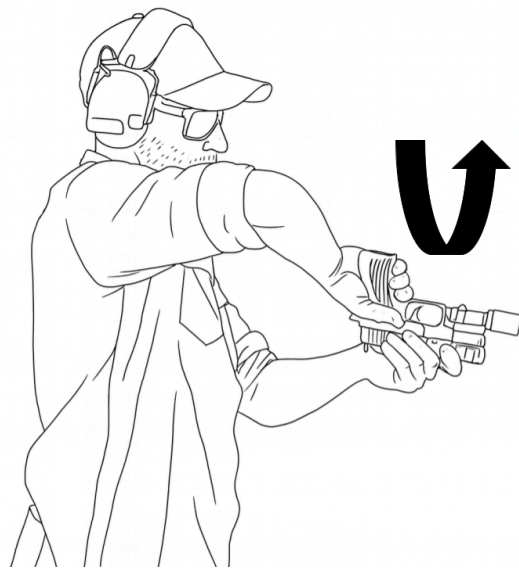
Cycle the slide.



3 Unloading



Remove the magazine.



Flip the pistol upside down.



Open the bolt and **let the round drop** into your hand.



Important note: Perform a press check after removing the cartridges to ensure that the chamber is empty and the magazine has been removed from the weapon.

Immediate action



The firearm fails to fire.

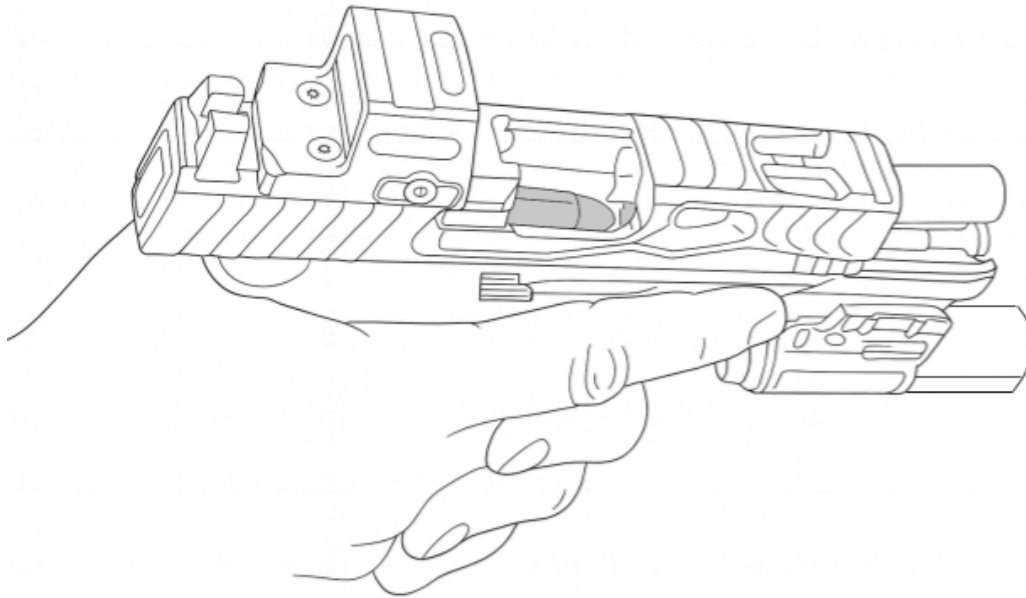


Ensure the magazine is fully seated.



Cycle the slide.

Remedial Action



Example of a double feed:
Two cartridges are blocking the chamber.



Rip out the magazine.
The magazine is probably the cause of the malfunction.
It's best to get rid of it.

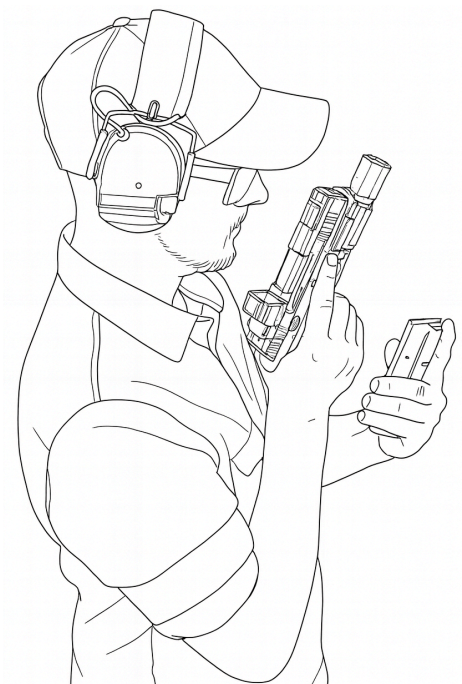
3 x RACK



Point the ejection port toward the ground.
Rack 3 times (fully releasing each time).



Fully release the slide with each movement.

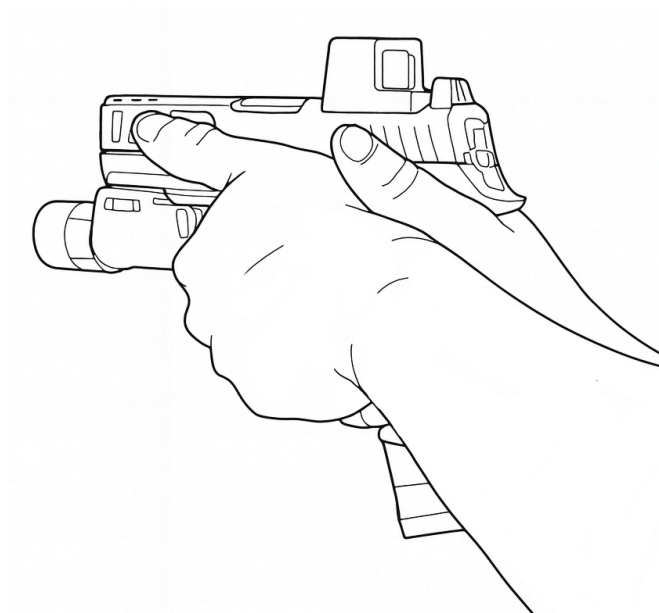
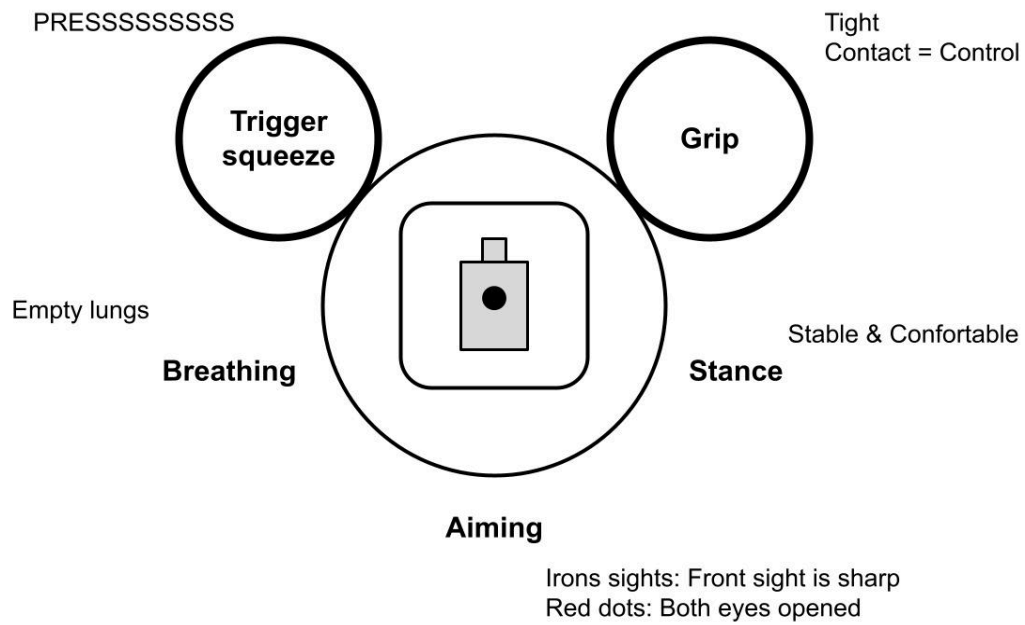


Insert a new magazine.



Load.

The 5 Fundamental Principles of Shooting



Example of a correct firearm grip.

7 Chronological steps of shooting

1. Positive ID	Friend or Foe? Rules of engagement
2. Elevation	Sights to the eyes Safety off
3. Aiming	Distance Speed Point of aim
4. Finger-Trigger	Prep the trigger
5. Shoot	P-R-E-S-S-S-S
6. Analysis	Have I succeeded? No? Send again
7. Scanning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Foes?- Friends?- Chief?- Status?

The 7 Skills to Train

Acronym: The 7D

Decide	Decide to engage with your firearm or with other means.
Discuss	Communicate with the opponent. De-escalate a situation.
Distance	Create distance from the opponent. Engage from afar.
Duck	Use cover or concealment.
Deploy	Fire while moving.
Defend	React to an opponent's attempt to seize your weapon.
Distribute	Fight multiple opponents at once.

Contribution

If you want to contribute or access the original document, please reach out to us at:

<https://chocolate-warfare.com>

info@chocolate-warfare.com