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**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**  
WEAPONS TRAINING BATTALION  
TRAINING COMMAND  
27211 GARAND ROAD  
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5036

## **LESSON PLAN**

PISTOL RELOADS

CPP.9

COMBAT PISTOL PROGRAM

CID XXXX

REVISED 10/1/2012

APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



INTRODUCTION

(3 MIN)

**(ON SLIDE #1)**

1. GAIN ATTENTION. To employ the pistol effectively, the Marine must be able to assume a stable firing position, apply the fundamentals, and engage a target utilizing a technique of fire. In addition, you must be able to keep the pistol in action by reloading the weapon as needed.
2. OVERVIEW. This lesson will cover reloading procedures to include a speed reload and tactical reload.
3. INTRODUCE LEARNING OBJECTIVES. The Terminal Learning Objective and Enabling Learning Objective pertaining to this lesson are as follows:
  - a. TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVE. Given a service pistol, (2) magazines, magazine pouch, ammunition, target, unit-issued holster, and personal protective equipment (PPE), without the aid of references, engage stationary threats with the service pistol to eliminate threats while achieving a qualifying score of 264 on the Combat Pistol Program (CPP) Firing Table One, Training Block Five in accordance with MCO 3574.2\_.
  - b. ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVE. Given a service pistol, (2) magazines, magazine pouch, ammunition, target, unit-issued holster, and personal protective equipment (PPE), without the aid of references, conduct a reload IAW MCRP 3-01B.
4. METHOD. This lesson will be taught in a classroom/outdoor setting using lecture, demonstration, and practical application.
5. EVALUATION. Performance of reloads will be evaluated during Pistol Firing Table One, Training Block Five, CPP.14.

TRANSITION: There are two types of reloads: Speed reload and a tactical reload. To keep the pistol in action, you must be knowledgeable of reloading procedures and be able to quickly and efficiently conduct a reload as needed.



BODY

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION:** (25 Min) Use the EDIP (Explain, Demonstrate, Imitate, Practice) method to conduct this demonstration and practical application. The practical application requires (1) pistol, (2) magazines, (1) holster, (1) belt, and magazine pouches per demonstrator; (1) target per shooter set up at 7, 15, and 25 yards.

Conduct the EDIP for speed reloads without manually locking the slide to the rear. Explain to students that in dry practice the slide will not automatically lock to the rear. The dry practice will focus on the magazine exchange procedures only.

**STUDENT ROLE:** The students will be in a good position to view the demonstration and will hold all questions until prompted at the end of the demonstration. The students will be spaced out to provide enough room to practice the skills.

**INSTRUCTOR ROLE:** Explain and demonstrate each step of a procedure and have students imitate that step before moving on to the next step. Once all of the steps are taught using EDIP, have students practice the entire procedure until they are performing it correctly. Emphasize the four safety rules throughout. The instructor must Unload, Show Clear and let at least one other individual inspect the weapon and all magazines before commencing the demonstration. Ensure shooters determine the condition of their weapon every time they holster.

1. **Safety Brief:** (From the ORAW) Brief the shooters on what to do if there is a mishap.
2. **Supervision and Guidance:** The instructor(s) will explain every step of the procedure/technique. The instructor(s) will demonstrate at half speed so all shooters can follow every step. The instructor will supervise performance and provide feedback.
3. **Debrief:** The instructor(s) will provide overall feedback, guidance on any misconceptions, and review the learning points.



**1. (10 MIN) SPEED RELOAD**

**(ON SLIDE #2)**

- a. Purpose. A speed reload is conducted when the pistol runs out of ammunition during engagement and the slide locks to the rear.
- b. Procedures. To perform a speed reload with the slide locked to the rear, perform the following steps:

**NOTE**

The weapon is not placed on safe during a speed reload; the trigger finger is taken out of the trigger guard and placed straight along the side of the receiver.

- 1) Seek cover, if the situation permits.

**(ON SLIDE #3)**

- 2) While retaining the firing grip with the right hand, pull the pistol in close in to the upper body to facilitate control. This is known as your 'workspace'. The position should facilitate simultaneous observation of both the pistol and the downrange area without having to move the head and eyes. Bring the magazine well to the right of eye level and cant the pistol so the magazine well is facing inboard at approximately a 45-degree angle to the deck.

**NOTE**

The primary objective during a speed reload is to get the pistol back in action as quickly as possible. Following engagement, retain the magazine before moving.

- 3) Unfasten the magazine pouch to withdraw a filled magazine. At the same time, press the magazine release button and let the empty magazine fall to the deck.
  - a) Grasp the magazine by curling the middle finger and thumb of the support hand around the base of the magazine, with the index finger straight along the magazine pouch.



b) As the magazine is being withdrawn from the pouch, the index finger should be along the front of the magazine. This is known as indexing the magazine. In this position, the finger can feel for proper seating of the first round.

c) Rotate the hand up so the magazine is aligned with the magazine well.

4) Insert the magazine into the magazine well. Seat the magazine with the heel of the support hand without relinquishing contact with the magazine.

5) Roll both hands inward to begin establishing a two-handed grip and release the slide to allow it to move forward and chamber a round, and present the weapon to the target. There are two methods to release the slide:

a) Press the slide stop with the firing thumb.

**NOTE**

A left-handed Marine will press the slide stop with the trigger finger.

b) Grasp the slide serrations behind the chamber and pull the slide to the rear and release it, taking care not to engage the safety.

6) Establish a two-handed grip and engage the target.

Confirm by questions.

TRANSITION: A speed reload is conducted when the pistol runs out of ammunition, leaving the slide locked to the rear. A Tactical reload is conducted to replace a partially filled magazine with a fully filled magazine. A Tactical reload is performed when there is a lull in the action or whenever deemed necessary.



## 2. (10 MIN) TACTICAL RELOAD

### (ON SLIDE #4)

a. Tactical Reload. In a tactical reload, a partially filled magazine is removed from the pistol and replaced with a fully filled magazine. A tactical reload is performed when there is a lull in the action or whenever deemed necessary by the Marine.

b. Procedures. To perform a tactical reload:

### (ON SLIDE #5)

- 1) While retaining the firing grip with the strong hand, pull the pistol in to your workspace to facilitate control.
- 2) Withdraw a filled magazine from the magazine pouch with the support hand. Index the magazine and bring the support hand up to your workspace.

#### NOTE

If a reload is required as observed after dropping the magazine to determine if rounds are present, stow the empty/partially filled magazine before withdrawing and inserting a filled magazine.

- 3) Raise the pistol and bring the magazine well to the right of eye level and cant the pistol so the magazine well is facing inboard at approximately a 45-degree angle to the deck.
- 4) At the same time, slide the index finger to the side of the magazine to grasp the magazine between the index and middle fingers.
- 5) Bring the support hand to a position to catch the magazine.

#### NOTE

The angle of the magazine well must facilitate the magazine falling freely from the well when the magazine release button is engaged.



- 6) Press the magazine release button with the strong-side thumb to eject the partially filled magazine from the magazine well and grasp it between the index finger and thumb of the support hand.
- 7) Insert the filled magazine into the magazine well and, using the heel of the hand, ensure it is fully seated.
- 8) Lower the pistol and point it in the direction of the likely threat.
- 9) If time permits, examine the partially filled magazine to determine the number of rounds remaining.

Confirm by questions.

TRANSITION: There are several considerations which should be kept in mind when conducting either a speed or a Tactical reload. Understanding and applying these basic considerations will aid you in safely and effectively reloading your weapon.

### **3. (5 MIN) CONSIDERATIONS FOR RELOADING**

#### **(ON SLIDE #6)**

- a. The first priority when performing a reload is to get the pistol reloaded and back into action.
- b. The second priority when performing a reload is to retain the magazine so when you move, your magazine moves with you.
  - 1) When time permits (i.e., Tactical reload), retain magazines securely on your person (e.g., magazine pouch, load-bearing equipment). It requires discipline to retain all equipment.
  - 2) The combat situation may dictate dropping the magazine to the deck when performing a reload (i.e., speed reload). When possible, pick it up and retain it before moving to another location.
- c. Take cover before reloading, if possible. Always reload before leaving cover to take advantage of the protection.



d. When reloading, your focus should be on reloading only. Do not focus on the enemy; focus for that instant second on the magazine change.

Confirm by questions.

TRANSITION: The combat environment will require the Marine to be constantly prepared to engage targets with little or no warning. To be effective in this environment, the Marine must be able to conduct a speed reload or Tactical reload as needed.

OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS:

(1 MIN)

1. Respond to questions from the class.
2. Prompt Marines with questions to the class.
  - a. QUESTION: What type of reload would you perform if your weapon runs out of ammunition during engagement and the slide locks to the rear?

ANSWER: A speed reload.

- b. QUESTION: What is the first priority when reloading the pistol?

ANSWER: The first priority when performing a reload is to get the pistol reloaded and back into action.

***INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE:*** Ask Marines as many questions as necessary to ensure they fully understand the material presented in this lesson.

SUMMARY:

(1 MIN)

This lesson covered reloading procedures for a speed reload and a tactical reload. A speed reload is conducted when the pistol runs out of ammunition, leaving the slide locked to the rear; a tactical reload is conducted to replace a partially filled magazine with a fully filled magazine. A tactical reload is performed when there is a lull in the action. Regardless of the type of reload being conducted, the first priority is to get the



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pistol reloaded and back into action as quickly as possible.