

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
WEAPONS TRAINING BATTALION
MARINE CORPS COMBAT DEVELOPMENT COMMAND
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5040

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE

WEAPONS HANDLING PROCEDURES WITH A SERVICE RIFLE

0300-M16-1001
0300-M16-1017 (REV.)

ANNUAL RIFLE TRAINING POI

APPROVAL _____

DATE _____

(SLIDE #1)

INTRODUCTION

(3 MIN)

1. **GAIN ATTENTION**: The service rifle is designed to kill the enemy. However, the rifle cannot differentiate between enemies and friends. That is the responsibility of the rifleman. You must, at all times, use it effectively against the enemy and safely among their fellow Marines. Knowledge of the rifle, its capabilities, and the procedures for its safe handling are essential skills for everyone. A Marine must handle the rifle instinctively. Mission accomplishment and survival in combat depend on it. Strict adherence to training and diligent practice will make weapons handling instinctive.

NOTES: _____

(SLIDE #2)

2. **OVERVIEW**: Good morning/afternoon my name is _____. This lesson will cover determining conditions, weapons commands and executing weapons commands. The purpose of this lesson is to provide you with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely handle your weapon in any situation.

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE:
HAVE SELECTED SHOOTERS READ ALOUD THE LEARNING OBJECTIVES FROM THEIR HANDOUTS.

(SLIDE #3)

3. **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

a. **TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVE:**

(1) Given a service rifle/Infantry Automatic Rifle (IAR), sling, magazines, cleaning gear, individual field equipment, and ammunition. Perform weapons handling procedures with a service rifle/Infantry Automatic Rifle (IAR) In accordance with the four safety rules. (0300-M16-1001)

(SLIDE #4)

b. **ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

(1) Given a service rifle, Common Weapon Sling, magazines, cleaning gear, individual field equipment, and ammunition, place the weapon in Condition 3 in accordance with MCRP 3-01A. (0300-M16-1001a)

(SLIDE #5)

(2) **Given a service rifle, Common Weapon Sling, magazines, cleaning gear, individual field equipment, and ammunition, place the weapon in Condition 1 in accordance with MCRP 3-01A. (0300-M16-1001b)**

(SLIDE #6)

(3) Given a service rifle, Common Weapon Sling, magazines, cleaning gear, individual field equipment, and ammunition, place the weapon in Condition 4 in accordance with MCRP 3-01A. (0300-M16-1001c)

(SLIDE #7)

4. **METHOD/MEDIA:** This period of instruction will be taught using the informal lecture method, aided by the PowerPoint, and my assistant instructor.

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE:

**ASSIGN SPECIFIC SHOOTERS TO FILL OUT INSTRUCTIONAL RATING FORMS (IRFS).
HAVE THEM SET ASIDE AND FILL THEM OUT AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE CLASS.**

5. **EVALUATION:** You will be evaluated during your Weapons Handling Performance Evaluation.

6. **SAFETY/CEASE TRAINING (CT) BRIEF:** There are no safety hazards identified with this lesson.

(SLIDE #8)

TRANSITION: Are there any questions about the learning objectives, the method of instruction, or how you will be evaluated? Knowing the condition of your weapon will allow you to properly manipulate it, as well as handle it safely.

NOTES: _____

BODY (55 MIN)

(SLIDE #9)

1. **Determining the Condition of the Service Rifle:** (18 MIN)

You must know the condition of your weapon at all times. Any time you take possession of a weapon, you must determine its condition:

a. Determine if a magazine is present.

(SLIDE #10)

b. Ensure the weapon is on safe.

(SLIDE #11 - 13)

c. Conduct a Chamber Check: A chamber check may be conducted at any time to determine if ammunition is present:

(1) Keeping the firing hand on the pistol grip, cant the weapon in order to observe the ejection port.

(2) With the non-firing hand grasp the charging handle.

(3) Pull back slightly on the charging handle, only enough to observe the interior of the chamber.

(4) Once the casing is observed, release the charging handle.

(5) With the non-firing hand, tap the forward assist.

TRANSITION: Now that we have just discussed determining the condition of a weapon, are there any questions? I have one for you.

QUESTION: What is the first step in determining the condition of a service rifle?

ANSWER: Determine if a magazine is present, then carry out follow on steps.

Let's now turn our attention to the different types of weapon commands.

NOTES: _____

(SLIDE #14)

2. **WEAPON COMMANDS:** **(18 MIN)**

Weapons commands dictate the specific steps to safely load and unload the service rifle.

a. **"Make a Condition 3 Weapon"** is the command used to take the weapon from Condition 4 to Condition 3.

b. **"Make a Condition 1 Weapon"** is the command used to take the weapon from Condition 3 to Condition 1.

c. **"Fire"** is the command used to specify when you may engage targets.

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(SLIDE #15)

d. **"Cease Fire"** is the command used to specify when you must cease target engagement.

e. **"Show Clear, Make a Condition 4 Weapon"** is the command used to require a second individual to inspect the weapon before the weapon is placed into Condition 4.

TRANSITION: Now that we have discussed how to determine the condition of your weapon and weapons commands, are there any questions? I have one for you.

QUESTION: How do you conduct a 'chamber check?'

ANSWER: Keeping the firing hand on the pistol grip, cant the weapon in order to observe the ejection port. With the non-firing hand grasp the charging handle. Pull back slightly on the charging handle, only enough to observe the interior of the

chamber. Once the casing is observed, release the charging handle. With the non-firing hand tap the forward assist.

Let's now talk about the procedures to execute those weapon commands.

NOTES: _____

(SLIDE #16)

3. **PROCEDURES TO EXECUTE THE WEAPONS COMMANDS:** (19 MIN)

Each command has its own procedures in order to ensure safe operations and handling.

a. **"Make a Condition 3 Weapon"**: On the command, perform the following steps to take the rifle from Condition 4 to Condition 3:

- (1) Ensure the rifle is on safe.
- (2) Withdraw a magazine from the magazine pouch.
- (3) Observe the magazine to ensure it is filled.
- (4) Fully insert the magazine into the magazine well, without releasing the magazine, tug downward on the magazine to ensure it is seated.
- (5) Fasten the magazine pouch.

(SLIDE #17)

b. **"Make a Condition 1 Weapon"**: On the command, perform the following steps to take the rifle from Condition 3 to Condition 1:

- (1) Pull the charging handle fully to the rear and release. There are two methods for chambering a round:
 - (a) Grip the pistol grip with the right hand and pull the charging handle with the left hand.

(b) Grip the rail cover/heat shields with the left hand and pull the charging handle with the right hand.

(SLIDE #18)

(2) To ensure ammunition has been chambered, conduct a chamber check.

(3) Close the ejection port cover (if time and the situation permit).

(4) Check the RCO (This check is to ensure the LaRue throw levers are secure and locked).

c. **"Fire"**: On the command "Fire," perform the following steps:

(1) Aim the rifle downrange, take the rifle off safe, and pull the trigger.

d. **"Cease Fire"**: On the command "Cease Fire," perform the following:

(1) Place your trigger finger straight along the receiver.

(2) Place the weapon on safe.

(SLIDE #19)

e. **"Show Clear, Make a Condition 4 Weapon"**: On the command perform the following steps to take the rifle from any condition to Condition 4:

(1) Ensure the rifle is on safe.

(2) Remove the magazine from the rifle and retain it on your person.

(3) Bring your left hand back against the magazine well so the slip ring rests in the "V" of the hand. While cupping the left hand under the ejection port, rotate the rifle so the ejection port is facing the deck.

(SLIDE #20)

(4) Pull the charging handle to the rear and let the round eject on the deck.

(5) Lock the bolt to the rear.

(6) Put the rifle on safe now if it would not go on safe earlier.

(7) Inspect the chamber to ensure it is empty and no ammunition is present.

(8) Have a second party inspect the rifle to ensure no ammunition is present.

(SLIDE #21)

(9) After receiving acknowledgement that the rifle is clear, release the bolt catch and observe the bolt going forward on an empty chamber.

(10) Close the ejection port cover.

(11) Return the ejected round to the magazine.

(12) Return the magazine to the magazine pouch and fasten the pouch.

TRANSITION: Now that we have covered the practical application, are there any questions: I have one for you.

QUESTIONS: What are the steps to take in response to the command 'Cease Fire?'

ANSWER: Ensure the rifle is on safe then place your trigger finger straight along the receiver.

NOTES: _____

Let's summarize.

(SLIDE #22)

SUMMARY

(2 MIN)

During this period of instruction, we have covered determining conditions, weapons commands and executing weapons commands. I do now feel fully confident that you can go down range and successfully place your weapon in a required condition as well execute the commands. Safe handling of any rifle is a responsibility that cannot be taken lightly. No matter what you are doing, standing guard, eating chow, drilling, or engaging the enemy, you must always be aware of your rifle conditions and always treat your weapon in accordance with the four weapon safety rules.

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE:

**HAVE THOSE SHOOTERS WITH INSTRUCTIONAL RATING FORMS (IRFS)
FILL THEM OUT AND TURN THEM IN AT THIS TIME.**