



DIV-29
1 May 07

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

DETAILED INSTRUCTOR GUIDE

LESSON TITLE

PISTOL RELOADING

COURSE TITLE

DIVISION MATCH COURSE



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
Weapons Training Battalion
Marine Corps Combat Development Command
Quantico, Virginia 22134-5040

DETAILED OUTLINE

PISTOL RELOADING

INTRODUCTION

(3 MIN)

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 Division Match instruction is structured to prepare the shooter to fire the Division Match Course and is not a component of a formal school program. Therefore, there are no learning objectives.
4. **METHOD.** This lesson will be taught in a classroom setting using lecture and demonstration.
5. **EVALUATION.** The Division Match instruction is structured to prepare the shooter to fire the Division Match Course and is not a component of a formal school program. Therefore, students are not evaluated on this material.

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

(20 MIN)

NOTE

The procedures in this lesson are written for right-handed Marines; left-handed Marines should reverse directions as needed.

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE: *Demonstrate the procedures in this lesson as they are explained. Substitutions of the language in this lesson plan for 'right' and 'left' hand may be made with 'strong' and 'support', respectively, or 'firing' and 'non-firing' as desired.*

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE: *Conduct a demonstration for the proper wearing of gear, emphasizing the importance of placement of the ammunition pocket to facilitate reloads.*

Begin with the weapon presented to the target and, closing the eyes, bring the left hand back naturally to a place on the cartridge belt that allows the pocket to be unfastened efficiently. Reposition the ammunition pocket to this place on the belt.

1. (5 MIN) SPEED RELOAD

(ON SLIDE #1)

- a. Speed Reload. 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.



2) While retaining the firing grip with the right hand, pull the pistol in close to the body to facilitate control. Bring the trigger guard 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) Press the magazine release button and let the empty magazine fall to the deck. At the same time, unfasten the ammunition pocket to withdraw a filled magazine:

a) Grasp the magazine by curling the middle finger and thumb of the left hand around the base of the magazine, with the index finger straight along the ammunition pocket.

b) As the magazine is being withdrawn from the pocket, the index finger should be along the front of the magazine. This is known as indexing the magazine.

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

4) With a quick glance at the magazine well, insert the magazine into the well.

5) While bringing the eyes back on target, seat the magazine with the heel of the left hand without relinquishing contact with the magazine.

6) Roll both hands inward to establish a two-handed grip and press the slide release with the left thumb to allow the slide to move forward and chamber a round, and present the weapon to the target.

NOTE

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



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 #2)

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 #3)

1) While retaining the firing grip with the right hand, pull the pistol in close to the body to facilitate control. Keep the weapon pointed in the direction of the likely threat.

(ON SLIDE #4)

2) Withdraw a filled magazine from the ammunition pocket with the left hand. Index the magazine and bring it up to the left of eye level.

(ON SLIDE #5)

3) Slide the index finger to the side of the magazine to grasp the magazine between the index and middle fingers.

4) Raise the pistol and bring the trigger guard 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 angle of the magazine well must facilitate the magazine falling freely from the well when the magazine release button is engaged.

(ON SLIDE #6)

5) Press the magazine release button with the right thumb to eject the partially filled magazine from the magazine well to grasp it between the index finger and thumb.

(ON SLIDE #7)

6) Insert the filled magazine into the magazine well and, using the heel of the hand, ensure it is fully seated.

(ON SLIDE #8)

7) Lower the pistol and point it in the direction of the likely threat.

8) If time permits, examine the partially filled magazine to determine the number of rounds remaining. Stow the partially filled magazine in the ammunition pocket for later use.

Confirm by questions.

TRANSITION: There are several considerations that should be kept in mind when conducting either a dry 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 #9)

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., ammunition pocket, flak jacket). 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.



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SUMMARY:

(1 MIN)

This lesson covered reloading procedures to include the speed reload and the 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 pistol reloaded and back into action as quickly as possible.



SLIDES

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