WOODMAN ARMS Patriot

G3 MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE

OWNERS MANUAL



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READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE WARNINGS
AND DIRECTIONS IN THIS MANUAL BEFORE
USING YOUR MUZZLELOADING RIFLE.

Woodman Arms Inc.

79 Beede Hill Rd Fremont NH, 03044

WWW.WOODMANARMS.COM

WARNING!

READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE WARNINGS
AND DIRECTIONS IN THIS MANUAL BEFORE
ATTEMPTING TO USE YOUR MUZZLELOADING RIFLE.

This safety manual must always accompany the firearm and be transferred with it upon change of ownership.

Available on-line to download and/or print at WWW.WOODMANARMS.COM

WARNING! DO NOT MODIFY YOUR FIREARM. THE ACTION IS NOT DESIGNED TO HANDLE RIFLE CARTRIDGES. SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH MAY RESULT.



KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

WARNING!

YOU MUST FOLLOW ALL OF THESE SAFETY RULES TO ENSURE THE SAFE USE OF YOUR FIREARM.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE WARNINGS IN THIS MANUAL COULD CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU OR OTHERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.



SAFETY IS YOUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY.

ANYWHERE YOU USE YOUR FIREARM, SAFETY SHOULD BE YOUR FIRST CONCERN. APPLY THE RULES IN THIS MANUAL AT ALL TIMES. IF YOU FEEL UNSURE ABOUT THE USE AND OPERATION OF YOUR FIREARM AT ANY TIME, PLEASE CONTACT WOODMAN ARMS BEFORE OPERATING YOUR FIREARM.



WARNING

This product can expose you to chemicals including lead which is known to the state of California to cause cancer.

for more info, go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov

SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

ALWAYS KEEP YOUR 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.

ALWAYS TREAT EVERY FIREARM AS IF IT IS LOADED AND WILL FIRE. Never take anyones word that the firearm is unloaded. Never pass a loaded firearm to another person. 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. Always be sure the safety is on unless you intend to fire. Never rely on the firearms safety alone.

NEVER JUMP OR CROSS OBSTACLES WITH A LOAD-ED FIREARM. Be certain the primer is removed before jumping a stream, crossing a fence or climbing a tree. Never pull your firearm up to a tree stand with a primer installed.

BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND WHAT IS BEYOND IT. Always be sure of where the bullet will strike. Be sure there is a safe backstop with no water or other surfaces that can cause ricochets. Bullets can bounce off many surfaces and travel in unpredictable directions. Do not randomly fire into the sky.

ALWAYS WEAR EYE PROTECTION DESIGNED FOR USE WITH YOUR FIREARM. Wear eye protection during cleaning and maintenance of your firearm.

NEVER USE ALCOHOL OR DRUGS BEFORE OR WHILE USING YOUR FIREARM. Do not use your firearm if you are on medications which impairs your mental or physical abilities.

SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

ALWAYS WEAR EAR PROTECTION THAT IS DESIGNED FOR USE WITH YOUR FIREARM WHEN DISCHARGING THE FIREARM. Be certain others in the vicinity use ear protection as well.

<u>USE YOUR FIREARM FOR APPROPRIATE AND LEGAL PURPOSES.</u> For example target shooting and hunting. It is your responsibility to obey all laws and ordinances regarding the use of your firearm.

SAFE FIREARM HANDLING IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AT ALL TIMES. Firearms are dangerous and can cause injury or death if misused. Safety must be top priority of anyone who owns or handles the firearm. Accidents are the result of violating the rules of safe firearm handling.

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FIREARM. You must secure the firearm safely from children and unauthorized users. Your firearm should always be kept unloaded and locked when not in use.

<u>ALWAYS HAVE ADEQUATE VENTILATION.</u> Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms, or handling ammunition may result in the exposure to lead and other substances known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm and other serious injury. Review the warning labels for all ammunition and cleaning products. Wash hands after exposure.

SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

ALWAYS USE THE CORRECT BULLET AND POWDER FOR YOUR FIREARM.

<u>BEWARE OF BARREL OBSTRUCTIONS.</u> Be sure the barrel is clear of obstructions before shooting. Be sure the bullet is seated against the powder charge. Use your ramrod to check for obstructions but only doing so with no primer inserted in the breech plug.

NEVER DISASSEMBLE YOUR FIREARM. Do not disassemble your firearm beyond the procedures in this manual. Doing so may be dangerous and can lead to serious injury or death. Any alteration or replacement of parts must be performed only by a qualified gunsmith.

DO NOT MODIFY OR ALTER ANY COMPONENTS OF YOUR FIREARM. Only a qualified gunsmith should perform modifications or adjustments to your firearm. Doing otherwise may cause improper function of your firearm resulting in serious injury or death to yourself or others.

NEVER TRANSPORT OR STORE YOUR FIREARM LOADED. Loaded means having a bullet seated on a powder charge and a primer inserted in the breech plug. Having a bullet seated on a powder charge with no primer inserted is the only way your firearm should be stored or transported.

FEATURES





The patented break trigger has 3 functions:

- 1. Trigger guard.
- 2. Opening the action.
- 3. Cocking the hammer.



The Patriot action is designed to allow the hammer to remain cocked indefinitely. The hammer is internal and does not get cocked when you are ready to fire. It should remain cocked at all times during normal operation, simply press the safety off and fire.

There are two indicators of the hammer being cocked -

- 1. The break trigger (FIG 2) will be locked, you cannot pull it back.
- 2. The orange line on the cocked indicator (FIG 3) will be visible.

The following function is important to understand! Your rifle may not fire if these instructions are not followed!



WARNING!

Always make sure the safety is in the safe position prior to cocking.

After firing the rifle, the break trigger will unlock and the orange cocked indicator will not be visible. This means the hammer is no longer cocked and allows the action to be opened without pressing in and holding the cocked indicator/unlock button. When pulling the break trigger to open the action, the rifle can be re-cocked. It is important to pull the break trigger all the way back.

The break trigger must be pulled back until you feel & hear a click. Failing to pull the break trigger back all the way will cause the rifle to not fire when the trigger is pulled.

When the action is closed the break trigger will snap forward and become locked (only when the hammer is cocked).

Only pulling back far enough to break the action open is not enough to cock the hammer!

Opening the locked action - With the safety in the safe position and muzzle pointed in a safe direction, press and hold the unlock button. While holding the unlock button, pull the break trigger rearward.

Once the break trigger begins to move rearward the unlock button can be released. With the break trigger pulled rearward, open the action. The hammer will remain cocked. Use this sequence to open the action for inserting and removing primers. Do not let the barrel just drop, support it with one hand when opening.

Closing the action - Gently but firmly snap the action closed. Be sure the hammer is cocked prior to closing the action. It is not recommended or beneficial to slam the action shut. The break trigger must move all the way forward when closed. If the action is closed too gently, the break trigger may not completely move forward. It is important that the break trigger moves forward to the locked position. The rifle may not fire if the break trigger is not in the forward locked position.



ALWAYS BE SURE THE SAFETY IS ON WHEN OPEN-ING AND CLOSING THE ACTION AND THE MUZZLE IS POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

FACTORY TRIGGER.

Your trigger has been set at the factory to approximately 3.5 LBS of pull.

DO NOT MAKE ADJUSTMENTS TO YOUR TRIGGER OR SPRINGS. AN IMPROPERLY ADJUSTED TRIGGER CAN BE A SAFETY HAZARD.

Random discharge can occur with improper trigger adjustments. The trigger and sear have adjustment screws. These have been set at factory with thread locking compound. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO ADJUST THEM. If you feel your trigger is not functioning properly it must be returned or serviced by a competent gunsmith.

LOADING YOUR MUZZLELOADER

Your Patriot rifle is designed to shoot conical bullets. Round balls are not suitable and should not be used. We recommend quality bullets for the best results. This is very important for accuracy.

When loading a clean barrel, lube the barrel to ease loading if needed.

We highly recommend Blackhorn 209 powder*, very consistent results have been achieved. Any black powder or substitutes for muzzleloading may be used, Blackhorn 209 is NOT required. Regardless of what powder you choose, you must measure the powder by the appropriate method.

DO NOT GUESS OR ESTIMATE.

The MAXIMUM charge specified for Blackhorn 209 is 120 grains by volume, or 84 grains by weight.

DO NOT exceed the maximum load determined by the powder manufacturer or the rifle manufacturer.

Do not use smokeless powders prior to reading & understanding the specific smokeless powder instructions.

*Smokeless powder loads & info are only published on our website.

Be sure the rifle is not already loaded when loading a charge. Double loading can act like an obstruction causing serious injury or death to the shooter and/or bystanders. Be sure the safety is on and there is no primer in the breech plug prior to loading.

Do not drill into bullets in the event the rifle is double loaded. Heat from drilling can ignite powder!

Do not load the rifle with the action not locked closed.

LOADING YOUR MUZZLELOADER

Place the buttstock on the ground or secure surface. Pour the charge in the barrel. Push the bullet with your thumb into the barrel. Use the ramrod to continue to push the bullet down to the powder charge. It is highly recommended to use a loading tip or spin loader to prevent damage to your bullet. The ramrod should come to a sudden stop when the bullet seats on the powder charge. Dirty powders can cause fouling or crud to accumulate in the barrel. This may cause loading to become difficult. With these dirty powders, it may be necessary to clean between shots. Always make sure the safety is on and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction!

Do not continue beating on the bullet. Doing so will damage the bullet and will result in poor accuracy and/or random fliers.

It is critical for safety reasons to mark the ramrod flush with the end of the barrel as an indicator that the bullet is fully seated once the load is determined. This mark is also an important indicator that the rifle may be double loaded. Do not insert a primer or fire the rifle if the ramrod does not stop at the correct mark on your ramrod.



Double loading can act like an obstruction causing serious injury or death to the shooter and/or bystanders.

FIRING YOUR MUZZLELOADER

Your rifle will need a bullet seated on the powder charge and a primer in the breech plug. G3 Patriot rifles are in-line and use 209 shotgun primers, or LR modules.

Open the action as instructed in this manual (see page 8). It is good practice to pull the break trigger back firmly to ensure that the hammer will be cocked whenever opening the action. The cocked indicator must be visible, and the break trigger must be locked in order for the rifle to fire.

Place a primer in the primer pocket. Close the action. Your rifle is now loaded and ready to fire.

Select your target, push safety to the off position, while continuing to aim, slowly squeeze the trigger.



DO NOT FIRE THE RIFLE IF YOU HAVE ANY DOUBT ABOUT A SAFE CHARGE!

Causes of misfires...

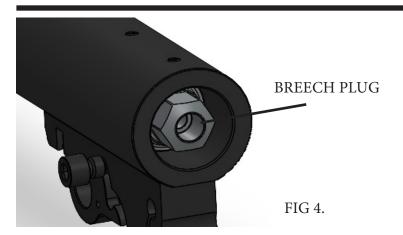
- 1. Clogged breech plug.
- 2. Wet powder charge.
- 3. Faulty primer.
- 4. No powder charge in barrel.
- 5. No primer inserted.

MISFIRES & RELOADING

At some point a misfire may be experienced. When this occurs, keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and wait at least 15 minutes. It is possible to have a delayed ignition. Do not attempt to fire again until it is confirmed that the bullet is seated on the charge.

When reloading after firing, it is critical to wait several minutes between the next shot to ensure there are no hot embers in barrel. Pull the spent primer from the breech plug, close the action firmly and you are ready to load the next round.

BREECH PLUG



Your Patriot rifle comes with two tools for removing the breech plug FIG 5. The socket is installed on the breech plug FIG 4. The wrench is then installed on the socket. Turn the wrench counter clockwise to unscrew the breech plug.

The breech plug can also be removed with the rifle assembled. You must loosen it with the socket & wrench, remove the wrench, unscrew it several turns, remove the socket and continue to unscrew until it comes out.

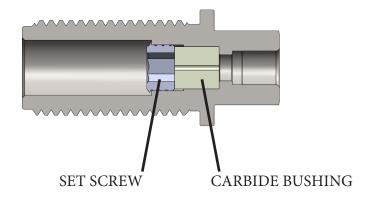
When installing the breech plug it is very important to apply non-metallic anti-seize grease on the threads. Hand tighten the breech plug with the wrench supplied. Do not over tighten as damage can result.



FIG 5.

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LR MODULE BREECH PLUG



The LR Module breech plug comes standard in .40 caliber G3 Patriot muzzleloaders. This system may also be used in .45 and .50 caliber G3 Patriot muzzleloaders. It is critical to be sure the carbide bushing is installed and held in place with the hollow set screw. The standard LR Module bushing has a .035" flash hole. The flash hole should be inspected for wear and replaced when approximately %15 larger. Fequently inspect the carbide bushing visually to ensure it has not cracked. If any cracks are observed, the bushing must be replaced.

Do not remove the bushing for cleaning. The bushing should remain installed until it needs to be replaced.

DISASSEMBLY & REASSEMBLY

WARNING!

ALWAYS BE SURE THE RIFLE IS NOT LOADED PRIOR TO DISASSEMBLY.

The best method for removing a charge is safely discharging the firearm.

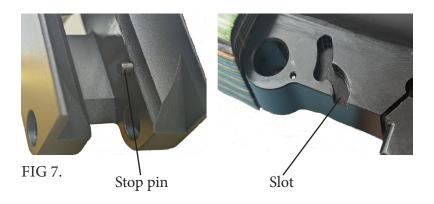
The action must be open to remove the action pivot pin.

Remove the action pivot pin FIG 6. This can be done with ease using the end of the ramrod to push the pin through. Only use brass, wood or plastic to push the pin through. Hard metals may ding or scratch the finish of components.



FIG 6.

DISASSEMBLY & ASSEMBLY



Once the pin has been removed you must guide the stop pin through the slot to separate the barrel from the frame. See slot and stop pin in FIG 7.

With the firearm in two pieces the breech plug can easily be removed.

The rifle is assembled by placing the two sections together with the stop pin in the slot. FIG 7. Do not close the action without the pivot pin installed. The action must be open to insert the pivot pin. Insert the pivot pin until centered in the frame. A spring loaded plunger will retain the pin.

DISASSEMBLY & ASSEMBLY

Use caution when installing the barrel on the frame to avoid hitting the edge of the forend stock on the frame. Hitting these during assembly can chip the finish or damage the wood.

Before assembling the rifle apply a light coat of high quality gun oil to the action pivot pin and lockup mating surface. FIG 8.

FIG 8.



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WARNING!

ALWAYS BE SURE THE RIFLE IS NOT LOADED PRIOR TO CLEANING.

Powder residue can be corrosive. G3 Patriot muzzleloaders feature stainless, nitrided barrels, but they are still susceptible to damage from moisture, especially in the presence of corrosive powder residues.

Leaving the rifle uncleaned in the presence of moisture can cause corrosion, rust or pitting which can cause loss of accuracy and damage the rifle. This can occur within days or sometimes weeks depending on the powder type and how much moisture may be present. This damage is considered neglect, not a manufacturing defect.

Any dings, nicks or scratches in the nitride finish can make the base material more susceptible to rust as it will be exposed to corrosive powder residue and moisture. Using ramrods made of aluminum, fiberglass or wood can abrade the nitride finish.

Some cleaning solutions may damage the finish on stocks or metal components. It is recommended to use Hoppes #9 cleaner on your G3 Patriot rifle. When using powders that recommend water for cleanup, it is critical to dry and oil the cleaned components after cleaning.

It is not recommended to disassemble adjustable breech plugs frequently for cleaning. This may result in flame cutting parts of the plug. They should only be taken apart and cleaned if headspacing needs to be changed.

By maintaining, cleaning and oiling your rifle it will last indefinitely.

CLEANING & CARE

Walnut and laminate stocks are made from wood. Wood is a natural material that can absorb water and moisture. We have made our best effort to coat and seal the stocks, however, water may damage the stock during prolonged water exposure if not maintained and oiled. It is the users responsibility to maintain and waterproof the stock.

Follow the steps in the disassembly section of this manual to break down the rifle for cleaning.

Be sure the ramrod is free of dirt and debris.

With the breech plug removed cleaning patches can be run through the barrel using the ramrod.

Use the powder manufacturers recommended cleaning agent or solvent for removing powder residue.

NEVER use a wire brush other than brass.

NEVER run anything abrasive through the barrel.

NEVER put aluminum, wood or fiberglass ramrods in the barrel.

Doing so can damage the barrel/crown and/or cause a loss of accuracy.

Use the ramrod that comes with your rifle to run patches through the barrel. The ramrod has brass tips and a Delrin shaft designed to prevent barrel damage. The ramrod has 10-32 threads for screw on attachments. Aluminum, fiberglass and wood ramrods may scratch or damage the barrel crown and/or nitride coating.

Do not leave moisture, cleaning solvents or cleaning agents in the barrel for extended periods of time.

Run several dry patches through the barrel.

Apply a light coat of oil or barrel lube inside and on the barrel to complete the cleaning.

By maintaining, cleaning and oiling your rifle it will last indefinitely.

ACCURACY

If you experience poor accuracy with your rifle, it may be due to one of the following...

- 1. Load development should performed prior to sighting in. Not finding the correct load for your rifle is the number one cause of poor accuracy. Load development is beyond the scope of this manual. Visit www.woodmanarms.com for the load development procedure if you are not familiar with this process.
- 2. Not using the proper loading tip/spin loader on the ramrod can damage the bullet and cause poor accuracy.
- 3. Bullet loading technique. Make sure to seat the bullet on the powder charge. Do not bounce or bang your ramrod on the bullet. Be sure to load bullet straight in alignment with the bore.
- 4. Powder contamination. Replace the powder. Store your powder in a sealed container in a cool dry place. Any powders that absorb moisture can be problematic.
- 5. Structural integrity of the bullet. Try other bullets.
- 6. Muzzle damage. Check the crown of the muzzle. There should be no dents or dings on the crown.
- 7. Bullet fit. An undersized/loose bullet will not grip the rifling and/or seal in the barrel.

ACCURACY CONT.

- 8. Using the incorrect primers. Blackhorn 209 will not work well with primers that contain the words "muzzeloader" on the package. This is powder specific, not the rifle.
- 9. Fouling in the barrel from dirty powders. Clean the barrel thoroughly to remove residue and deposits. Use only brass or plastic brushes.
- 10. Poor quality scopes can be destroyed from high recoil.
- 11. Poor shooting rest. When performing load development and sighting in, it is highly beneficial to use a steady rest.
- 12. Flinching and/or pulling on the shot.
- 13. Lead sleds and similar rests can cause accuracy problems when pressure is put on the rifle and not followed through the shot.

In our experience, heavier bullets help solve accuracy issues. Do not shoot the max charge of powder when starting. Start with the minimum recommended charge and work up from there.

Please contact us after going through these items if you cannot shoot a satisfactory group.

LEAD SLEDS / SHOOTING RESTS

Patriot muzzleloaders with walnut or laminated wood stocks are intended to recoil against the shooters shoulder.

The use of lead sleds or other similar devices which do not allow the rifle to recoil freely can break wood stocks just above the grip.