

Seven-Step Firearm Cleaning



1 Make sure the firearm is unloaded.

2 Run a solvent-soaked brush through the barrel a few times. Whenever possible, clean from breech to muzzle to prevent pushing fouling down into the action.

To start the rod and brush through the barrel, grasp the rod near the tip, then push with the handle, making sure to keep the rod at the same angle as the barrel.

3 Remove the brush and attach a cleaning jag. Add an appropriate size patch, saturate it with solvent and work it back and forth through the barrel. You may also use a gun cleaning swab or mop instead of a patch for this step.

Visually inspect the bore. If traces of metal fouling or lead flaking are visible, repeat steps 2 and 3.

4 Use a dry patch to remove solvent.

5 Clean the action, slide mechanism or bolt with solvent-soaked patches, and then wipe dry. For revolvers, clean each cylinder chamber from the rear with solvent, brush and patches. Pay special attention to the forward ends of the cylinder chambers where fouling collects.

6 After all parts have been thoroughly cleaned, run a patch saturated with gun oil through the barrel, making sure all surfaces are lightly coated. Oil revolver cylinders very sparingly.

Apply gun oil to lightly coat all exterior metal surfaces. Wipe off excess.

7 Before firing the gun after cleaning, run as many patches as necessary through the bore and chamber to remove any grease or oil.



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