

Diablo & Desperado 12 Gauge Pistol



USER MANUAL

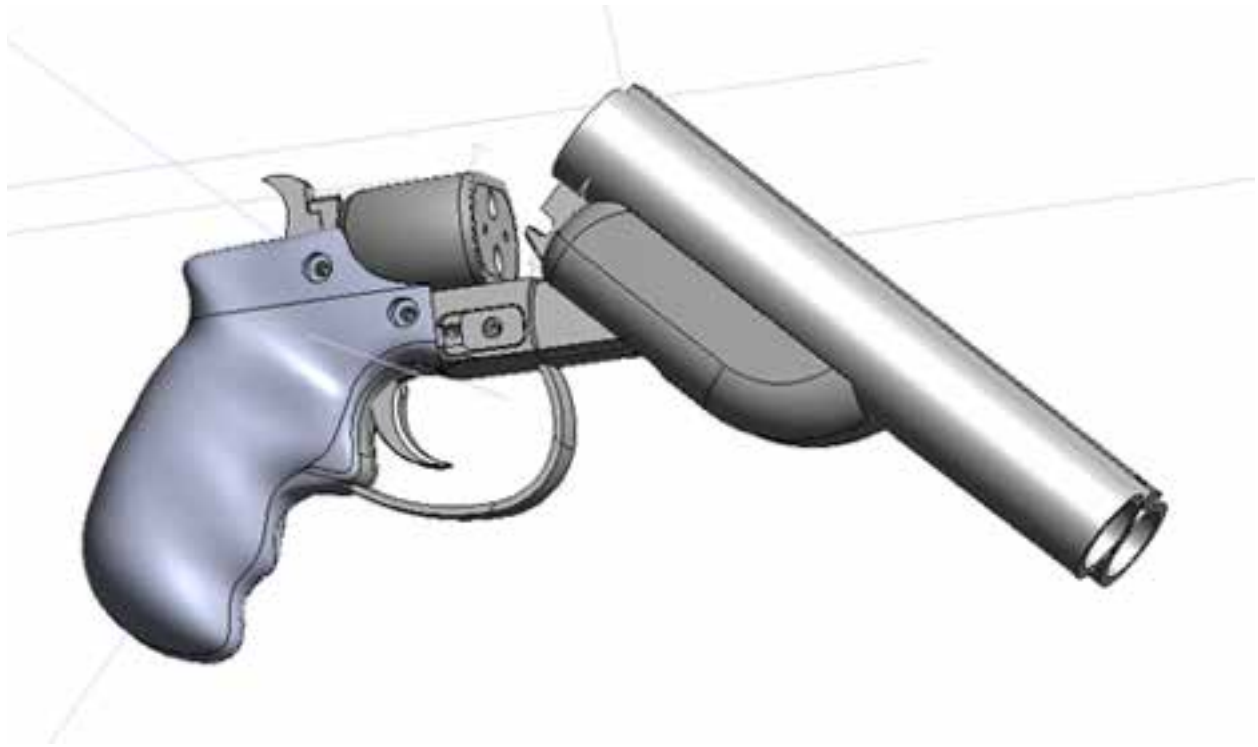
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Before loading and shooting take a NRA muzzle loading class (now covers pistol, rifle, and shotgun) to be safe and properly trained and to remain uninjured.

SAFETY PROCEDURES

Respect the gun, respect others, and respect yourself and you will enjoy a lifetime of safe shooting.

PROPER TRAINING IS ESSENTIAL, IF THE USER DOES NOT HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SAFE HANDLING AND SAFE LOADING OF THE FIREARM, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO LOAD OR SHOOT IT.

Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.

Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.





Do not allow unauthorized people, especially children access to this firearm.



Do not allow individuals who are not trained in the safe operation of this firearm to handle it or attempt to shoot it. Keep all spectators well behind the shooting line, be sure that they have ear and eye protection too.



Do not attempt to use this firearm in ways it is not intended to be used. It was designed to use Black Powder, NEVER use Smokeless Powder.



Always wear ear and eye protection while shooting and insist that everyone nearby does also. Keep all bystanders to the rear and at a safe distance.



Keep your finger off the trigger until you have identified your target and determined it is safe to shoot. Be aware of your target and what is beyond your target; you are responsible for where your projectiles go.



Careless or improper handling can result in an unsafe discharge causing injury, death, or property damage. Safety rules must be followed at all times. Accidents are the result of negligent actions; they are a danger to the user and others.



IT IS NECESSARY TO BE ABLE TO BOTH SAFELY COCK AND SAFELY LOWER THE HAMMER. BE SURE THAT ANYONE WHO HANDLES THIS FIREARM IS ABLE TO DO THIS SAFELY. PRACTICE WHILE THE GUN IS UNLOADED AND POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION UNTIL YOU ARE SURE THAT BOTH FUNCTIONS CAN BE DONE SAFELY.



Never attempt to load the barrels of this firearm without first checking to be sure there are no primers in the breech plugs, and the hammer is lowered to it's half cock position. Keep your head, face, and hands clear of the barrels. Always keep the barrels pointed in a safe direction .



Do not place a primer in the breech plug until you are ready to shoot, be sure the hammer is not in the rear position while you are installing the primers. Once the powder charge and projectiles are placed in the bore, and primers are placed in the breech plug, all that is required to shoot the firearm is to pull the hammer fully to the rear and pull the trigger.



This is a precision-made firearm designed to function reliably with knowledgeable use and proper care. It has a half cock lock position, but mechanical safeties alone are no substitute for following safety rules. Every firearm needs to be kept in good working order; it is the user's responsibility to maintain their firearm in good working condition.



The first and best way to make the gun safe is to be sure the hammer is lowered to half cock position and to depress the side latch and break the action open.



DO NOT PULL THE HAMMER BACK TO THE COCKED POSITION UNTIL THE MOMENT YOU ARE READY TO SHOOT.



The maximum recommended payload is 1 oz. of shot, and 60 grains of ffg black powder using standard #209 shotgun primers.



WITH EVERY SHOT YOU LOAD, YOU BECOME YOUR OWN AMMUNITION MANUFACTURER. BE SURE YOU DON'T OVER CHARGE, DOUBLE CHARGE, OR OVER LOAD YOUR SHOT VOLUME. ALL 'QUALITY CONTROL' DEPENDS ON YOU.



Do not modify the fire control components of your pistol.



Never look into the bore unless the breech plug has been removed.



This firearm is a replica of an antique weapon that is capable of causing injury or death, it is the user's responsibility to understand the limitations of the mechanism, and to obey safety rules at all times.



Be sure that any accessory or accouterment you choose for your firearm does not interfere with the safe or normal operation of the firearm.



Do not use this firearm for purposes other than those for which it was designed or is capable of.



Never leave a loaded gun unattended. Children and unauthorized individuals could cause harm to themselves or others.



Keep your firearm unloaded when transporting it in a vehicle.



Overcharging any double barrel muzzleloaded shotgun may cause the shot cup or wad in the unfired barrel to shift forward. This may create an unsafe burning configuration by creating an empty space around the powder in the second barrel as it burns. Be sure as you load each barrel that the shot cup or wad has enough friction with the bore to hold it in place as you fire the first shot. See shooting procedures section for guide to making a safe determination if your second barrel's shot is shifting from the recoil of the first shot.



This firearm has been thoroughly inspected and has left American Gun Craft in good working condition. As the user becomes the manufacturer of each shot fired and solely responsible for proper maintenance of the firearm, American Gun Craft shall not be responsible for product malfunction, damage from this gun's intentional or accidental discharge, physical injury, death, improper or careless handling, criminal or negligent use, property damage, alterations or modifications, or from uses for which it was not designed or intended. American Gun Craft will not honor claims made by a second or subsequent owner.



Always wear ear and eye protection when shooting, or near someone else shooting this firearm.



Do not smoke while handling black powder or while loading or shooting black powder firearms or allow others in close vicinity to do so.



Do not use alcoholic beverages or other drugs before or during shooting.



Always seat the ball or shot tight against the powder charge. Air space in the combustion area can cause pressure spikes.



Don't leave the range with a loaded firearm.



Run a swab or patch into the bore full depth anytime you are going to immediately reload to be sure there is no remaining ember that could ignite the new powder charge.



Do not shoot at surfaces likely to produce ricochet.



Be aware that heavy loads could dislodge the charge in the unfired barrel. Until you are sure that your loads will stay in position, load both barrels, but only place one primer in position. After firing that one shot, remove the spent primer and check the seating depth of the charge and projectile in the second barrel.



Do not pour powder directly from the flask, bottle, or bulk container, measure what you intend to use and pour the powder into the barrel from the measuring device only.



Before you start loading your firearm, always be sure that the barrels are not already loaded or partially loaded. Use a ramrod with some sort of measuring indication that tells you that the barrels are completely empty before adding any powder to the firearm. You can also tell by the sound and feel of the ramrod bouncing off the breech plug that the barrel is completely empty.



Mark your ramrod with a line at the insertion depth after you have placed powder in the firearm, and again after the first wad. Insert shot, slug, or ball into the barrel and mark the ramrod again. After the final wad is pushed into place in front of the projectile, mark the ramrod a 4th time. Now you should be able to determine the state of readiness of the barrel by the insertion depth and the lines on your ramrod.



If you are new to muzzle loading, find a friend or someone who is willing to help you learn how to safely enjoy muzzle loaded firearms. Take an NRA muzzle loading class (now covers pistol, rifle, and shotgun) to be safe and properly trained and to remain uninjured.

LOADING PROCEDURES

Never use modern smokeless powder in a muzzleloader. The use of any amount of smokeless powder in a muzzleloader will create dangerously high pressures upon ignition and may result in severe injury or death to the shooter and/or bystanders.

Do not attempt to load or shoot this firearm, without reading this manual completely, and becoming familiar with safe black powder muzzleloading procedures. If you are new to black powder firearms, as everyone is at one time, find a good book or a knowledgeable person to get you started shooting safely.

Before you go to the range, clean any oil or grease from the inside of the barrel. You should mark a line on your ramrod that indicates full insertion to the breech plug. Never insert powder or projectile without positively determining that the bore is completely empty by inserting the ramrod to this line. If you do this every time you load your gun, you will never double charge the barrels and have no need to ever look into the bore for any reason.

Always keep the barrel pointed in a safe direction during loading. Avoid placing your face and hands directly in front of the muzzles while loading them.

Before shooting this firearm, read this manual completely and become familiar with the loading and firing procedure.

The first step is to become familiar with the sliding latches on the side of the receiver that allow you to open the action which will isolate the firing mechanism from the rear of the barrels, and allow access to the rear of the breech plugs. Open Action by placing thumb and forefinger on both latch pads and pulling back towards grip simultaneously.

Before you start loading your firearm, always be sure that the barrels are not already loaded or partially loaded. Use a ramrod with some sort of measuring indication that tells you that the barrels are completely empty before adding any powder to the firearm. You can also tell by the sound and feel of the ramrod bouncing off the breech plug that the barrel is completely empty.



Never allow the hammer of a muzzleloader to rest against the firing pin. Any impact to the hammer could cause accidental discharge.

Mark your ramrod with a line at the insertion depth after you have placed powder in the firearm, and again after the first wad. Insert shot, slug, or ball into the barrel and mark the ramrod again. After the final wad is pushed into place in front of the projectile, mark the ramrod a 4th time. Now you should be able to determine the state of readiness of the barrel by the insertion depth and the lines on your ramrod.

At the beginning of a shooting session, you can drive away possible condensation or residual moisture contamination from flash hole and the interior of the breech area by pointing the firearm in a safe direction, installing 2 primers, and firing the primers into the empty barrels. Repeat two or three times if high humidity is a problem in your area.

Never reload one or both barrels without checking to be sure there are no primers in the breech plugs.

Always start the loading procedure by placing the hammer in the half cock position. In this position the firing pins are not long enough to reach the primers. The safest way to load the barrels is with the action broken open and the firearm's barrels sitting vertically in a stable stand. Do not load primers in breech plugs.

Do not pour powder directly from the flask, bottle, or bulk container into the barrel. Measure only what you intend to use and pour the powder into the barrel from the measuring device for both safety and accuracy.

Measure the powder and place a charge in each barrel you intend to shoot.

Insert a wad on top of the powder. Seat your shot cup or wadding fully to the bottom of the barrel with your ramrod. The powder will not burn properly if the projectile is not compressing it slightly. Know the correct depth that your ramrod needs to push the shot cup or wadding and projectile into the barrel.



Insert up to 1 oz. shot or projectile. Push projectile and first wad tight against powder charge.

Insert the final wad.

When you are ready, and it is safe to do so, place a primer in the breech plug of each barrel you intend to shoot.

Firmly close the action and be sure that the latch is secure.

Do not fully cock the hammer until you are ready to shoot.

Place the hammer in the half cock position to select the position of the firing pin selector on the front face of the hammer to the right or left side in order to choose which barrel to shoot.

Keep your finger off the trigger until you have identified a target and have determined it is safe to shoot.

Do not immediately reload a fired barrel without swabbing it to remove any burning ember or spark that could ignite the new powder charge. Carefully measure the powder and pour it into the barrel. A funnel and measuring scoop is very helpful.

Seat your shot cup or wadding fully to the bottom of the barrel with your ramrod. The powder will not burn properly if the projectile is not compressing it slightly. Know the correct depth that your ramrod needs to push the shot cup or wadding and projectile into the barrel.

If you have a misfire, or a hang fire, hold the firearm pointing in a safe direction for at least one minute. When you are sure it is safe, try another primer. If that doesn't ignite the charge, remove the spent primer and unscrew the breech plug with a 3/8" thin wall socket. The powder can now be dumped out the rear of the barrel.

Be sure the flash hole in the breech plug is not obstructed, or the breech contaminated. Clean the area and reinstall the breech plug. Resume normal loading procedure.



FIRING PROCEDURE

Move the hammer to the half cock position and rotate the firing pin selector to the side that will strike the corresponding firing pin and barrel you wish to shoot.

Keep in mind that although the hammer has half cock notch, as with all 19th century designs, extra care must be taken to control the hammer when lowering manually to the half cock position if you have cocked it and then decide to not shoot. It is a good idea to practice lowering the hammer while the gun is unloaded enough times that you are confident that you can do it safely if the gun was loaded. Don't try to lower the hammer while wearing gloves.

Never pull trigger in the half cock position, the half cock position is not a safety position. Only touch the trigger when your are prepared to fire the pistol.

If you are in doubt about your ability to lower the hammer safely, with the barrel pointed in a safe direction, open the action by moving the side latches and allow the action to hinge open. The firing pins cannot reach the primers with the action broken open. You can now safely lower the hammer to half cock. Keep your finger away from the trigger as you do this.

After you are sure the hammer is in the half cock position, place a 209 primer behind each barrel you intend to fire. Now you can close the action, be sure it is securely latched.

Keeping your fingers well away from the trigger, pull the hammer back to full cock just the moment before you are ready to shoot. Avoid all distractions once the hammer is in the full cocked position until you have fired the gun.

On the event of a misfire, keep the firearm pointed safely down range for one minute, it is a good investment in time to wait for a possible slow burn. When you are sure it is safe, try another primer. If that doesn't fire the charge, both shot and powder needs to be safely removed. First remove all primers from the breech plugs.





MISSFIRE OR DUD LOADINGS

Regular maintenance and cleaning will keep the breech plugs from freezing in place due to powder residue or corrosion. The best way to clear a dud loading is to remove the breech plug with a thin wall 3/8" socket and push the shot and powder out. Clean the flash hole with a stiff wire from your "Possibles Bag".



If you are unable to remove the breech plug, you need to neutralize the powder by injecting water through the flash hole, wait 30 minutes for the water to inactivate the powder completely. Use a ramrod with a screw end to remove the payload and then remove propellant. Clear the flash hole with a wire. Clean and dry the gun thoroughly before attempting to reload the firearm.

209 PRIMERS-CHOOSING THE CORRECT BRAND

If you are not achieving reliable ignition or not achieving ignition at all, rotate the breech plugs back 1/16 turn counterclockwise in increments from the seated position and test fire the PRIMER ONLY until you achieve reliable ignition. NOTE: 209 primer manufactures vary in size and shape, the breech plugs can be rotated to allow for proper head space with most common 209 primer manufactures.

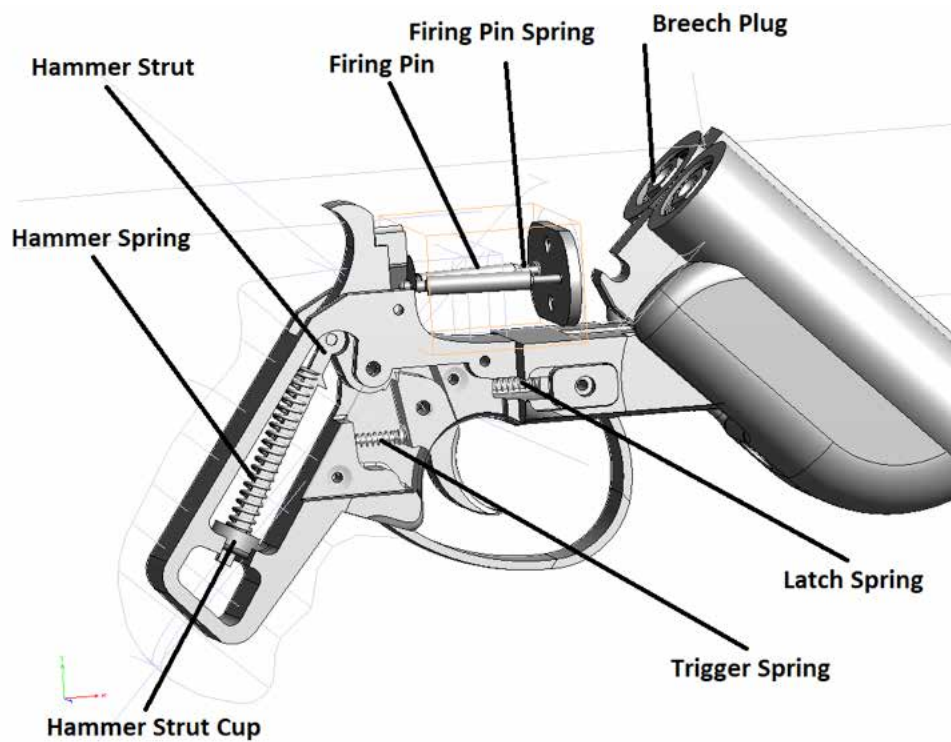
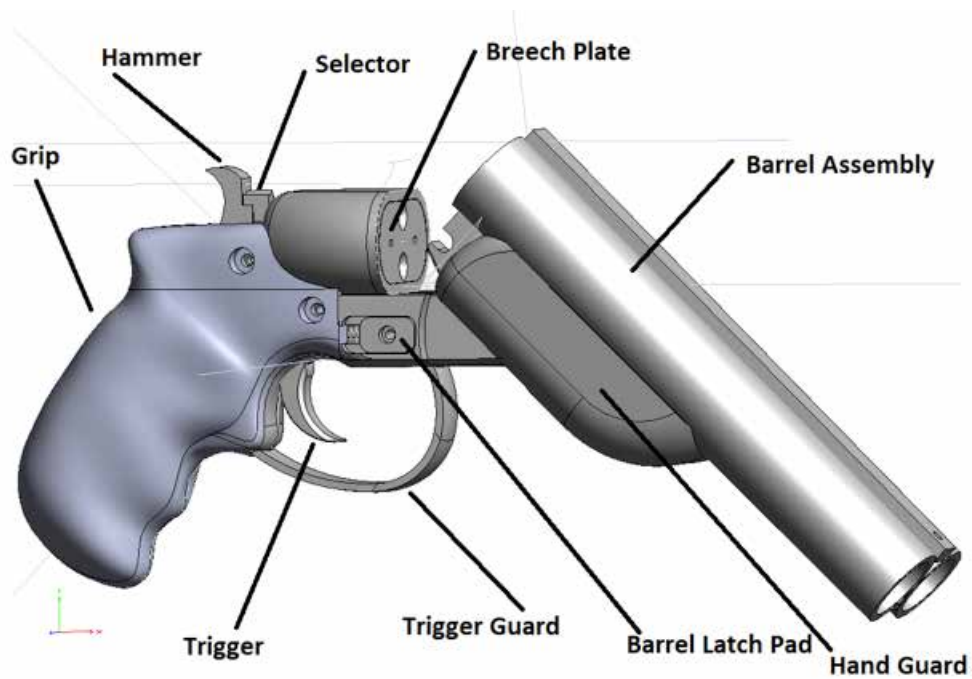
BLACK POWDER AND STORAGE RECOMMENDATION

Always use black powder or it's equal such as Goex or Pyrodex muzzle loading black powder substitute, **NEVER USE SMOKELESS POWDER.**

Follow all powder manufacturers' label directions for safe storage and handling of black powder or black powder substitute. Only use types specifically labeled for use in muzzleloaded firearms (ffg).

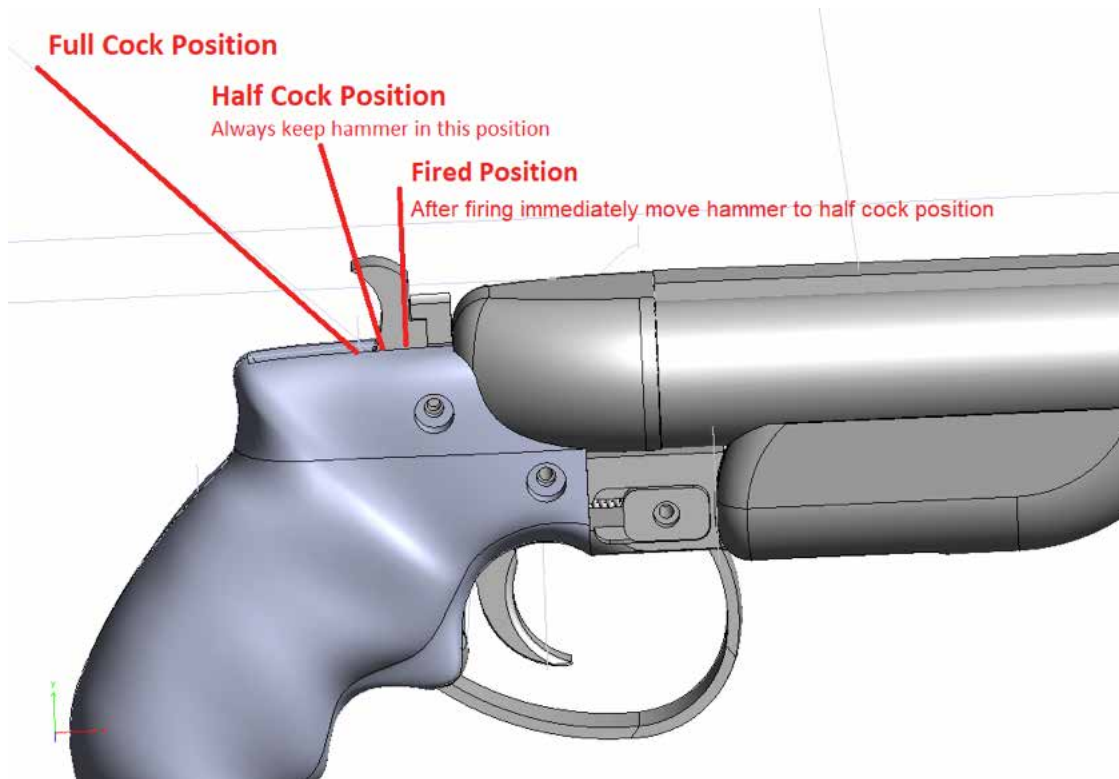
Store primers and black powder in separate locations in their original containers. Use standard American #209 shotgun primers. Primers and powder are sensitive to percussion, heat, flame, and static electricity.

Do not store the weapon loaded with powder and projectile. Black powder is corrosive and there is always a danger that someone else will not realize that the gun is loaded. There are many stories of this leading to accidents and double charges.



HAMMER POSITIONS

NOTE: After firing immediately move hammer to half cock position



AMMUNITION AND LOADING COMPONENTS FOR THE DIABLO .729 BORE

The maximum recommended payload is 1 oz. of shot, and 60 grains of ffg black powder using standard American #209 shotgun primers.

There are plenty of sources for black powder and loading components sources, 12 Gauge loading cards, wads, powder and shot for muzzle loading shotguns can be found at these sites as well as your local gun store, Bass Pro Shop, Fleet Farm, etc.

www.ballisticproducts.com/Muzzleloading/departments/366/

www.trackofthewolf.com/List/Item.aspx/170/1