



Franklin Armory®
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 **FRANKLIN®
ARMORY**

BUILT LOWER RECEIVER OWNER'S SAFETY MANUAL

*“Those who
would give up
essential Liberty
to purchase a little
temporary Safety deserve
neither Liberty nor Safety”
— Benjamin Franklin*

(Revision 8.0, 2020)

Franklin Armory® Built Lower Receiver Owner's Safety Manual

This manual covers all HSC-15™, FAI-15™, Libertas® , and Militia® Model firearms.

Manufacturer's Warning:

Read this entire manual before operating the firearm! If this firearm is improperly handled, unintended discharge could result and cause damage, injury, or death. If you do not understand any part of this manual, seek qualified professional help before loading and/or using this firearm. SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!!!

Warnings Specified by State:

California:




WARNING

Children are attracted to and can operate firearms that can cause severe injuries or death. Prevent child access by always keeping guns locked away and unloaded when not in use. If you keep a loaded firearm where a child obtains and improperly uses it, you may be fined or sent to prison.



ADVERTENCIA

A los niños los atraen las armas de fuego y las pueden hacer funcionar. Ellos pueden causarse lesiones graves y la muerte.
Evite que los niños tengan acceso a las armas de fuego guardándolas siempre con llave y descargadas cuando no las esté utilizando. Si usted tiene un arma de fuego cargada en un lugar en que un niño tiene acceso a ella y la usa indebidamente, le pueden dar una multa o enviarlo a la cárcel.

 **WARNING:** This product can expose you to chemicals including lead, which are known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information, go to—www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

Connecticut:

“UNLAWFUL STORAGE OF A LOADED FIREARM MAY RESULT IN IMPRISONMENT OR FINE.”

Florida:

“IT IS UNLAWFUL, AND PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT AND FINE, FOR ANY ADULT TO STORE OR LEAVE A FIREARM IN ANY PLACE WITHIN THE REACH OR EASY ACCESS OF A MINOR UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE OR TO KNOWINGLY SELL OR OTHERWISE TRANSFER OWNERSHIP OR POSSESSION OF A FIREARM TO A MINOR OR A PERSON OF UNSOUND MIND.”

Storage of your firearm:

If the firearm is to be put in storage, be sure not to encase it in any container that will attract moisture such as a leather case. If the firearm is to be stored for an extended period of time, a high-quality anti-rust, preservative, lubricant should be liberally applied to all metal parts, inside and out. Be sure to remove these lubricants by cleaning the firearm prior to placing it in service again.

Locking Devices:

Every Franklin Armory® Built Lower Receiver is packaged with a cable lock certified by the California Department of Justice. Please follow the directions that accompany the lock for proper use.

SUGGESTIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THIS MANUAL SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

Franklin Armory®
2246 Park Place, Suite B
Minden, NV 89423



Storage of Your Firearm:

If your firearm is to be put in storage, be sure not to encase it in any container that will attract moisture such as a leather case. Do not plug the barrel since this may cause moisture accumulation. If the firearm is to be stored for an extended period of time, a high-quality anti-rust, preservative, lubricant should be liberally applied to all metal parts, inside and out. Be sure to remove these lubricants by cleaning the firearm prior to placing it in service again.

Collapsible Stock:

Your firearm may be equipped with a six position collapsible stock. To change the position on the collapsible stock, depress the lever underneath the stock and slide the stock forward or aft on the receiver extension tube until it is placed at the desired location. Release the lever and it should lock into place. If it does not lock into place, slide the stock further until it snaps into one of the six pre-positioned points.



This collapsible buttstock is designed to have tolerance to allow for operation if fouled by small amounts of sand or dirt. However, from time to time the collapsible buttstock may require cleaning in order to function properly.

Maine:

“ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A CHILD IS A CRIME IF YOU LEAVE A FIREARM AND AMMUNITION WITHIN EASY ACCESS OF A CHILD, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO FINE, IMPRISONMENT OR BOTH. KEEP FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION SEPARATE. KEEP FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION LOCKED UP. USE TRIGGER LOCKS.”

Maryland:

“WARNING: Children can operate firearms which may cause death or serious injury. It is a crime to store or leave a loaded firearm in any location where an individual knew or should have known that an unsupervised minor would gain access to the firearm. Store your firearms responsibly!”

Massachusetts:

“WARNING FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS ATTORNEY GENERAL: This handgun is not equipped with a device that fully blocks use by unauthorized users. More than 200,000 firearms like this one are stolen from their owners every year in the United States. In addition, there are more than a thousand suicides each year by younger children and teenagers who get access to firearms. Hundreds more die from accidental discharge. It is likely that many more children sustain serious wounds, or inflict such wounds accidentally on others. In order to limit the chance of such misuse, it is imperative that you keep this weapon locked in a secure place and take other steps necessary to limit the possibility of theft or accident. Failure to take reasonable preventive steps may result in innocent lives being lost, and in some circumstances may result in your liability for these deaths.”
“IT IS UNLAWFUL TO STORE OR KEEP A FIREARM, RIFLE, SHOTGUN OR MACHINE GUN IN ANY PLACE UNLESS THAT WEAPON IS EQUIPPED WITH A TAMPER-RESISTANT SAFETY DEVICE OR IS STORED OR KEPT IN A SECURELY LOCKED CONTAINER.”

New Jersey:

“IT IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE TO LEAVE A LOADED FIREARM WITHIN EASY ACCESS OF A MINOR.”

New York City:

“THE USE OF A LOCKING DEVICE OR SAFETY LOCK IS ONLY ONE ASPECT OF RESPONSIBLE FIREARMS STORAGE. FOR INCREASED SAFETY, FIREARMS SHOULD BE STORED UNLOADED AND LOCKED IN A LOCATION THAT IS BOTH SEPARATE FROM THEIR AMMUNITION AND INACCESSIBLE TO CHILDREN AND OTHER UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS.”

North Carolina:

“IT IS UNLAWFUL TO STORE OR LEAVE A FIREARM THAT CAN BE DISCHARGED IN A MANNER THAT A REASONABLE PERSON SHOULD KNOW IS ACCESSIBLE TO A MINOR.”

Texas:

“IT IS UNLAWFUL TO STORE, TRANSPORT, OR ABANDON AN UNSECURED FIREARM IN A PLACE WHERE CHILDREN ARE LIKELY TO BE AND OBTAIN ACCESS TO THE FIREARM.”

Wisconsin:

“IF YOU LEAVE A LOADED FIREARM WITHIN THE REACH OR EASY ACCESS OF A CHILD YOU MAY BE FINED OR IMPRISONED OR BOTH IF THE CHILD IMPROPERLY DISCHARGES, POSSESSES, OR EXHIBITS THE FIREARM.”

BASIC RULES FIREARM SAFETY

1. Always handle your firearm as if it was loaded.
2. Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Never point your firearm at anything you do not intend to destroy.
3. Learn the mechanical and handling characteristics of the firearm you are using.
4. Be sure that the barrel is clear of any obstructions before shooting. Even excess oil or a spider web can cause a problem. Never fire with water in the barrel.
5. Always make sure everyone in the vicinity is wearing eye and ear protection suitable for firearm use prior to shooting.
6. Never use alcohol or drugs when shooting. If you are using prescription medication, contact your doctor to determine your fitness prior to using the firearm.
7. Keep away from the ejection port when firing as hot shell cases will be ejected with significant force
8. Never place your fingers in the ejection port. The carrier may slide forward under spring pressure and injure you.
9. Never climb a tree or fence with a loaded firearm.
10. Do not store, carry, drop, drive a vehicle, bicycle, walk or run with a live round in the chamber. A gun that is dropped bumped, or jarred with a live round in the chamber might accidentally discharge, even with the safety on, causing injury to you or someone else.
11. Never pull the trigger or place your finger inside the trigger guard until you have sighted your target and are ready to shoot.
12. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it before you shoot.
13. Never shoot over a ridge, or skyline as a bullet may travel 3 miles or more.
14. Make sure that your backstop is sufficient to prevent the bullet from over penetrating.
15. Do not shoot at a hard surface or water; it may ricochet in an unsafe direction.
16. Never rely on your firearm's safety mechanism to justify careless handling.
17. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it before you shoot.
18. Never shoot over a ridge, or skyline as a bullet may travel 3 miles or more.
19. Make sure that your backstop is sufficient to prevent the bullet from over penetrating.
20. Do not shoot at a hard surface or water; it may ricochet in an unsafe direction.

Exclusions From Warranty:

1. If this firearm has been disassembled further than what is necessary for basic “Field Strip” maintenance, and if damage has occurred as a result of improper disassembly, reassembly, or use, then the purchaser shall forfeit any claim. Further, the firearm owner must accept full responsibility for the correct reassembly and functioning of all parts, including replaced parts.
2. This firearm is intended to be used with expertly loaded ammunition adhering to specifications set by the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers’ Institute. (SAAMI) Franklin Armory® can, at its sole discretion, void any obligation to service the firearm or any claim if any non-SAAMI specified ammunition is employed.
3. The following activities are not allowed:
 - (a) With the upper removed, the trigger should never be depressed so as to allow the hammer to strike the lower receiver.
 - (b) Never apply excessive heat to the firearm or any component parts to the point that it may affect the hardening surface treatments.
 - (c) Never apply and leave corrosive or abrasive agents on any surfaces.
 - (d) Never use corrosive ammunition.
 - (e) Never disable the safety.
 - (f) Never fire the rifle without the Cam Pin properly installed.
 - (g) Never use foam cleaning agents.
4. Any damages associated with the possession and/or use of any Franklin Armory® product are limited to, and may not exceed, an amount equivalent to the Manufacturer’s Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) of the firearm. Any consumer that intends to purchase a Franklin Armory® product hereby agrees to this limitation as a precondition of the sale.
5. In no way shall Franklin Armory® be responsible for incidental or consequential damages related to economic loss, injury, death, or property damage, even if such damages are as a result of a breach of this warranty, negligence or otherwise.

Model & Caliber Identification:

The Franklin Armory® name and model designation can be found on the left side of the lower receiver outside the magazine well. The serial number and caliber are also found at this location. All Franklin Armory® firearms are marked “multi” caliber in case users switch upper receivers to different calibers such as 17 WSM, 204 Ruger, 5.56 NATO (.223 Remington,) 223 WSSM, 243 WSSM, 25 WSSM, 6.5 Grendel, 6.8 Remington Special, 300 Blackout, 308 Winchester/7.62x51 NATO, 7.62x39, and 450 Bushmaster. To eliminate confusion, users are instructed to look at the top plane of the barrel of their firearm to ascertain the specific caliber designation.

(See Photos on Following Page.)

safety. If the safety is defective, do not use the firearm again (or allow anyone else to have access to it) until a qualified gunsmith or Franklin Armory® armorer can properly repair the deficiency.

Your firearm may have also been equipped from the factory with a Binary Firing System® or Release Firing System™. If your firearm is so equipped, it will have a three position safety selector and a brightly colored selector indicator. (Red for BFS®, Yellow for RFS™.) The BFS® and RFS™ can be toggled to “Safe,” “Semi,” or the third position labeled “Binary” or “Release” depending on the model. Please be sure to read the supplementary directions for these accessories prior to using the firearm.

Lead Exposure Warning:

Ammunition used in this firearm often contains lead. The use of this ammunition may expose you to lead. Lead or lead compounds are known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, reproductive toxicity, and other serious physical injury. Those who clean firearms should take protective measures to avoid contact or exposure to such chemicals.

Warranty Notice:

Franklin Armory® will provide service for defects in materials or workmanship at no charge to the purchaser for a period of one year from the date of sale of any Franklin Armory® product. Be sure to retain your sales receipt in order to demonstrate the proof of purchase date.

FOR WARRANTY REPAIR PLEASE CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE AT: 775-783-4313

Shipping Notice:

It is illegal to ship a firearm with ammunition in the same packaging. It is also illegal to ship a firearm with serial numbers that have been obliterated.

21. Never rely on your firearm’s safety mechanism to justify careless handling.
22. Always keep your selector set to “safe” prior to target acquisition when the firearm is loaded.
23. Never discharge the weapon near flammable material. Muzzle flash may ignite a fire or cause gasses or liquids to explode.
24. Never force a jammed action as the jammed round may explode. Use of the forward assist should take minimal pressure. It is likely that the firearm is in need of inspection and cleaning before additional use.
25. If your firearm failed to fire after the trigger was pulled, wait at least 1 minute before clearing. Continue to keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction. Water, oil, or other contaminants in the ammunition can cause a delayed fire.
26. If you notice a difference in sound or recoil while firing, stop immediately and clear the firearm. A “squib” or sub-standard round may have fired and the bullet may be stuck in the bore. If another shot is fired with the bore obstructed, the barrel may bulge or burst, causing injury or even death to yourself and/or others in the vicinity.
27. Sustained fire will heat up the barrel and receiver to the point that it may cause burns when touched. Never shoot your firearm to the point that it is too hot to touch as it may, in rare occasions, also create an accidental discharge by “cooking off” ammunition in a hot chamber even though the trigger was never pulled. In addition, excessive rapid fire may cause premature wear of the barrel.
28. This firearm may discharge accidentally if it is dropped or struck with sufficient force while a live cartridge is in the chamber.
29. Do not shoot your firearm around animals unless they are trained accordingly. They may react to the sound of the discharge and cause an accident.
30. Always unload the magazine and chamber, lock the bolt back, and physically & visually check the weapon is totally clear of ammunition prior to handing someone an unloaded firearm.
31. Always check that the status of the firearm when someone hands you an “unloaded” gun.
32. Firearms should be unloaded when not in use and secured from unauthorized access or use. Never leave a firearm unsecured where children or prohibited persons may gain access to it.
33. Be sure your firearm is unloaded before cleaning, transporting, or storing it.
34. Do not alter or modify any components of your firearm and be sure to have it cleaned and serviced regularly. (Altering or modifying your firearm will void any warranty claim.)
35. Use of substandard ammunition will void the warranty and may damage your firearm. Only use quality, clean burning, commercial ammunition designed and specified for your firearm that meets Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers’ Institute (SAAMI) specifications. Poor quality ammunition that generates excessive fouling may cause your firearm to malfunction and necessitate additional cleaning.

36. Always store your firearm and ammunition in separate locked vaults where children will not have access.
37. If you teach your children to shoot, teach them to respect firearms and use them properly. Supervise them closely.
38. Never abuse your firearm by using it for some purpose other than what it was designed to do.
39. Never dry fire when the upper receiver is not in place. This action may crack the lower receiver.
40. Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms, or handling ammunition may cause birth defects, reproductive harm, cancer, and other serious physical injury. Have adequate ventilation at all times. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure.
41. Be sure the Cam Pin is installed in the Bolt Group. The firearm can fire and may explode if it is not installed. Any claim of warranty will be void in the event that the firearm is fired without the Cam Pin properly installed.
42. If you do not understand any comments noted above, seek help from your licensed retailer or professional training prior to use.

Manufacturer's Warning:

Please be sure to contact your local licensed firearms retailer, state department of justice, attorney general, local police or sheriff's office, and/or a licensed attorney to ascertain if there have been any additional changes in laws pertaining to ownership of firearms within your locality. Firearms laws change so rapidly and in so many places that it is impractical for the manufacturer to provide notification to the firearms owner or user of every legal nuance in every locality. It is the user's responsibility to know all laws in their jurisdiction prior to purchasing or using this firearm.

Manufacturer's Warning:

This is a semiautomatic firearm! Every time the firearm is fired, a new round will automatically be loaded into the chamber until all ammunition is depleted. Removing the magazine may not completely unload the firearm. The user must also lock the bolt back and check that the chamber is clear. This firearm does not utilize a magazine disconnect. If a round is left in the chamber and the trigger is depressed, the ammunition will discharge *even if the magazine is removed!* Be aware that firearms equipped with a Binary Firing System® or Release Firing System™ operate differently and users must follow the specific directions that accompany those products.

Manufacturer's Notice:

Franklin Armory® will not be responsible for damage, injury, or death resulting from intentional or accidental discharge of this firearm due to improper handling, maintenance, alterations, or for any other reason.

Manufacturer's Notice:

This firearm was inspected and quality checked multiple times prior to leaving the factory, however we cannot guarantee that it has not been damaged or tampered with after it has left our facility. Therefore, it is important that the purchaser of this firearm inspect the firearm carefully prior to using it. If anything appears deficient, do not fire the weapon and contact your licensed retailer immediately.

Manufacturer's Notice:

Firearms shipped to California (and jurisdictions with similar draconian laws) may be equipped with a patented "Drop-in Fixed Magazine®." (Patent #9,395,130.) The DFM® is designed to be used as a fixed magazine and is not generally removable by the end user. Two tabs rear of the feed lips prevent the magazine from being removed out the bottom of the magazine well. It is important to note that it may be a violation of California law if the magazine were to be removed and the action closed. Consequently, we recommend that the DFM® never be removed while within the boundaries of California.



Manufacturer's Notice:

This manual should always accompany the firearm. If the firearm is transferred or lent to someone else, be sure that the person is legally allowed to receive the firearm and make sure the person reads the manual prior to shooting the firearm. Additional manuals are available and can be downloaded online at: www.franklinarmory.com

Manufacturer's Warning:

This product from Franklin Armory® is defined by the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Division of the Federal Government as a firearm. By definition, this product is **POTENTIALLY LETHAL!**

Manufacturer's Warning:

Any unusual force applied to the firearm through a use that is inconsistent with the intended design parameters of this firearm can possibly cause premature failure.

Manufacturer's Warning:

This firearm has an external safety device that can be toggled from "Safe" to "Fire." With the firearm on "Fire," never depress the trigger unless you intend to fire the firearm. If the safety is ever found to be defective for any reason, immediately unload the firearm. **DANGER** of an unintentional discharge exists if the firearm remains loaded with an inoperable