

## ***The Importance of Cleaning and Maintaining Your Firearm***

Like any other tool, a gun needs to be maintained in order to operate efficiently. Imagine how poorly your car would run if you never got an oil change, or how short of a lifespan it would have if you never did any sort of maintenance on it. No matter what the use or purpose is of your gun, it is incredibly important to clean and maintain it regularly.

### **CLEANING ROD**

A good cleaning rod is an essential part of any cleaning kit. They are usually separated into a few segments and they screw together to give you the appropriate length for your chosen firearm. They come in several different materials like aluminum, fiber glass, carbon fiber, and brass. Brass usually represents the strongest option although they will be heavier.

### **BORE BRUSH**

A good quality bore brush will help remove residue and keep your barrel as clean as possible. Brushes are caliber specific, so for the best performance, use only approved caliber brushes in your firearm barrel. You can also find some universal brushes out there depending on how customized you want your kit to be. Brushes come in a variety of materials but again brass is the most popular material.

### **PATCH HOLDER**

An essential part of the cleaning process involves a patch holder that holds cotton cleaning patches. Patch holders are configured to fit a variety of barrels, but make sure the patch holder you select is approved for your chosen firearm caliber. Patch holders are usually made of brass, and they will attach to your cleaning rod just like a bore brush.

### **COTTON PATCHES**

Be sure to stock up on a good number of cotton patches. They are great for running solvent through your barrel, but since they gather residue, you can only use them once before discarding them.

### **COTTON MOPS**

Realistically, you can get away with just using cotton patches, but a good cotton mop provides the best option for applying gun oil to the barrel once cleaning is completed. Cotton mops can be sized for a specific caliber barrel, and they will only apply a light coat of oil to the barrel.

### **MUZZLE GUARDS**

The most seasoned firearm owners always caution owners about cleaning rod damage. For only a few extra dollars, you can add a muzzle guard and protect the muzzle crown from unnecessary damage. Muzzle guards also keep the cleaning rod centered, and they are usually composed of brass materials.

## ***Life Expectancy***

Without proper maintenance of your firearms, you can't expect them to last long. How do you think people inherit guns from their grandparents and are still able to use them? It is because the guns were properly taken care of.

Cleaning, oiling, and properly storing your gun in a case or safe can make the gun last for generations.

### ***Learn How the Gun Works***

Disassembling your gun to clean it will help you understand how your gun works. It's important to know how all of the individual parts interact with each other to accurately clean and maintain the gun for peak performance. If you are a gun owner and enthusiast, this can be a particular beneficial activity to learn more about guns.

No matter what type of gun you have, there are Gun Cleaning Supplies available to properly take care of and maintain your firearm. Shop at [MilitariaPress.com](http://MilitariaPress.com) to find the right Cleaning Kits to clean and maintain your firearm today.