

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Stand Alone 7 – LD 35 Firearms
Session No. 27 – LAPD Pistol Manipulations Test/Introduction to Shotgun

Hours: 3

LD 35 (RBC Calendar Location Week 14)

LOCATION: Range & Classroom

TRAINING NEEDS: Inert shotgun, Shotgun Demo Rounds

HANDOUTS: None

LD 35 VIII.C1-11
LD 35 II.D1-2; III.D,E,F

I. LAPD Pistol Manipulations Test (2 hours)

A. Assemble the class on the range and conduct training drills to reinforce the following pistol manipulation skills that have been previously taught.

1. Drawing and Holstering
2. Chamber Checks: Daytime and Low-Light
3. Loading and Unloading
4. Tactical Reload
5. In-Battery and Out-of-Battery Speed Reloads
6. Harries Flashlight Technique
7. Failure to Fire Malfunction
8. Failure to Eject Malfunction
9. Failure to Extract Malfunction
10. Field Stripping and Lubrication Points

B. **TEST:** Administer the LAPD Pistol Manipulations Test

Each student will participate in a required learning activity designed to reinforce the ability to manipulate their assigned firearm.

If the firearm is a semiautomatic pistol, the learning activity shall minimally include the following techniques to safely and effectively manipulate the semiautomatic pistol in both the left and right hand:

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1. **Render the weapon safe**
2. **Release slide**
3. **Lock slide open**
4. **Rack slide**
5. **Holster weapon**
6. **Unholster weapon**
7. **Load weapon**
8. **Unload weapon from the holster**
9. **Clear any malfunctions**
10. **In battery reload**
11. **Out of battery speed reload** **(LD 35 VIII.C1-11)**

- C. Each recruit will be tested individually by an instructor on the range. The instructor must be a Department certified Handgun Instructor Training School (HITS) instructor in order to administer the test. The test is a live-fire test.
- D. Recruits will wait as a group off the range and wait to be called onto the range by an individual instructor to take the manipulations test. When the recruit has finished the test, they will exit the range and send the next recruit waiting onto the range to the available instructor.
- E. The recruit must receive a minimum score of 70% in order to pass the test.
- F. Once all of the recruits have completed the testing process, the primary instructor will bring all of the recruits onto the range and clean up the range.
- G. Once the range is clean, the recruits will be dismissed to the classroom for the next block of training, which is the introduction to the shotgun.

II. Introduction to the Shotgun **(1 hour)** **(LD 35 II.D1-2; III.D,E,F)**

Learning Objectives:

- Describe the basic information about shotguns, including:
 1. Advantages and limitations
 2. Primary components and their functions
 3. Steps for loading/unloading
 4. Steps for rendering the shotgun safe
- Describe the primary components of a shotgun shell.
- Define shot pattern as it relates to shotgun shells.
- Explain the correlation to the distance traveled by the shot and the size of the shot pattern.

A. General Shotgun Information: Presentation in the classroom

1. Describe the basic information about shotguns including: **(LD 35 II D1-2)**

a. Advantages

- 1) Can be used in a variety of situations
- 2) Multiple projectiles
 - a. A primary advantage of a shotgun is that it has the potential to strike a suspect with nine .33caliber projectiles instead of one 9mm projectile (.355 cal) with each trigger press.

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- b. More projectiles striking the suspect will result in more shock, trauma, which increases the probability and speed that the threat will be stopped.
- c. Even though a 9mm hollow point bullet has a more efficient ballistic shape than a 00-buckshot pellet and penetrates tissue better, it does not have nearly the shock/trauma potential that a load of none 00 buckshot has.

3. Variety of loads psychological value

b. Limitations

- o Portability
- o Accessibility
- o Altercations

- 1) When used to fire shot shells discharging multiple projectiles, the shotgun has two limitations.
 - a. One limitation is in the area of penetration. Although a multiple projectile load works well on human tissue, it does not penetrate other substances very well.
 - Window glass, cars and walls are encountered in tactical situations and 00 buckshot may not effectively penetrate them. Although 00 buck shot will penetrate a car window, the buckshot will have lost so much energy that it may be ineffective
 - Most body armor will defeat buck shot.
 - b. The second limitation of the shotgun with a multiple projectile load is its range. The shot pattern continues to expand as the shot continues downrange.
 - c. At a certain distance the entire pattern will be so large that even a perfectly aimed center body mass shot will miss the target. Background and range are two very important considerations in minimizing collateral damage.

c. Primary components and their functions

- 1) A shotgun is a smooth bore, shoulder weapon that can fire a variety of ammunition, but usually fires a shot shell that discharges multiple projectiles with a single press of the trigger. Refer to the LAPD Basic Firearms Manual Chapter 1.
 - a. A "smooth bore "indicates that the barrel has no lands or grooves (no rifling).
 - b. A "shoulder weapon" is a weapon that is designed to be fired from the shoulder, as opposed to a handgun.
 - c. Refer to the diagram in the LAPD Basic Firearms Manual, Chapter 2 for the specifications and nomenclature of the Remington 870, 12 gauge shotgun.

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2. Describe the primary components of a shotgun shell (LD 35 III.D)

a. Shell Components:

1) Primer

- Detonation charge contained in the base of the shotgun shell
- Ignites the powder charge

2) Powder Charge

- Gun powder which burns when detonated by the primer

3) Wad

- A plastic, fiber, or paper filler material used to separate the powder charge from the shot

4) Shot/ Load

- Projectile(s) fired from a single shell toward the intended threat

5) Shell Case/ Hull

- Outer container that holds the primer, powder charge, wad, and shot
- May be composed of metal, plastic, or paper, with a metal base

3. Define shot pattern as it relates to shotgun shell. (LD 35 III.E)

- The shot or pellets travel down the barrel in a tight group, but as they exit the muzzle of the shotgun they begin to spread apart, forming what is called a shot pattern.

4. Explain the correlation to the distance traveled by the shot and the size of the shot pattern. (LD35 III.F)

- a. This shot pattern will increase in size as the shot travels down range. The shot pattern is the diameter of a circle in which the shot will fit.
- b. The pattern of 00 buckshot (Federal duty load) discharged from stock LAPD Remington 870 shotguns expands at a rate of approximately 1/2 inch per yard.

5. In law enforcement, we expect and are prepared for the eventuality that someone may suddenly, and without warning, attempt to use deadly force against us. What police officers need is an effective defensive weapon

- a. A defensive weapon requires the qualities of portability, accessibility, and versatility.
- b. The handgun fulfills all of these requirements, however a trade-off occurs in the area of power (the ability to cause trauma).
- c. The police shotgun is designed for a different mission; it is not a defensive weapon. It is an offensive weapon.
- d. In police work, an offensive weapon is utilized in situations when the officers have knowledge or the reasonable expectation that they will likely encounter an armed suspect posing a deadly threat.
- e. Pedestrian stops and vehicle stops that involve high-risk persons

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(gang members, parolees, felony suspects, etc.) or situations are appropriate situations for the use of a shotgun.

- f. Building and area searches for armed suspects that may present an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury may also be suitable situations for the use of the shotgun.

6. Maximum lethal range is the maximum distance at which a human being can be struck with a given projectile (buckshot, slug, etc.) with lethal results
 - a. LAPD's Federal 00 buckshot maximum lethal range is approximately 300 yards.

7. Maximum effective range is the maximum distance that all of the buckshot will strike the target.
 - a. This distance will vary from shotgun to shotgun but is approximately 17 to 25 yards.
 - b. Every shotgun should be checked to determine its maximum effective range.

8. Only LAPD officers who have been trained and certified with slug ammunition may deploy slugs in the field.

B. Verifying the condition of the shotgun

1. Refer to the LAPD Basic Firearms Manual, Shotgun Chapter 3 when explaining and demonstrating the process of verifying the condition of the Remington 870 shotgun.
2. Use an inert shotgun to demonstrate the following steps to be followed when verifying the condition of the shotgun:
 - a. Action Open
 - b. Safety On
 - c. Visually and Physically check the Loading Area, Magazine Tube and Chamber.

C. Conclusion

1. Instruct the recruits to review Shotgun Chapters 1 and 2 in their Basic Firearms Manual.
2. Instruct the recruits to read Shotgun Chapters 3 and 4 in their Basic Firearms Manual before their next Firearms Training Session.
3. Answer and clarify any questions the recruits may have.