

COMPONENTS AND PURPOSE

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Champion

David Tubb

BARREL BREAK-IN

Overview and Instructions

From Superior Shooting Systems Inc. Technical Staff

Necessary components: 16 loaded cartridges
6 cartridges loaded with TMS bullets
10 cartridges loaded with burnishing (uncoated) bullets

OVERVIEW

The loaded cartridges as suggested above reflect the effort by DTAC to address barrel break in for a newly-chambered handlapped barrel. The interior of your bore has been lapped and will be smooth; however, the chamber and throat (leade) area contain annular tool marks that resulted from the chambering operation. The tool marks in the throat are one of two items that need to be addressed when breaking in the handlapped barrel. Most (90%+) of the tool marks are removed with 6 of the TMS (Throat Maintenance System) bullets you have prepared or purchased as loaded rounds. We suggest marking the case head of these rounds so they cannot be confused with the burnishing ammunition. After this initial smoothing of the throat area, the barrel then needs to be burnished. A good definition of burnishing is non-abrasive lapping metal-to-metal (when you watch a barber work a straight razor on a leather strop, he is burnishing the microscopic edges of the metal). Using a light powder charge and a bare bullet is the best way to accomplish this on your new handlapped barrel. Additionally, choosing a bullet with a long bearing area enhances its effectiveness.

PROCESS STEPS

Clean your new barrel

Shoot 3 TMS bullets

Clean your barrel

Shoot 3 TMS bullets

Clean your barrel

Shoot 5 burnishing bullets

Clean your barrel

Shoot 5 burnishing bullets

Barrel Cleaning Procedure

It is necessary to correctly clean the barrel during this process. We recommend using a one-caliber oversized brass brush and Sweets 7.62 (or other suitable copper solvent cleaner). Keep the brush wet with solvent when cleaning. Push at least 2 wet patches through the barrel after brushing. Clean the barrel prior to starting and then after every 3 shots with the TMS.

Step 1 — TMS Bullets

After cleaning the new barrel, fire 3 TMS bullets. Clean the barrel again following the procedure outlined. Fire 3 TMS bullets and clean again.

Step 2 — Burnishing Bullets

Shoot 5 burnishing bullets and clean. Fire 5 more and clean again.

The break-in procedure is now complete.

Follow-Up Treatments

We suggest continued use of TMS, so set aside a few loaded rounds. These are to be used periodically to help keep the barrel throat area smooth. Frequency of use depends on the caliber. Use a couple of these every 300-400 rounds with a 6XC or .243, every 500-600 rounds with a .308 or .223. Shoot these prior to cleaning the barrel. We recommend a steady diet of TMS throughout the life of your barrel — it will extend the accurate life of your barrel since the stress cracking that takes place in the throat will be kept smoother. TMS bullets are available in a 50-bullet kit for those wanting to load their own rounds, or as a box of 20 loaded rounds. Please visit www.SuperiorShootingSystems.com for more information about TMS and our Final Finish System for factory barrels.

— SSS Technical