




**FN 15™**

**AUTOLOADING RIFLE  
OWNER'S MANUAL**

CONGRATULATIONS!  
YOU ARE THE  
PROUD OWNER  
OF A REMARKABLE  
 FIREARM.

YOUR FN FIREARM INFORMATION

Model

Serial Number

Retailer/Dealer

Date of Purchase

Notes

# FN 15™

## Autoloading Rifle

### Important Operating Instructions

If you have questions or comments regarding your new FN firearm, contact us.

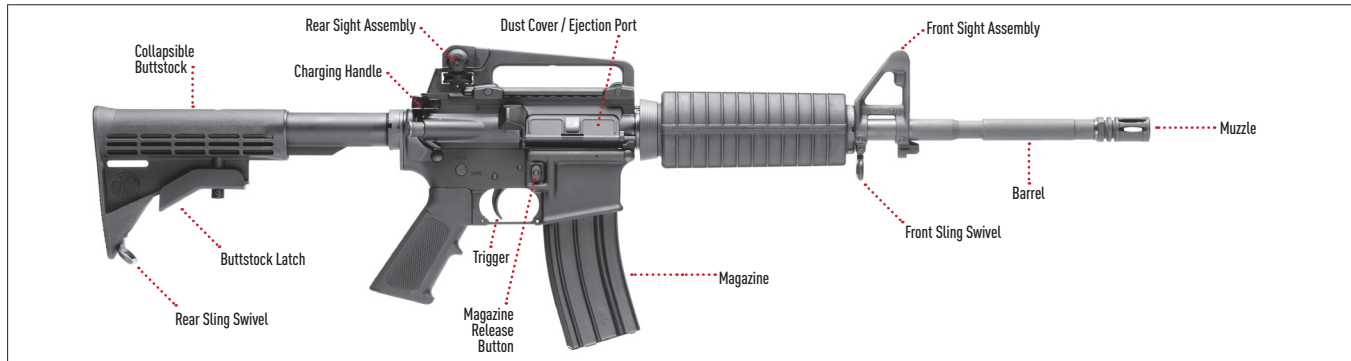
**FN AMERICA, LLC. 800-635-1321 FNAMERICA.COM**

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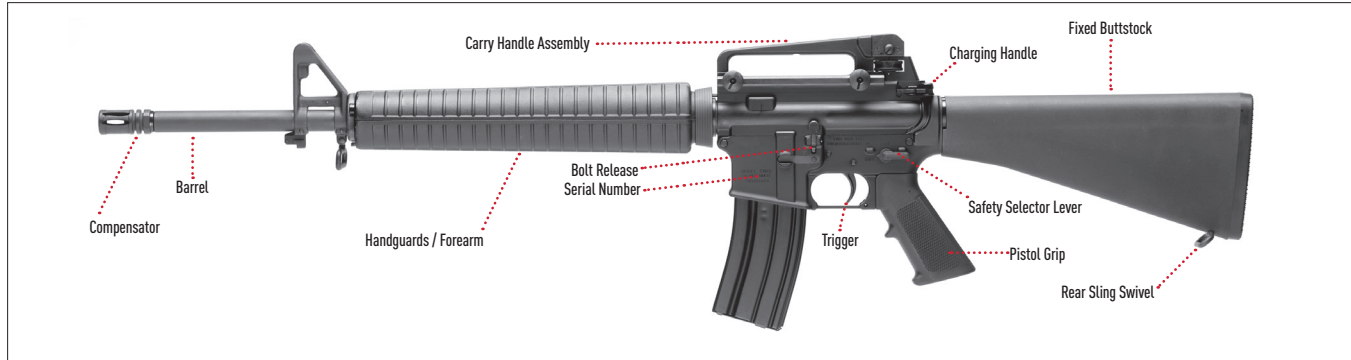
## 0.0 GENERAL PARTS NOMENCLATURE

FIGURE 1



FN 15<sup>mm</sup> right side, Carbine shown.

FIGURE 2



FN 15<sup>mm</sup> left side, Rifle shown.

## 1.0 FORWARD

We are pleased that you have chosen an FN 15™ autoloading rifle. The FN 15™ represents FN's commitment to build quality rifles that exceed industry standards for testing, fit, function, reliability and accuracy.

Based on a proven design and bearing the FN's stamp of quality, the FN 15™ is easy to operate and maintain. With a reasonable amount of care, your FN 15™ should give you many years of dependable and enjoyable service.

In order to take maximum advantage of the many features of your FN 15™, regularly review this owner's manual.

Please contact us if you have any observations or questions regarding the performance or the operation of your rifle.

Thank you.

## 2.0 CONTENTS OF THE STORAGE BOX

The rifle and its accessories are supplied in a military-style shipping container. The contents of the container should include:

- > Rifle
- > Locking device and two keys. (Use locking device when storing and transporting the rifle. Always keep the keys in a safe place.)
- > One 30-round magazine (One 10-round magazine where required by law)
- > Carry handle/rear sight assembly
- > This Owner's Manual

### 3.0 SAFETY AND WARRANTY NOTES

**⚠ DANGER** Like all firearms if handled in a careless or reckless manner the FN 15™ can be very dangerous. Failure to follow the information in this owner's manual could result in serious injury or death.

For that reason, the rifle has been sold under the express understanding that FN America declines any responsibility and invalidates any guarantee and liability claims for incidental or consequential damages, injuries, loss of use of property, commercial loss, loss of earnings and profits, resulting in whole or partly from:

- > The use of reloaded ammunition
- > A discharge with criminal intent or through negligence
- > Improper or careless handling
- > Unauthorized servicing
- > The modification or alteration of the basic rifle design
- > The use of non-original parts
- > The modification or alteration of the "safety" devices
- > The use of incorrect "arms and ammunition" combinations
- > The use of defective or unsafe ammunition
- > Inadequate care of the rifle (e.g. corrosion, damage.)
- > Disregard of malfunctions
- > Resale in contradiction to legislation
- > Other circumstances beyond our direct and immediate control

Notice! FN America reserves the right to refuse servicing a rifle which has been modified by removal of metal from the barrel, modifications of the firing mechanism and/or other parts, and will, in such a case, always recommend restoring the rifle to its original specifications. Parts and labor required for such a restoration are payable by the owner of the rifle.

### 3.1 AFTERMARKET ACCESSORIES WARNING

Any addition to your FN firearm of aftermarket accessories (such as suppressors, triggers, muzzle devices, stocks, etc.) is considered a modification of your firearm from its original configuration, which may void your warranty. We are unable to adapt each firearm for every variable effect that might occur when you install a third-party manufacturer's accessory on an FN firearm. Therefore, FN disclaims all responsibility and liability for any damage caused to you and/or your firearm as a result of aftermarket accessory use. If an aftermarket accessory causes damage to you and/or your firearm, please address your concerns with the accessory manufacturer.

## 4.0 FIREARM SAFETY INFORMATION

**▲ WARNING** Failure to follow any of the following warnings could result in serious injury or death.

As a firearm owner, you accept a set of demanding responsibilities. How seriously you take these responsibilities can be the difference between life and death.

There is no excuse for careless or abusive handling of any firearm. At all times handle this firearm and all other firearms with intense respect for their power and potential danger.

Please read and understand all of the cautions, warnings, notices, proper handling procedures and instructions outlined in this owner's manual before using your new firearm.

**▲ WARNING** Always keep the muzzle of your firearm pointed in a safe direction even though you are certain it is unloaded.

1. Never point any firearm at anything you do not intend to shoot. Be extremely alert and aware of all persons and property within the range of your ammunition.

**▲ WARNING** Never rely totally on your firearm's mechanical "safety" devices. Like any mechanical device, a "safety" can sometimes fail; it can be jarred or inadvertently manipulated into an unsafe condition.

2. The word "safety" describes a firearm's trigger block mechanism, sear block mechanism, hammer block mechanism or firing pin block mechanism. Mechanical "safeties" are designed to place your firearm in a safer status, and no guarantee can be made that the firearm will not fire even if the "safety" is in the "on safe" position. Mechanical "safeties" merely aid safe gun handling and are no excuse for

pointing your firearm's muzzle in an unsafe direction. See Section 9 for instructions on the operation of this firearm's "safety."

Remember, safe gun handling does not stop with your firearm's mechanical "safety" devices, it starts there. Always treat this firearm with the respect due a loaded, ready-to-fire firearm.

Some firearms do not have a mechanical safety. Many target firearms, lever-action firearms and rifles do not have manual "safety" mechanisms. Therefore it is critical to read and understand the owner's manual for every firearm which explains the safe operation of the firearm.

While it is a good idea to "test" your firearm's mechanical "safety" periodically for proper function, never test the "safety" while your firearm is loaded or pointed in an unsafe direction.

**▲ WARNING** Whenever you handle any firearm, or hand it to someone, always open the action immediately and visually check the firearm's chamber and magazine to make certain that the firearm is completely unloaded.

3. Make certain the firearm does not inadvertently contain any ammunition. Always keep the chamber empty and the "safety" in the "on safe" position unless shooting is imminent. If your firearm is equipped with a detachable magazine, be aware that removing the magazine does not mean your firearm is completely unloaded, a cartridge could be in the chamber. Always remove the magazine, open the action and visually inspect the chamber to make certain the firearm is completely unloaded.

**▲ WARNING** Always Wear eye and hearing protection when shooting.

4. Unprotected, repeated exposure to gunfire can cause hearing damage. Wear ear protectors (shooting earplugs or muffs) to guard against such damage.

Wear shooting glasses to protect your eyes from flying particles. Allow proper distance (eye relief) between a scope and your eye when firing a scoped rifle or shotgun. Do not use unorthodox shooting methods that could cause the rearward travel of the slide or bolt of a firearm to contact your eyes, face or hands. Always keep a safe distance between the muzzle of your firearm and any persons nearby, as muzzle blast, debris and ejecting shells could inflict serious injury.

Always wear eye protection when disassembling and cleaning your rifle to prevent the possibility of springs, spring-tensioned parts, solvents or other agents from contacting your eyes.

**⚠ WARNING** Keep all firearms unloaded during transport, even when stored in a holster, gun case, scabbard or other container.

5. For law enforcement and military personnel, refer to the procedures of your department on carrying a loaded firearm.

**⚠ WARNING** Dropping/jarring a loaded firearm can cause an accidental discharge.

6. This can occur even with the "safety" in the "on safe" position or the hammer in the decocked position. Be extremely careful while hunting or during any shooting activity, to avoid dropping any firearm.

**⚠ WARNING** Shooting from elevated surfaces is dangerous.

7. Doing so may increase the risk of mishandling a firearm. The following rules should always be observed. Always make certain that the surface being used is safe and stable. Always make certain that your firearm is unloaded when it is being taken up and down from the surface. Always make certain that your firearm is not dropped from the surface, or dropped while it is being taken up or down from the

surface. Remember, a loaded firearm may discharge when dropped, even with the "safety" in the "on safe" position.

**⚠ WARNING** Store your firearm and ammunition separately, well beyond the reach of children.

8. Take prudent safeguards to ensure your firearm does not become available to untrained, inexperienced or unwelcome hands. Store all firearms in secure, locked cases or a gun safe. Keep your firearm unloaded when not in use. At all times, comply with local and state laws.

For law enforcement and military personnel, refer to the procedures of your department on storing your firearm.

**⚠ WARNING** Beware of barrel obstructions.

9. Mud, snow and an infinite variety of other objects may inadvertently lodge in a barrel bore. It only takes a small obstruction to cause dangerously increased pressures that can damage your firearm and cause serious injury to yourself and others.

**⚠ WARNING** Before checking for a barrel obstruction, be certain your firearm is completely unloaded, there is not a live cartridge in the chamber and the "safety" is in the "on safe" position.

Completely unload the firearm as described in Section 15.1. After assuring yourself that the firearm is completely unloaded, open the breech or action and look through the barrel to be sure it is clear of obstructions. If an obstruction is seen, no matter how small it may be, clean the bore with a cleaning rod and patch as described in Section 19.1. of this owner's manual.



**⚠ WARNING** Be alert to the signs of ammunition malfunction. If you detect an off sound or light recoil when a cartridge is fired, do not load another cartridge into the chamber.

10. If your firearm fails to fire, keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction for a minimum of 30 seconds. Carefully open the action and remove the cartridge from the chamber, and completely unload the firearm as described in Section 15.1. If the primer is indented, the defective cartridge should be disposed of in a way that cannot cause harm.

If the primer is not indented, your firearm should be examined by a qualified gunsmith and the cause of the malfunction corrected before further use. Glance down the barrel to make sure that there are no obstructions in the barrel. If there is an obstruction, completely clear the barrel before loading and firing again. Failure to follow these instructions can cause extensive damage to your firearm and possible serious injury to yourself and others.

**⚠ WARNING** Never insert a cartridge of the incorrect caliber into any firearm.

11. The caliber of your firearm is marked on the barrel. Store all cartridges of different calibers in completely separate and well-marked containers. Never store cartridges of mixed calibers in a common container or in your pockets. See Section 11 for more information on the correct ammunition for your firearm.

**⚠ WARNING** Examine every cartridge you put in your firearm.

12. We assume no responsibility for the use of unsafe or improper firearm and ammunition combinations or damage or injury caused by damaged ammunition. It is your responsibility to read and heed all warnings in this owner's manual and on ammunition boxes. See Section 11 for more information on the correct ammunition for your firearm.

**⚠ WARNING** Use only SAAMI or NATO approved ammunition.

13. The barrel and action of this rifle have been made with substantial safety margins over the pressures developed by established American commercial loads. Nevertheless, we can assume no liability for incidents which occur through the use of cartridges of nonstandard dimensions or which develop pressures in excess of commercially available ammunition which has been loaded in accordance with standards established by the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute (SAAMI).

**⚠ WARNING** Make sure of adequate ventilation in the area that you discharge a firearm. Lead exposure can occur from discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms or handling ammunition.

14. Lead is a substance that has been known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm and other serious injury. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure to ammunition or after cleaning a firearm.

**⚠ WARNING** Do not snap the firing pin on an empty chamber: the chamber may not be empty!

15. Treat every firearm with the respect due to a loaded firearm, even though you are certain the firearm is unloaded.

**⚠ WARNING** Keep your fingers away from the trigger at all times until shooting is imminent.

**⚠ WARNING** Be sure of your target and backstop, particularly during low light periods.

16. Know the range of your ammunition. Never shoot at water or hard objects.

**▲ WARNING** Always unload your firearm's chamber before crossing a fence, climbing a tree, jumping a ditch or negotiating other obstacles.

17. Never place your firearm on or against a fence, tree, car or other similar object. Refer to Section 15.1. for unloading procedures.

For law enforcement and military personnel, refer to the procedures of your department.

**▲ WARNING** Be defensive and on guard against unsafe gun handling around you and others.

18. Don't be timid when it comes to gun safety. If you observe other shooters violating any of these safety precautions, politely suggest safer handling practices.

**▲ WARNING** Be certain your firearm is unloaded before cleaning.

19. Because so many gun accidents occur when a firearm is being cleaned, special and extreme care should be taken to be sure your firearm is unloaded before disassembly, cleaning and reassembly. Keep ammunition away from the cleaning location. Never test the mechanical function of any firearm with live ammunition.

**▲ WARNING** Teach and supervise firearms safety to all members of your family, especially to children and non-shooters.

20. Closely supervise newcomers to the shooting sports. Encourage enrollment in hunting and shooting safety courses.

**▲ WARNING** Never drink alcoholic beverages or take any type of drugs before or during shooting.

21. Your vision, motor skills and judgment could be dangerously impaired, making your gun handling unsafe to you and to others.

**▲ WARNING** Read and heed all warnings in this owner's manual, on ammunition boxes and with all accessories that you install on your firearm.

22. It is your responsibility to secure the most up-to-date information on the safe handling procedures for your FN firearm.

We assume no liability for incidents which occur when unsafe or improper rifle accessories or ammunition combinations are used.

**▲ WARNING** Practice periodic maintenance, avoid unauthorized servicing.

23. Your firearm is a mechanical device which will not last forever, and as such, is subject to wear and requires periodic inspection, adjustment and service. FN firearms should be serviced by the FN Product Service Center in Columbia, South Carolina.

We cannot assume any responsibility for injuries suffered or caused by unauthorized servicing, alterations or modifications of FN firearms.

**▲ WARNING** We reserve the right to refuse service on firearms that have been altered, added to or substantially changed.

24. Removal of metal from the barrel or modifications of the firing mechanism and/or operating parts may lead to a refusal of service on such firearms. We will charge the owner for parts and labor to return the firearm to original FN specifications.

**⚠ WARNING** Do not, under any circumstances, alter the trigger, safety or other parts of the firing mechanism of this or any other firearm. Failure to obey this warning may result in injury or death to yourself or others.

## 5.0 DESCRIPTION AND OPERATION

### 5.1 Description

The FN 15™ is a direct gas impingement operated repeating rifle. The FN 15™ is based on the proven design of the M-16 series of rifles successfully used by the US Military for decades. It will prove to be easy to use, very accurate and extremely reliable. This information applies to the basic operation of the FN 15™ rifle, regardless of the specific model you may have purchased. Where there are differences, these differences are explained or are included in a separate addendum included with your FN 15™.

### 5.2 Operation

When the trigger is pulled, the firing pin strikes the primer of the cartridge, resulting in the rifle firing. Gas from the fired cartridge travels down the barrel with some diverted in to the gas tube attached to the barrel in the front sight assembly. This gas travels back into the bolt carrier in the receiver and imparts energy into the bolt carrier, forcing it to move to the rear. During the rearward movement of the bolt carrier and the bolt, the bolt unlocks from the barrel extension and the empty cartridge is extracted from the chamber. As the bolt clears the ejection port, the empty cartridge is ejected out of the ejection port. During this time, the hammer is being re-cocked by the bolt carrier. If there is another cartridge in the magazine, the bolt carrier then returns forward by the force of the recoil spring, strips another cartridge from the magazine and loads it into the chamber, ready to be fired. If there are no other cartridges in the magazine during this movement, the bolt release engages and the bolt remains locked to the rearmost, open position.

With cartridges in the magazine and chamber, and the "safety" selector in the "off safe" position, the rifle will fire a single round with each successive pull of the trigger until the magazine and chamber are empty. When the last round has been fired, the bolt will lock to the rearmost, open position. This allows for fast, convenient reloading.

## 6.0 NOMENCLATURE

In conventional firearm terminology the position and movement of parts are described as they occur with the firearm horizontal and in normal firing position, i.e., the muzzle is forward or in front; the buttstock is rearward or to the rear; the trigger is downward or underneath; the sights are upward or on top. For general parts nomenclature, refer to Figures 1 and 2.

## 7.0 SERIAL NUMBER

The serial number is located on the left side of the lower receiver, on the outside of the magazine well. See Figure 2. Record the serial number at the front of this Owner's Manual and in another secure location for future reference.

## 8.0 INITIAL CLEANING

**⚠ WARNING** Wear eye protection when assembling and disassembling your rifle to prevent springs, spring-loaded parts, solvents and other agents from contacting your eyes, resulting in injury.

Various exposed metal parts of this rifle have been coated at the factory with a rust preventative compound. This compound is not an ideal lubricant. Before using the rifle, clean the anti-rust compound from the inside of the barrel, receiver, bolt and bolt carrier and the action/chamber areas with CLP (cleaner, lubricant, protectant) as explained in Section 19.1.

If your rifle is to be stored, it is acceptable to leave the rust preventative compound on the rifle and keep it in its original packaging. Never fire the rifle upon purchase without cleaning it first. If the rifle contains hardened grease or other substances that you cannot remove, have the rifle checked by your dealer or departmental armorer. For law enforcement and military, refer to the procedures of your agency or unit.

## 9.0 OPERATION OF THE “SAFETY” SELECTOR

**▲ WARNING** Always keep the “safety” selector in the “on safe” position unless shooting is imminent. Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

The FN 15™ rifle utilizes a safety selector lever located on the left side of the lower receiver, just above and behind the trigger. This location allows the “safety” selector to be easily manipulated with the thumb of the right hand, or the index finger of the left hand.

With the “safety” selector in the “SAFE” position, the rifle is in the “on safe” position, and rearward movement of the trigger is completely blocked. See Figure 3.

With the “safety” selector in the “FIRE” position, the rifle is “off safe” and ready to fire. See Figure 4.

FIGURE 3



Safety selector in the “SAFE” position.

FIGURE 4



Safety selector in “FIRE” position.

## 10.0 BOLT RELEASE

**▲ WARNING** When using the bolt release always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and keep your fingers away from the trigger. Unless shooting is imminent, always remove the magazine from the rifle before closing the bolt to prevent inadvertently loading a cartridge from the magazine into the chamber.

Make sure your fingers are safely away from the ejection port at all times when the bolt is locked open and when the bolt is released to avoid pinching them when the bolt closes.

Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

### 10.1 Bolt Release

The bolt release is located on the left side of the lower receiver, just above and in front of the trigger. See Figure 5. It automatically engages after the last cartridge in the magazine has been fired and locks the bolt to the rearmost, open position.

FIGURE 5



Press in on top of bolt release to release the bolt.

To release the bolt when no magazine is in the rifle and the bolt is locked rearward, press inward on the top of the bolt release paddle, or pull the charging handle to the rear to disengage the bolt release and then release the charging handle. This will allow the bolt to return to the forward position.

## 10.2 Bolt Lock Function

The bolt release can also be used to lock the bolt in the rearward position when the magazine is removed. To lock the bolt in the open or rearward position, pull the charging handle all the way to the rear with the right hand and press inward with the bottom portion of the bolt release with the left hand. The charging handle has a latch on the left side that must be engaged in order to pull the charging handle from the upper receiver. See Figure 6. Once the bolt is held to the rear by the bolt release, the charging handle may be moved forward back into the upper receiver, leaving the bolt locked open.

FIGURE 6



Press in on the bottom of bolt release while holding the charging handle to the rear to lock the bolt to the rear.

## 11.0 AMMUNITION

**▲ WARNING** Do not use ammunition other than what is designed for use in the FN 15™ rifle and inscribed on the barrel forward of the front sight assembly. Examine every cartridge you put in your rifle.

Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms or handling ammunition may result in exposure to lead and other substances known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm and other serious physical injury. Have adequate ventilation at all times. Wash hands thoroughly after handling ammunition.

The barrel and action of this rifle have been made with substantial safety margins over the pressures developed by established American loads. However, we assume no responsibility for incidents which occur through the use of cartridges of

nonstandard dimension or those developing pressures in excess of SAAMI (Small Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute) or NATO established standards for the cartridge engraved on the barrel of the rifle.

Additionally, your FN 15™ may be chambered in 5.56mm NATO or in .223 Remington. These are not interchangeable. Please use only ammunition which is described on the barrel of your FN 15™ rifle and is within NATO or SAAMI specification, respectively.

## 12.0 MAGAZINE CAPACITY

The FN 15™ magazine is designed after the M-16/M4 military pattern magazine. While other magazines may fit the FN 15™, FN recommends only using original FN 15™ magazines. FN cannot guarantee reliable and safe function of the FN 15™ with magazines other than FN 15™ magazines.

FN 15™ rifles have a standard magazine capacity of 30 cartridges. However, some jurisdictions limit the magazine capacity to 10 or fewer cartridges. All FN 15™ rifles sold in these jurisdictions will be shipped with limited capacity magazines in compliance with local or state law. Make sure you have verified the capacity of your magazine before loading it in your rifle. Be familiar with the local and state laws governing firearms and magazine capacities before loading your rifle.

## 13.0 LOADING

**▲ WARNING** When loading your rifle keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, always place the "safety" selector in the "on safe" position and keep your fingers away from the trigger. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

Do not carry your rifle with a cartridge in the chamber to avoid accidental discharge. When firing is no longer imminent, place the “safety” selector in the “on safe” position, eject magazine and unload the chamber as explained in Section 15.1. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

### 13.1 Filling the Magazine

**⚠ WARNING** Do not insert the magazine into the rifle, nor load a cartridge into the chamber, unless shooting is imminent.

1. Make sure the “safety” selector is in the “on safe” position as explained in Section 9.0 and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2. Press the magazine release located on the right side of the lower receiver just in front of and above the trigger guard. See Figure 7. Remove the magazine from the rifle with your free hand.

3. Pull the bolt completely rearward using the charging handle as explained in Section 10.2 and visually inspect the chamber to ensure that it is empty. Return the bolt to the forward, closed position.

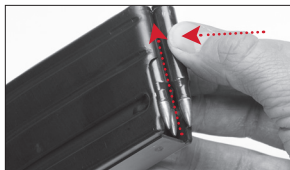
4. Load the cartridges into the magazine by placing the cartridge on the top of the retaining lips and, with your thumb, pushing it straight down against the

FIGURE 7



Press in on the magazine release to remove the magazine.

FIGURE 8



Press down and then back on the cartridges to fill the magazine.

spring force of the follower until it locks into position under the retaining lips. Ensure the noses of the cartridges are pointed toward the front of the magazine, indicated by the open retaining lips. See Figure 8. Continue to fill the magazine in this manner until full or the desired number of cartridges is loaded.

Care should be exercised in positioning each cartridge so that its base is flush with the rear of the magazine. If the nose of the cartridge protrudes beyond the front of the magazine, it could cause feeding problems or interfere with the insertion the magazine into the rifle.

### 13.2 Loading the Rifle

**⚠ WARNING** When loading your rifle always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and place the “safety” selector in the “on safe” position. Keep your finger away from the trigger. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

1. Make sure the “safety” selector is in the “on safe” position as explained in Section 9.0 and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2. Lock the bolt open or in rear position by pulling the charging handle all the way to the rear and pressing inward on the bottom portion of the bolt release. See Figure 6.

3. Insert a filled magazine into the magazine well until it locks in place. Ensure the noses of the cartridges in the magazine point toward the muzzle of the rifle when doing so.

4. If shooting is imminent, a cartridge can now be fed from the magazine to the chamber by pulling back fully on the charging handle and releasing it, or by pressing the top paddle portion of the bolt release, and allowing the bolt to move forward into battery. If the bolt is not allowed to close in this manner, there is a possibility that it will not close completely, preventing the rifle from firing.

5. If the bolt does not close completely, or to ensure that the bolt has closed completely, tap the forward assist button, located on the right side of the upper receiver just behind the ejection port and brass deflector, with your right hand. See Figure 9.

FIGURE 9



Press or tap the forward assist to ensure the bolt is fully closed.

**▲ WARNING** The rifle is now ready to fire by moving the “safety” selector to the “off safe” position and pulling the trigger.

## 14.0 FIRING

**▲ WARNING** Never chamber a cartridge or move the “safety” selector from the “on safe” position unless shooting is imminent. Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

### 14.1 Firing Procedures

1. Make sure the “safety” selector is in the “on safe” position as explained in Section 9.0 and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2. Load a cartridge into the chamber as explained previously. With a cartridge in the chamber, you need only to move the “safety” selector to the “off safe” position to make the rifle ready for firing. Do not move the “safety” selector to the “off safe” position unless shooting is imminent.

**▲ WARNING** The rifle is now ready to fire by moving the “safety” selector to the “off safe” position and pulling the trigger.

3. When ready to fire, move the “safety” selector into the “off safe” position, take aim and squeeze the trigger.

**▲ WARNING** During extended shooting sessions or rapid firing, the barrel and front sight assembly can become extremely hot. Avoid contact with these parts during shooting or wear gloves to prevent burning your hands. Do not fire the FN 15™ without the handguards in place. Failure to follow this warning could result in serious injury.

4. After a cartridge has been fired, the bolt carrier and bolt automatically move rearward, ejecting the empty case, then return forward, chambering a loaded cartridge from the magazine. Note: the charging handle does not move during the firing sequence.

Because fired casings are ejected to the right side, bystanders should not stand to the right of the shooter.

5. This operation is repeated each time you pull the trigger until the last cartridge from the magazine has been fired. If shooting is no longer imminent, immediately place the “safety” selector in the “on safe” position. See “Unloading” in Section 15.0 for more information.

6. After the last cartridge in the magazine is fired, the bolt will lock in the rearward position. If you wish to continue shooting, you can reload the rifle by removing the empty magazine and inserting a loaded magazine as described previously. After inserting a loaded magazine, if shooting is imminent, you can chamber a cartridge and resume firing by pulling the charging handle fully rearward and releasing it, or by pressing the bolt release (Figure 5) and pushing forward on the forward assist button to ensure the first round is properly chambered.

If your rifle is to be put away and stored, do not reload the rifle or magazine. The chamber and magazine must remain empty when storing your rifle.



**⚠ WARNING** After firing, or when shooting is no longer imminent, immediately place the “safety” selector in the “on safe” position. Failure to follow this warning could result in serious injury or death.

Even with the bolt open after shooting, do not assume the rifle is unloaded. Always inspect the chamber, barrel, feed mechanism and magazine to be certain the rifle is completely unloaded. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

## 14.2 Malfunctions

If your rifle suffers a malfunction, such as the failure to fully eject a fired cartridge case, perform the following operation to clear the rifle:

1. Immediately place the “safety” selector in the “on safe” position as explained in Section 9.0 and keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
2. Eject the magazine from the rifle as explained in Section 13.1.
3. Pull rearward on the charging handle to completely eject the cartridge case.
4. Inspect, and if necessary, clean the rifle as outlined in Section 19.0.

## 15.0 UNLOADING

**⚠ WARNING** When unloading your rifle always place the “safety” selector in the “on safe” position and eject the magazine. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and keep your fingers away from the trigger. Lock the bolt in the open position as explained in Section 10.2. Inspect the chamber and barrel carefully to be sure all live cartridges are cleared from the firearm. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

### 15.1 Unloading the Rifle

1. Make sure the “safety” selector is in the “on safe” position as explained in Section 9.0 and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Press the magazine release and **remove** the magazine.
3. Extract and eject any live cartridge that may be in the chamber by pulling rearward on the charging handle to draw the bolt to its rearmost, open position and press the bolt release as explained in Section 10.2 to lock the bolt to the rear. Please note that the bolt will not automatically lock in the rearward position when the magazine is removed or when a loaded magazine is present in the rifle. As a good safety practice, hold the bolt open and visually inspect the chamber to be absolutely certain a live cartridge is not present in the chamber or anywhere in the rifle. See Figure 10.

FIGURE 10



**Inspect the chamber to ensure it is empty.**

4. With the magazine removed and the chamber empty, close the bolt. Make certain the “safety” selector is in the “on safe” position and properly store your rifle.
5. The FN 15™ is equipped with a spring loaded dust cover which can be closed over the ejection port when the rifle is not in use. It is useful for preventing debris from entering the action of the rifle when not in use.
  - > To close the dust cover, simply rotate it closed until it snaps into place.
  - > To open the dust cover, pull the charging handle to the rear and the bolt carrier will open the dust cover automatically. Any movement of the bolt carrier will cause the dust cover to open and remain open, even during firing.

## 15.2 Unloading the Magazine

Unload the magazine by pushing the cartridges, one at a time, forward out of the magazine.

## 16.0 BUTTSTOCK

**⚠ WARNING** Before performing stock adjustment procedures or accessing the storage compartment, place the “safety” in the “on safe” position. Eject the magazine, lock the bolt open as explained in Section 10.2 and make certain the chamber is completely unloaded. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

The FN 15™ may come with one of a variety of buttstocks. Depending on which model you have purchased, your FN 15™ may have one of the following buttstocks:

### 16.1 Fixed Buttstock

The FN 15™ fixed buttstock features a fixed sling mount and storage compartment. The storage compartment can be used to securely carry cleaning equipment or other small items. To access the storage compartment:

1. Make sure the “safety” selector is in the “on safe” position as explained in Section 9.0, the rifle is unloaded as explained in Section 15.1, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. With your finger or cartridge case rim, pull the locking latch back into the door. See Figure 11.

FIGURE 11



Access the storage compartment by pulling down on the latch while pulling open the door.

3. Open the door to access the compartment.
4. To close the door, press the door closed until it latches.

### 16.2 Collapsible Buttstock

The FN 15™ collapsible buttstock features a fixed sling mount and can be adjusted for length of pull and collapse for a more compact carry. It can be adjusted to six positions. To adjust the buttstock:

1. Make sure the “safety” selector is in the “on safe” position as explained in Section 9.0, the rifle is unloaded as explained in Section 15.1, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Press the buttstock latch up. See Figure 12.
3. Move the buttstock back or forth to the desired length.
4. Release the latch and ensure the buttstock is securely locked into one of its six positions.

FIGURE 12



Press up on the rear of the buttstock latch to adjust the buttstock.

## 17.0 SIGHTS

**⚠ WARNING** Before adjusting or mounting the sights, place the “safety” in the “on safe” position. Eject the magazine, lock the bolt open as explained in Section 15.1 and make certain the chamber is completely unloaded. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

The FN 15™ rifle includes front and rear iron sights that are both adjustable for elevation, with the rear sight adjustable for windage as well.

## 17.1 Rear Sight Assembly

The rear sight assembly is adjusted by hand. It consists of two sight apertures, an elevation drum, and a windage knob. See Figure 13. The rear sight assembly is part of the carry handle, which can be removed if other optical sights are to be used. It attaches to the top of the upper receiver rail, which is MIL-STD-1913 pattern. The rear sight elevation drum is graduated for the FN 15™ firing 5.56 mm NATO 62 grain M-855 or equivalent.

FIGURE 13



Rear sight / carry handle assembly.

**⚠ WARNING** Before mounting the sights or other accessories on your rifle, place the “safety” in the “on safe” position. Eject the magazine, lock the bolt open as explained in Section 15.1 and make certain the chamber is completely unloaded. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

The carry handle/rear sight assembly is shipped in an accessory box included with the FN 15™, but not attached when shipped. To attach the carry handle/rear sight assembly:

1. Make sure the “safety” selector is in the “on safe” position as explained in Section 9.0, the magazine is removed, the rifle is unloaded as explained in Section 15.1, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Remove the rear sight assembly from the box.
3. Loosen the two locking knobs on the left side of the carry handle assembly.

Do not remove them from the carry handle.

4. Align the carry handle assembly with the top rail of the upper receiver and rotate the carry handle onto the rail from the right. See Figure 14.

5. Ensure the locking bar on the side of the assembly latches over the left side rail. Tighten down the two locking knobs. Do not over tighten. See Figure 15.

FIGURE 14



Rotate the carry handle on to the receiver from the right.

FIGURE 15



Properly installed carry handle. Do not over tighten the locking knobs.

## 17.2 Front Sight Assembly

The front sight assembly on the FN 15™ Carbine and Rifle is an integral part of the gas block. The front sight can be adjusted for elevation using a standard M-16/M4 front sight tool, a small punch, or the tip of a projectile. The front sight tip is protected from damage by two protective sight guards.

## 17.3 Zeroing

The sights for the FN 15™ are set to a mechanical zero from the factory, these settings are as follows:

- > Front sight: the base of the front sight post is flush with the opening of the front sight housing.

- > Rear sight: The rear sight housing index line and the rear sight aperture line should be aligned and the elevation drum set to “6/3”.

These mechanical settings will allow you to obtain a 25 meter/300 meter zero.

**It is recommended from this point that you use the front sight to obtain your initial elevation zero. The rear sight elevation adjustment is used only for additional targeting distances.**

1. Attach the rear sight assembly as previously explained in Section 17.1.

2. The rear sight has two sight apertures that flip up and down.

- > The large aperture is used for close quarters engagement, low light conditions or when a larger field of view is required. When this aperture is up, “0-2” is visible on its base.

- > The small aperture is used for zeroing and for normal firing conditions. When this aperture is up, the windage index line is visible and corresponds with the windage index lines on the back of the rear sight housing. See Figure 16.

FIGURE 16



Rear sight with the small aperture up.

3. The elevation drum has numbers from 3 to 6 to reflect the different elevation settings corresponding to a target distance in hundreds of meters. The rear sight elevation drum is graduated for the FN 15™ firing 5.56 mm NATO 62 grain M-855 or equivalent. #3 indicates the lowest position of the sight aperture and a 300 meter or 25 meter zero. When rotated up one revolution, it will be set on the “6”

setting and a 600 meter zero. Each click on the rear sight elevation drum is equal to approximately 1/2 minute of angle. While zeroing the FN 15™ at either 25 or 300 meters, the rear sight elevation drum should stay in the lower “3” position. See Table 1 for specific click adjustments for your FN 15™.

- > Rotate the elevation drum clockwise to move the point of impact up.
- > Rotate the elevation drum counterclockwise to move the point of impact down.

4. The windage knob is graduated with index lines and engraved with an arrow showing the direction of impact change. Each click of windage adjustment is equal to approximately 1/2 minute of angle. See Table 1 for specific click adjustments for your FN 15™. When adjustments are made, the rear sight will move inside the housing, and the setting can be recorded from the index lines on the housing when the small aperture is up.

- > Rotating the windage knob clockwise will move the point of impact right.
- > Rotating the windage knob counterclockwise will move the point of impact left.

5. Use an M-16/M4 sight adjustment tool, a small punch, or the tip of a projectile to turn the front sight post, depressing the front sight plunger for each click for elevation adjustments while zeroing. See Figure 17. Each click of front sight adjustment is equal to approximately 1.5 minute of angle. See Table 1 for specific click adjustments for your FN 15™. The front sight housing is engraved with an arrow showing the direction of impact change.

FIGURE 17



Use a punch or similar object to adjust the front sight post while zeroing.

- > Rotate the front sight post clockwise to move the point of impact up.
- > Rotate the front sight post counterclockwise to move the point of impact down.
- > Note: the front sight post will physically move in the opposite direct as the point of impact when adjusted.
- > Ensure the front sight plunger engages one of the notches in the front sight when finished zeroing.

Once the zero is obtained, it is recommended that the front sight not be used for elevation corrections due to changes in distance. The rear sight elevation drum is designed for this purpose as explained in Step 3.

TABLE 1. SIGHT ADJUSTMENTS

Front Sight Tip Elevation: Change in Impact (Inches)		
Distance (Meters)	Carbine	Rifle
25	1/2"	3/8"
100	1 7/8"	1 3/8"
300	5 5/8"	4 1/8"

Rear Sight Elevation Drum: Change in Impact (Inches)		
Distance (Meters)	Carbine	Rifle
25	3/16"	1/8"
100	3/4"	1/2"
300	2 1/4"	1 1/2"

Rear Sight Windage Knob: Change in Impact (Inches)		
Distance (Meters)	Carbine	Rifle
25	3/16"	1/8"
100	3/4"	1/2"
300	2 1/4"	1 1/2"

## 18.0 DISASSEMBLY

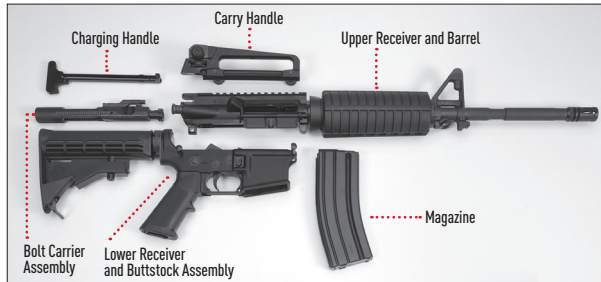
**⚠ WARNING** Before performing disassembly procedure, place the “safety” in the “on safe” position. Eject the magazine, lock the bolt open as explained in Section 15.1 and make certain the chamber is completely unloaded. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

**⚠ WARNING** Wear eye protection when disassembling and cleaning your rifle to prevent springs, spring-loaded parts, solvents and other agents from contacting your eyes, resulting in injury.

Notice! This rifle is a specialized, finely fitted mechanism. You may damage it beyond repair or lose small parts by attempting to disassemble the inner mechanical assemblies. If further disassembly for service or cleaning beyond what is described here is required, send it to the FN Service Center in Columbia, South Carolina.

Notice! The following disassembly procedures are designed to be performed with finger pressure only and no tools are to be used. If you cannot complete the disassembly procedures described without the use of tools, stop and contact the FN Service Center in Columbia, South Carolina.

FIGURE 18



FN 15™ subassemblies.

## 18.1 Removal of the Bolt Carrier Assembly

1. Make sure the "safety" selector is in the "on safe" position as explained in Section 9.0, the magazine is removed, the rifle is unloaded as explained in Section 15.1, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2. Allow the bolt to move to the forward most, closed position, ensure there is no cartridge in the chamber.

3. Press the rear take-down pin in with your finger from left to right. Pull it out to the right until it stops. See Figure 19.

FIGURE 19



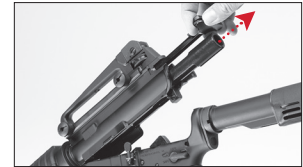
Withdraw the rear take-down pin from left to right.

**Important:** The rear take-down pin is captive and cannot be removed completely from the lower receiver.

4. Rotate the lower receiver down. It will pivot on the front take-down pin.

5. Grab the charging handle, pressing its latch and withdraw the charging handle to the rear. The bolt carrier assembly will be withdrawn with the charging handle. See Figure 20.

FIGURE 20



Remove the bolt carrier assembly from the upper receiver.

6. Carefully remove bolt carrier completely from the upper receiver. The charging handle can then be removed from the upper receiver as it passes through its keyway in the rear of the upper receiver.

## 18.2 Disassembly of the Bolt and Bolt Carrier

1. Make sure the "safety" selector is in the "on safe" position as explained in Section 9.0, the magazine is removed, the rifle is unloaded as explained in Section 15.1, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2. Remove the bolt carrier assembly from the rifle as explained in Section 18.1.

3. Remove the firing pin retaining pin by pulling it out of the left side of the bolt carrier. See Figure 21.

4. Remove the firing pin by pulling out of the rear of the bolt.

5. Rotate the bolt cam pin 90 degrees and then pull it out of the bolt carrier. See Figure 22.

6. Pull the bolt out of the front of the bolt carrier.

7. If the extractor is to be removed, use the firing pin to push the extractor pin out of the bolt. Be careful not to lose the extractor pin. The extractor can now be removed from the bolt. See Figure 23. It is not recommended to disassemble the bolt or bolt carrier beyond this for normal cleaning and maintenance.

FIGURE 21



Remove the firing pin retaining pin.

FIGURE 22



Rotate and remove the bolt cam pin.

FIGURE 23



Remove the extractor from the bolt.

## 18.3 Separating the Upper and Lower Receivers

1. Make sure the "safety" selector is in the "on safe" position as explained in Section 9.0, the magazine is removed, the rifle is unloaded as explained in Section 15.1, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2. Allow the bolt to move to the forward most, closed position, ensure there is no cartridge in the chamber.

3. Press the rear take-down pin in with your finger from left to right. Pull it out to the right until it stops. See Figure 19.

**Important:** The rear take-down pin is captive and cannot be removed completely from the lower receiver.

4. Rotate the lower receiver down. It will pivot on the front take-down pin. You may now remove the bolt carrier as explained in Section 18.1, but it is not necessary for separating the upper and lower receivers.

5. Press the front take-down pin with your finger from left to right. Pull it out to the right until it stops. See Figure 24.

**Important:** The front take-down pin is captive and cannot be removed completely from the lower receiver.

6. The upper and lower receivers can now be separated.

FIGURE 24



Withdraw the front take-down pin from left to right.

## 18.4 Removal of the Buffer and Buffer Spring

1. Make sure the "safety" selector is in the "on safe" position as explained in Section 9.0, the magazine is removed, the rifle is unloaded as explained in Section 15.1, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2. Separate the upper and lower receivers as explained in Section 18.3.

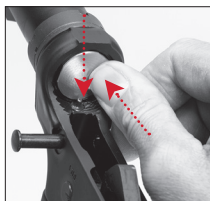
3. Ensure the hammer is cocked.

4. Press back on the buffer slightly. It will be under spring tension. While doing so, press down on the buffer retainer. It is also under spring tension. See Figure 25.

5. Carefully allow the buffer and spring to be removed from the buffer tube in the buttstock. It is not captive and is under spring tension. Fully remove it from the buffer tube.

6. Separate the buffer from the buffer spring.

FIGURE 25



Press back on the buffer, then press down on the buffer retainer.

## 18.5 Removal of the Handguards

1. Make sure the "safety" selector is in the "on safe" position as explained in Section 9.0, the magazine is removed, the rifle is unloaded as explained in Section 15.1, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2. Under normal conditions, removal of the handguards is not necessary for maintenance.

3. Pull back on the handguard slip ring until either one of the handguards can be removed from underneath the slip ring.

4. Completely remove this handguard by pulling it away from the barrel and out of its front engagement with the handguard cap behind the front sight assembly. See Figure 26.

5. Repeat this process for the remaining handguard.

FIGURE 26



Press down on the handguard slip ring and remove one of the handguards.



## 19.0 CLEANING AND LUBRICATION

**⚠ WARNING** Before performing cleaning procedures, place the “safety” in the “on safe” position. Eject the magazine, lock the bolt open as explained in Section 15.1 and make certain the chamber is completely unloaded. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

**⚠ WARNING** Wear eye protection when disassembling and cleaning your rifle to prevent springs, spring-loaded parts, solvents and other agents from contacting your eyes, resulting in injury.

**⚠ WARNING** Keep all ammunition away from the cleaning area. Never test the mechanical function of your rifle with live ammunition. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

Your FN 15™ will function better, more reliably and be more accurate over a longer period of time if it is properly maintained and kept clean. Clean your firearm after every day of shooting, and more often if it becomes excessively dirty during your shooting session. A minimum cleaning includes wiping down the firearm and lubricating key parts. Regular maintenance will also include cleaning the barrel and the bolt and bolt carrier.

If you encounter a function problem be sure to give your firearm a thorough cleaning to see if it resolves the problem before seeking the services of FN Service Center in Columbia, South Carolina, your departmental armorer, or a qualified gunsmith.

### 19.1 Cleaning and Lubrication in Normal Conditions

1. Make sure the “safety” selector is in the “on safe” position as explained in

Section 9.0, the magazine is removed, the rifle is unloaded as explained in Section 15.1, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2. Disassemble the rifle as described in Section 18.0.

3. Inspect the chamber and bore for powder fouling. A normal amount of powder residue can be expected and is not serious. It can usually be removed with a patch and CLP (cleaner, lubricant, and protectant).

Use a rifle cleaning rod with a brass jag and a patch large enough for a snug fit in the bore. Apply a small amount of CLP or bore solvent to the patch and insert the rod and patch into the barrel from the breech end and run it back and forth several times. Care should be exercised to ensure that the cleaning rod does not strike the crown of the muzzle, as damage to this area can adversely affect the accuracy of the rifle.

If, or when, fouling should become heavy, it can be removed with a bronze bore brush. Dip or spray the brush with CLP or bore solvent and scrub the chamber and bore until the fouling is removed. To prevent bronze bristles from breaking off, the brush should be pushed completely through the barrel before being withdrawn.

**Notice: Do not use a stainless steel bore brush to clean the bore. It will damage the chrome plating.**

If necessary, clean the chamber and locking lugs using a Mil-standard M-16 style chamber brush. Properly apply CLP to the brush and insert it into the chamber. Rotate the brush in a clockwise direction several times and remove.

4. After all fouling has been removed, the chamber and bore should be wiped dry. When the bore is dry, pass a patch that is lightly lubricated with CLP through it for preservation.

5. Inspect the barrel and chamber to be certain no patches have inadvertently been left in them. Remove any that remain.

6. Use a small brush or rag to remove dirt and foreign matter from inside the upper and lower receivers and other parts of the action. Lightly lubricate all moving parts with CLP.

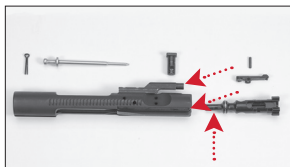
7. Use a cleaning brush and CLP to scrub the fouling from the bolt and bolt carrier. It may be necessary to use a bronze brush to remove carbon buildup from the tail of the bolt and interior of the bolt carrier. Use a pipe cleaner to clean inside the carrier key. It should pass through to the inside of the bolt carrier. See Figure 27. The tail of the bolt and interior of the bolt carrier are not to be lubricated, wipe them dry after they have been cleaned.

8. Inspect the three gas rings on the tail of the bolt. Wipe them clean with a brush or patch. Ensure their gaps are not lined up. See Figure 28.

**Notice!** Do not apply lubricant to the gas rings on the bolt or the interior of the bolt carrier. These components are not to be lubricated in any way. Using lubrication in the gas system may damage the rifle and cause malfunctions.

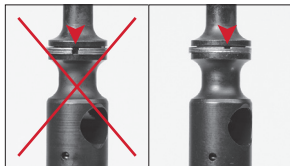
9. Wipe all exposed metal surfaces with a lightly oiled cloth making certain that all fingerprints are removed. Fingerprints provide a place for moisture to accumulate.

FIGURE 27



Remove carbon from these parts of the bolt carrier assembly.

FIGURE 28



Ensure the gaps in the three gas rings of the bolt do not align.

The metal of the rifle should receive a light film of oil anytime it has been exposed to weather or handling.

10. Use a plastic bristled cleaning brush to clean any dirt or debris from polymer stock parts and handguards. If the polymer parts become excessively dirty, clean warm water may be used to rinse them off. Use a soft cloth to wipe them dry and clean. Use a pipe cleaner to clean the small port in the rear of the buffer tube on the buttstock assembly.

11. Do not use bronze or steel brushes to clean anodized aluminum parts as damage to the finish may result.

12. Use compressed air or polymer-safe aerosol gun cleaner to clean the trigger assembly. Do not attempt to disassemble the trigger mechanism for cleaning. Apply a few drops of CLP to the moving parts.

13. Cleaning the magazine

**⚠ WARNING** Wear eye protection when cleaning the magazine to prevent solvent, debris and other agents from contacting your eyes, resulting in injury.

- > FN does not recommend disassembling the magazine. Frequently inspect to determine the need for cleaning as lubricant and dirt will gradually collect in the magazine.
- > Clean the magazine by spraying it with a polymer-safe aerosol gun cleaner that will not adversely affect the follower or corrode the metal components. Spray the magazine with this solvent, both inside and out to loosen debris.
- > Drain the solvent and residue from inside the magazine.
- > Used compressed air to dry the magazine or allow it to air dry and lightly oil the exterior. Do not apply lubricant to the interior of the magazine.

**Notice!** Do not apply excessive lubricant to any part of the rifle. Excessive lubrication could interfere with the function of your rifle.

## 19.2 Cleaning and Lubrication in Adverse Conditions

In most adverse conditions, increased and more frequent maintenance will ensure your FN 15™ continues to operate effectively and safely. Once you have left such an environment, perform a more detailed cleaning of your FN 15™. Follow the below guidelines for specific conditions:

### 1. Dry and Dusty Conditions

- > More frequent cleaning may be required where dust and blowing sand can enter the rifle. Use a brush or compressed air to remove.
- > Keep the dust cover closed when possible to limit the debris that can enter the receiver.
- > Keep magazines and ammunition protected and inspect them frequently for sand and dust. Do not lubricate the ammunition or magazines.
- > Corrosion will be less likely in dry condition, so less protectant is required on external parts. These protectants will only attract more dust and sand.
- > Use minimal lubricant on internal parts.

### 2. Hot and Humid Conditions

- > Increase inspection of all steel parts for corrosion or rust, including under the handguards. Apply protectant (CLP) as needed to prevent rust from forming.
- > Corrosion will be more likely in a hot and humid environment, so additional protectant may be required on external parts. Wipe them frequently with a cloth to remove fingerprints and moisture. Reapply protectant (CLP) as needed.
- > Keep magazines and ammunition protected and dry. Inspect frequently for the presence of moisture. Avoid placing ammunition in direct sunlight.
- > Normal lubrication of internal parts will suffice.

### 3. Extreme Cold Conditions

- > Keep the dust cover closed when possible to limit any frozen or freezing precipitation from entering the rifle.
- > Keep magazines and ammunition protected and dry. Inspect frequently for the formation of ice.
- > Avoid taking the rifle from warm, moist indoor environments to the cold outside environment and back as condensation (moisture) will form and freeze on and inside the rifle.
- > Wipe the exterior of the rifle frequently to remove any moisture and reapply protectant to exposed steel parts.
- > Avoid excess liquid lubrication on internal parts as these lubricants may stiffen at lower temperatures and cause malfunctions. Use minimal lubrication.
- > Use a lubricant specifically formulated for low temperatures.

## 20.0 ASSEMBLY

### 20.1 Installing the Handguards

1. Insert the front end of one of the handguards under the handguard cap behind the front sight assembly.

2. Pull back on the handguard slip ring and slide the tail of the handguard into place. Release the slip ring to lock the handguard into place. See Figure 29.

3. Repeat this process with the other handguard.

FIGURE 29



Install the handguards.

## 20.2 Installing the Buffer and Buffer Spring

1. Ensure the hammer is in the cocked position.
2. Place the tail of the buffer into either end of the buffer spring.
3. Insert the opposite end of the buffer and spring into the buffer tube in the buttstock. See Figure 30.
4. Insert the buffer and buffer spring fully into the buffer tube until the buffer retainer locks them into place.

FIGURE 30



Install the buffer and buffer spring.

## 20.3 Assemble the Upper and Lower Receivers

1. Ensure the front take-down pin is pulled out to the right, in the disassembly position.
2. Align the front lower receiver pin and the front upper receiver pin hole, press the front take-down lever to the left until fully seated. See Figure 31.

FIGURE 31



Assemble the upper and lower receivers.

## 20.4 Assemble the Bolt and Bolt Carrier

1. Install the extractor into the bolt by setting it in place and pressing the extractor pin into place until it is flush on both ends. See Figure 32.

FIGURE 32



Install the extractor into the bolt.

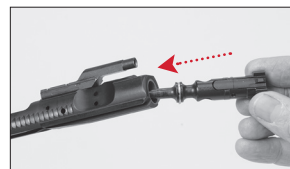
2. Insert the tail of the bolt into the front of the bolt carrier until it stops. See Figure 33.

3. Rotate the bolt in the bolt carrier until the bolt cam pin hole aligns with the bolt cam pin slot in the bolt carrier. See Figure 34.

4. Insert the cam pin into the cam pin hole in the bolt. If it does not fit, rotate the bolt 180 degrees in the bolt carrier. Once in, rotate the cam pin 90 degrees in the cam pin hole. See Figure 35.

5. Insert the firing pin into the back of the bolt carrier and into the bolt. It should go completely into the bolt. See Figure 36.

FIGURE 33



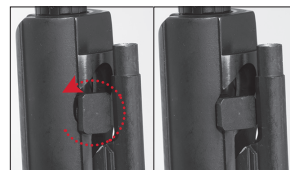
Install the bolt into the bolt carrier.

FIGURE 34



Align the cam pin hole with the cam pin slot.

FIGURE 35



Insert cam pin into bolt carrier and rotate 90 degrees.

FIGURE 36



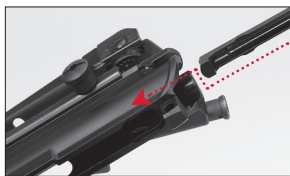
Install the firing pin.

6. Insert the split firing pin retaining pin into the bolt carrier. It should sit flush with the outside diameter of the bolt carrier and hold the firing pin in place.

## 20.5 Installing the Bolt Carrier Assembly

1. Install the charging handle into the rear opening of the upper receiver. The charging handle has two guides which will fall into a keyway inside the upper receiver. Do not fully insert the charging handle at this time. See Figure 37.

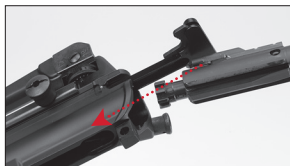
FIGURE 37



Install charging handle into upper receiver. Guides will fall into keyway.

2. Ensure the bolt is fully extended in the bolt carrier and the cam pin sits underneath the gas key. Align the gas key on the bolt carrier with the inside of the charging handle. Insert the bolt carrier into the upper receiver. The bolt carrier should easily go fully forward and the rear of it should be flush with the back of the upper receiver. See Figure 38.

FIGURE 38



Install the bolt carrier assembly into the upper receiver.

3. Push the charging handle all the way forward into its locked position.

4. Rotate the upper and lower receivers together until the rear take-down pin aligns with the rear pin hole. Press the pin to the left and into place.

5. Cycle the bolt back and forth several times to ensure assembly is complete and there is no unusual resistance or binding in the moving parts.

## 21.0 WARRANTY, SERVICE AND TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

If your firearm should require service or repairs, you may send your firearm directly to the FN Product Service Department. For technical questions regarding your firearm or service, please call our Customer Service at 800-635-1321.

FN Product Service Department  
Phone: 800-635-1321

Returning your firearm for service  
When returning your firearm for service, be sure to follow the guidelines below:

NOTICE: ALL FFL HOLDERS, in order to AVOID unnecessary return shipping delays please submit an FFL when a firearm is sent in for service.

Visit the Request Service section located under Support on our website, [www.fnamerica.com](http://www.fnamerica.com), and register to request service.

Be sure your gun is completely unloaded.

Package it securely in a double-packed cardboard container.

Include a copy of your service request confirmation with your firearm that clearly describes the nature of your repair concerns or service desired. If the service form is NOT included with your firearm your service will be delayed.

Include a day time phone number where you can be reached.

Never return ammunition with your firearm. It is against postal and most commercial regulations.

Remove all accessories. FN America is not responsible for lost or damaged aftermarket accessories.

If you have any further questions, call Customer Service at 800-635-1321.  
**IMPORTANT: FN AMERICA IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGE INCURRED DURING SHIPPING.**

FN Product Service Center  
797 Old Clemson Road  
Columbia, SC 29229  
Phone: 800-635-1321

### SERVICE POLICY

If you have any questions about this owner's manual or other FN products, contact:

FN Product Service Center  
797 Old Clemson Road  
Columbia, SC 29229  
Phone: 800-635-1321  
Or visit us online at [www.fnamerica.com](http://www.fnamerica.com)

IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPERATING YOUR FN FIREARM, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT FN CUSTOMER SERVICE

## 22.0 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

FN 15™ Autoloading Rifle		
Specification	Carbine (36001)	Rifle (36082)
Caliber	5.56x45mm NATO	5.56x45mm NATO
Type of fire	Semi-automatic	Semi-automatic
Trigger Pull	4.75-7.75 lbs.	4.75-7.75lbs
Weight	6.9 lbs.	7.9 lbs.
Length	31.9"-35.2"	39.5
Barrel Length	16"	20"
Twist and Direction	1:7" right-hand	1:7" right-hand
Sight Radius	14.5"	20"
Magazine Capacity	30	30

All specifications subject to changes without notice.

**NOTES**

**NOTES**



**YOUR FN FIREARM  
HAS BEEN ENGINEERED,  
MANUFACTURED, TESTED  
AND INSPECTED FOR  
ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY.**

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