

**071-COM-0033**  
**Correct Malfunctions of an M16-Series Rifle/M4-Series Carbine**  
**Status: Approved**

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**Security Classification: U** - Unclassified

**Distribution Restriction:** Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

**Destruction Notice:** None

**Foreign Disclosure: FD1** - This training product has been reviewed by the training developers in coordination with the G2, Fort Moore, GA 31905 foreign disclosure officer. This training product can be used to instruct international military students from all approved countries without restrictions.

**Conditions:** You are a member of a squad or team engaged in active ground combat. Your M16-series rifle or M4-series carbine has failed to fire while engaging a threat. You have additional loaded rifle magazines on hand, you do not have a secondary weapon. Some iterations of this task should be performed in MOPP 4.

**Standards:** Apply immediate action and if necessary, remedial action to correct the malfunction so you may continue to engage targets. All steps must be performed in sequence.

**Special Conditions:** None

**Safety Risk:** Medium

**MOPP 4:** Sometimes

<b>Task Statements</b>
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**Cue:** None

<p><b>DANGER</b></p> <p>Always be aware of a weapon's status and muzzle orientation.</p> <p>Treat all weapons as if they are loaded and prepared to fire.</p> <p>Never point a weapon at anything you do not intend to shoot.</p> <p>Keep finger straight and out of the trigger well until ready to fire.</p> <p>Ensure positive identification of target, backstop and beyond.</p>
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<p><b>WARNING</b></p> <p>None</p>
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<p><b>CAUTION</b></p> <p>None</p>
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**Remarks:** None

**Notes:** When any weapon fails to complete any phase of the cycle of function correctly, a malfunction has occurred. When a malfunction occurs, the Soldier's priority remains to defeat the target as quickly as possible. The malfunction, Soldier capability, and secondary weapon capability determine if, when, and how to transition to a secondary weapon system.



## Performance Steps

### 1. Perform immediate action.

Note: Immediate action involves quickly applying a possible correction to a malfunction without determining the actual cause. It does not involve observation, diagnosis of the malfunction, or decision-making beyond recognition that there is a problem. As the term suggests, it is performed immediately and quickly, taking no more than a few seconds. Like a battle drill, it is conducted reflexively, without thought or hesitation.

- a. Remove trigger finger from the trigger and ensure it is straight and pressed along the frame.
- b. Forcefully tap upward onto the baseplate of the magazine with the heel of the nonfiring hand.
- c. Grasp the charging handle and rapidly retract it fully to the rear and hold.
- d. Observe for ejection of case or cartridge.
- e. Ensure cartridge or case is ejected and chamber is clear.
- f. Release charging handle.
- g. Tap on the forward assist to ensure bolt is closed.
- h. Reacquire target.
- i. Press the trigger.

(1) Continue the engagement if the weapon fires.

(2) Proceed to remedial action if the weapon does not fire.

### 2. Perform remedial action.

Note: Remedial action is a conscious, observed attempt to determine the cause of a malfunction and correct it using a specific set of actions. It differs from immediate action in that it requires a Soldier to consciously analyze the status of the weapon to determine the problem and select the appropriate actions to correct it.

- a. Quickly move to a covered position and announce your weapon status to the element.
- b. Observe the weapon to identify the cause of the malfunction.
- c. Correct an obstructed chamber.

Note: An obstructed chamber (stove piped round or double feed) are the only malfunctions covered under this task. The field expedient method for correcting charging handle impingement or bolt override can potentially damage equipment or injure personnel. If the weapon experiences a bolt override or charging handle impingement, evacuate the weapon to maintainer when tactical situation permits.

(1) Attempt to place the weapon on SAFE.

(2) Remove the magazine.

(3) Lock the charging handle to the rear.

(4) Place the selector lever on SAFE, if not already done.

(5) Visually inspect the chamber.

(a) Ensure chamber is empty.

(b) Ensure the breech face is clear of live or expended cartridges, foreign debris, and has no physical damage.

# DANGER

Do not attempt to remove a round stuck in the barrel of a weapon; evacuate the weapon to maintainer when tactical situation permits.

(6) If obstructions are present, remove them from the chamber by:

(a) Angling the ejection port downward and shaking the rifle to remove cartridge.

(b) Using a cleaning rod to push out a cartridge case stuck in the chamber.

d. Insert a new loaded magazine.

Note: When the magazine is fully seated, you should hear an audible click.

e. Press bolt catch to release the bolt.

f. Visually observe the round enter the chamber.

g. Reacquire target.

h. Press the trigger.

(1) Continue the engagement if the weapon fires.

(2) If weapon fails to fire, evacuate weapon to maintainer when tactical situation permits.

(Asterisks indicates a leader performance step.)

**Evaluation Guidance:** Score the Soldier GO if all performance measures are passed. Score the Soldier NO-GO if any performance measure is failed. If the Soldier scores a NO-GO, show the Soldier what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

**Evaluation Preparation:** Setup: Provide the Soldier with the equipment and materials described in the conditions statement.

Brief the Soldier: Tell the Soldier what is required to successfully complete the task by reviewing the conditions and standards. Stress the importance of observing cautions, warnings, and dangers, as applicable.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	GO	NO-GO	N/A
1. Performed immediate action.			
2. Performed remedial action, if required.			

**Supporting Reference(s):**

Step Number	Reference ID	Reference Name	Required	Primary	Source Information
	TM 9-1005-319-10	OPERATOR'S MANUAL FOR RIFLE, 5.56 MM, M16A2 (NSN 1005-01-128-9936), (EIC: 4GM) RIFLE, 5.56 MM, M16A3 (NSN 1005-01-357-5112) RIFLE, 5.56 MM, M16A4 (NSN 1005-01-383-2872) (EIC: 4F9) CARBINE, 5.56 MM, M4 (Change 2 Dated 15 April 2019)	Yes	Yes	

**TADSS :** None

**Equipment Items (LIN):**

LIN	Name
C06935	CARBINE 5.56MILL M4A1

R97175	RIFLE 5.56MILL M16A4
R97234	RIFLE 5.56 MM M4
R95035	RIFLE 5.56MM M16A2

**Material Items (NSN) :**

Step ID	NSN	LIN	Title	Qty
No material items specified				

**Environment:** Environmental protection is not just the law but the right thing to do. It is a continual process and starts with deliberate planning. Always be alert to ways to protect our environment during training and missions. In doing so, you will contribute to the sustainment of our training resources while protecting people and the environment from harmful effects. Refer to the current Environmental Considerations manual and the current GTA Environmental-related Risk Assessment card.

**Safety:** In a training environment, leaders must perform a risk assessment in accordance with current Risk Management Doctrine. Leaders will complete the current Deliberate Risk Assessment Worksheet in accordance with the TRADOC Safety Officer during the planning and completion of each task and sub-task by assessing mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available-time available and civil considerations, (METT-TC). Note: During MOPP training, leaders must ensure personnel are monitored for potential heat injury. Local policies and procedures must be followed during times of increased heat category in order to avoid heat related injury. Consider the MOPP work/rest cycles and water replacement guidelines IAW current CBRN doctrine.

**Prerequisite Individual Tasks :** None

**Supporting Individual Tasks :**

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
071-COM-0027	Unload an M16-Series Rifle/M4-Series Carbine	071 - Infantry (Individual)	Approved
071-COM-0028	Load an M16-Series Rifle/M4-Series Carbine	071 - Infantry (Individual)	Approved

**Supported Individual Tasks :** None

**Supported Collective Tasks :** None

**Knowledges :**

Knowledge ID	Knowledge Name
071-WPN-0063	Weapons Functions
071-OPN-0016	Inspection Techniques
071-WPN-0059	Identity and Location of Parts of Infantry Weapons

**Skills :**

Skill ID	Skill Name
071-WPN-0033	Load and Unload Infantry Weapons
JBPDSS12	Perform Operator-Level Troubleshooting Procedures
S0843	Distinguish Between Operator Level and Unit Level Troubleshooting
071-WPN-0007	Detect Weapon Malfunctions
071-WPN-0008	Correct Weapons Malfunctions
071-WPN-0006	Clear Infantry Weapons

**ICTL Data :** None