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Nov. 2012

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SPR MOD 1

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Shown with Nikon
M-223 4-16x42

**FIELD
TESTS**

Gradous 6.5 Creedmoor • Rem. 700 7mm Mag • H-S PHL .260
H&R Sportster • Banshee Lite .338 • Gamo Silent Stalker .22



riflefirepower.com

Replace An AR Trigger

By Bryce M. Towsley

The trigger is one of the most critical components of any rifle. Without a good trigger, it is impossible to extract all the potential in the rifle. Yet, a lot of AR-style rifles are shipped with military-style triggers. The hard, gritty, battle triggers are a poor choice for precision shooting. The best solution is to replace it with a self-contained trigger.

There are several good triggers on the market, but two I have had very good luck with are the AR

Gold and the Timney drop-in models. This installation is for the Timney trigger. The AR Gold is slightly different and has a different series of safety checks. They have a very good instructional video at americantrigger.com. Make sure you buy a model trigger that fits your rifle. Many replacement triggers will not work with some Colt rifles.

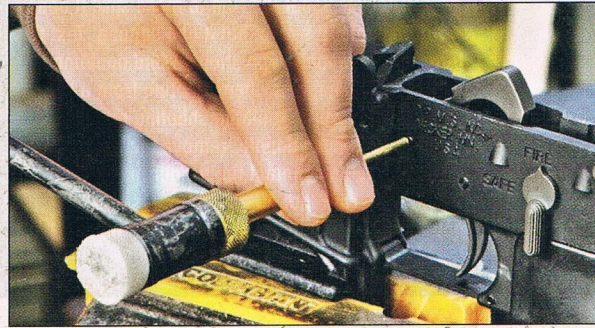
Cut out and save this handy tip sheet!



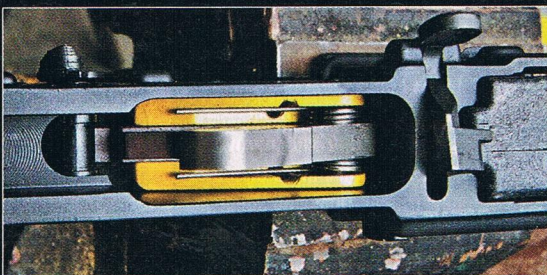
AR Gold

Timney Drop-In

1 DISASSEMBLE: Remove the upper from the lower. Remove the grip. Go through the bottom with a screwdriver or correctly-fitting wrench and unscrew the bolt. The bolt is visible through the bottom of the grip and it should be easy to see the type of head to determine the correct tool. Be very careful not to lose the spring and safety detent, as they are held in place by the grip. Note the spring in the top of the grip in the photo.



2 PUNCH OUT: It's much easier to work if the gun is held solidly in place, so place a lower receiver vise block into the magazine well and clamp it into your bench vise. Push out the two pins holding the trigger parts in place using a straight punch.



3 CLEAN & REPLACE: Remove all the trigger parts and the safety lever, which is sometimes called the fire control selector. Clean the receiver with a degreasing spray to remove debris.

Insert the new trigger into the receiver and place the rear pin through the holes. It sometimes helps to use a slave pin to hold everything in alignment while starting the pin. Insert the safety and then insert the front pin. Replace the grip, making sure to put the detent and spring into the hole in the receiver. This step is easier if you turn the receiver upside down.

Install An AR Trigger

4 TIGHTEN: With the Timney trigger, you must now tighten the two small setscrews in the trigger assembly body. Hold the hammer as you pull the trigger to release it. Then move the spring arms out of the way so you can access the screws that are underneath. Tighten each screw against the bottom of the receiver; alternate back and forth a couple of times to make sure they are tight. Now install the two locking screws, one on each side, in the same holes. Add a drop of blue Loctite to the threads on each one.



5 TEST IT: Check that the trigger is functioning properly by cocking it and pulling the trigger several times. I like to use a hammer drop block when dry-firing. This is a handy tool if you are doing a lot of this work. If this is a one-time deal, you can get by without it by catching the hammer on your finger.

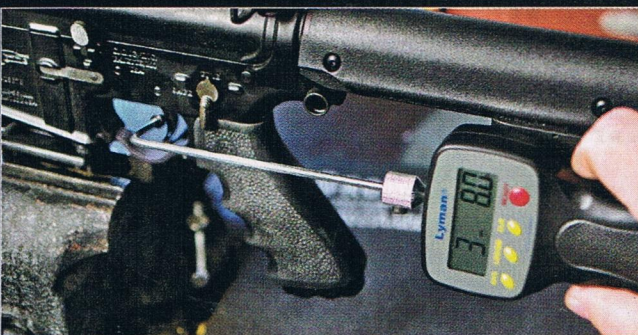
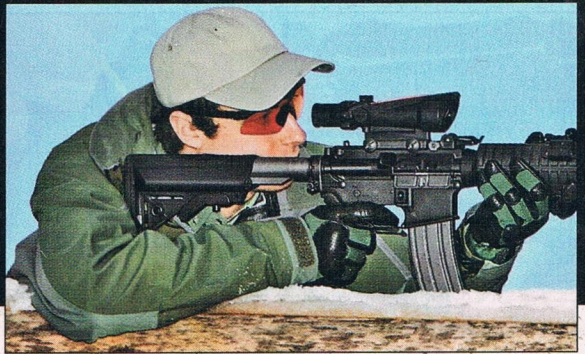
Check that the disconnect is working. Pull the trigger and hold it back. Cock the hammer and then slowly release the trigger—you should hear and see the disconnect release. There should

be a click and the hammer will move forward slightly. If that checks out, test the safety. Cock the hammer, put the safety to the “on” position and pull the trigger several times. Don’t be afraid to pull it hard. If nothing happens, push the safety off and make sure the sear does not release.

Put the rifle back together. Make sure it is not loaded, that the hammer is cocked and the safety is off. Thump the buttstock on the ground soundly several times. The hammer should remain cocked.

6 SHOOT IT: Shoot the rifle to make sure it does not double. It’s rare, but it can happen. Test this from several shooting positions. I find doubling is more likely to happen when shooting from a bench rest or prone, so try multiple shooting positions.

If the rifle does double, remove the trigger immediately and contact the trigger manufacturer. This is very rare, but it is a dangerous and potentially illegal situation, so always remove the trigger from the gun right away.



7 CRISP & READY: The new trigger should have a much lower pull weight and a much cleaner feel. I believe that there is nothing you can do to an AR-15 rifle that will improve its performance more than a new trigger. Once you shoot the gun, I think you will agree with that statement.

Editor’s Note: Next issue, learn to recrown a rifle barrel. For more, check out brycetowsley.com. Need a specific rifle remedy? Email us at tactical-life@harris-pub.com.