

Small Arms...

HOW MANY DOES RACK HOLD?

Dear Half-Mast,

I know the Army prefers that units no longer fabricate racks for weapons that do not have a specific arms rack. They would rather have armorers use the universal arms rack, NSN 1095-01-454-6320, instead. Exactly how much does this rack hold? Armorers need to know so they will know how many racks they need.

SGT M.O.

Dear Sergeant M.O.,

The universal rack is 72 ½ inches tall, 25 inches deep and 54 ½ inches wide. It comes with five shelves (one shelf is removable). It fits six M16-series rifles or M4/M4A1 carbines or three of any of the machine guns per shelf.

The change to AR 190-11 covers the new rack policy. If you have questions about fabricating a small arms rack or have any rack questions, contact TACOM-RI's James Rollins at (309) 782-1797, DSN 793-1797, or e-mail rollinsj@ria.army.mil. You can also visit the small arms website at http://www-acala1.ria.army.mil/LC/cs/csl/small_arms_storage_racks.htm.

Universal arms rack



M16-Series Rifles, M4/M4A1 Carbines...

Half-Mast

CRACK DOWN ON CRACKED BOLTS

The bolt in an M16-series rifle or M4/M4A1 carbine can crack after it's slammed into the chamber enough times. A cracked bolt can cause jamming and other firing problems.

That's why you armorers need to check the bolts in your M16 and M4/M4A1s for cracks at least quarterly.

But a quick eyeballing won't catch all cracks. To spot small cracks, you have to first clean the bolts and then examine them under a bright light. Pay particular attention to the area around the locking lugs, especially on the extractor side.

If you spot any cracks, get support to replace the bolt.

Check for cracks around locking lugs and extractor

