

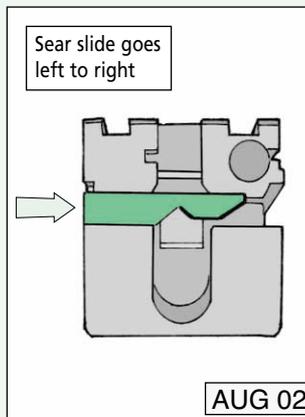
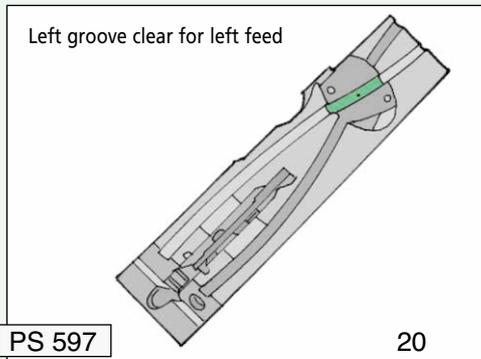


The M2 machine gun is the big guy in most arms rooms when it comes to fire power. But poor handling and poor operation can topple even this Samson. So give your M2 the help it needs.

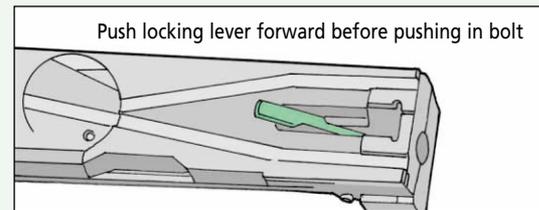
Assemble It Right

If you don't get the feed assembly right, the feed lever lug and bolt switch bang against each other during firing and are damaged. Most gunners feed from the left, so the left groove should be unblocked. If you feed from the right, turn the bolt switch so the right groove is unblocked.

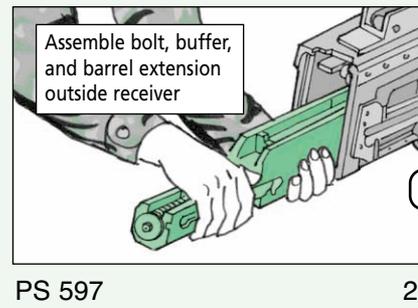
The sear slide **always** goes in from the left. If you install it from the right, your M2 won't fire from the M63 mount.



Push the cocking lever forward before pushing the bolt in the receiver. If you push the bolt in with the lever back, the bolt jams and your armorer has to unjam it.



Put the bolt, buffer, and barrel extension together as one piece before putting them in the receiver. That's much easier than putting them together in the receiver.



If you need to take off the back-plate, first ease the bolt forward. That takes pressure off the spring and prevents the drive rod from springing out of the receiver and into you.



Carry It Right

The No. 1 reason M2s are damaged is from hard falls. Since the M2 weighs more than 80 pounds, the best way to carry it is with four hands.

After removing the barrel, have a buddy lock his hands under the barrel support while you lock your hands under the receiver 5 inches from its end.



If you're alone, hold the barrel support with your palm out and the receiver with your palm in. Brace the receiver against your body for more support.



Never use the backplate handles for a carrying handle. If the backplate slips out, the receiver falls, maybe on your toes.

If you don't have a rack, store your M2 flat.

Never Dry Fire It

Never dry fire! If you dry fire without the barrel installed, the bolt slams forward and ruins the rear threads of the barrel extension. Then the barrel can't be screwed in. So, always ease the bolt forward instead of dry firing.

