

NO CLEANING TANKS!



Dear Half-Mast,

We have one of those high-tech ultrasonic cleaning tanks and we were wondering if it would be good for cleaning our pistols, machine guns, and rifles.

D.M.

Dear Mr. D.M.,

It would definitely not be a good idea for two reasons:

- *The tanks use cleaning solutions that are often water-based. They can cause corrosion in the long run. The cleaning solutions may also contain chemicals that are harmful to the weapon or you.*
- *Cleaning tanks, including ultrasonic tanks, remove all lubricants from the weapon, which means it must be completely disassembled and relubed. For most weapons, only direct support is authorized to do that.*

Ultrasonic tanks can also damage adhesives, synthetic fibers, and protective finishes, and loosen pressure-fitted components. That can mean a ruined weapon.

So any cleaning tank in the long run can harm your weapon or force you to send it to support for disassembly and lubing. Not much advantage in that.

Your best bet is to clean your weapon the way the operator's TM shows. Use the cleaning materials like CLP or LSA that the TM recommends.

Half-Mast