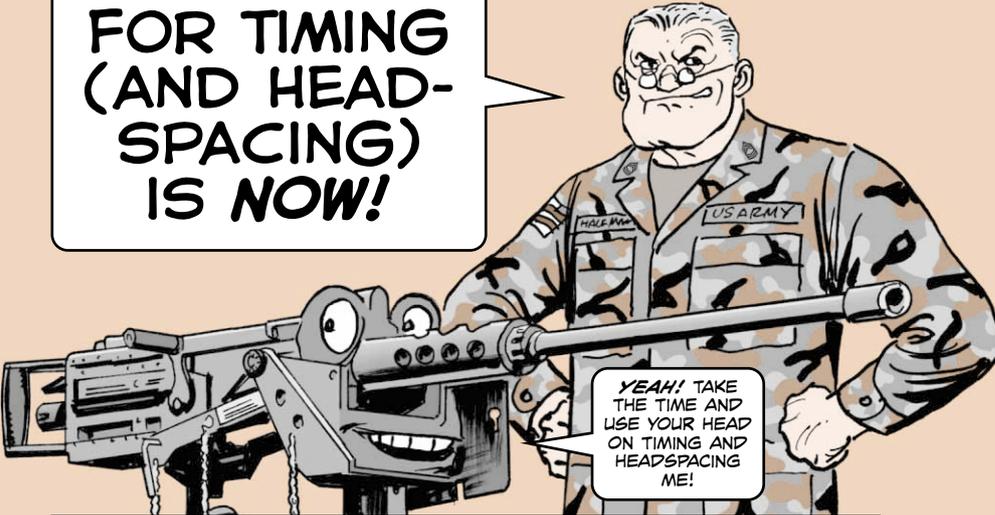


THE TIME FOR TIMING (AND HEADSPACING) IS NOW!



YEAH! TAKE THE TIME AND USE YOUR HEAD ON TIMING AND HEADSPACING ME!

Every year soldiers hurt themselves and their M2 machine guns because they don't realize the importance of timing and headspacing or they've forgotten how to do it correctly.

When an M2 isn't headspaced and timed, a round can go off before it's chambered. That's why it's critical that M2 gunners know they must headspace and time before they fire and any time they change the barrel during firing.

If a soldier hasn't fired an M2 in a year, he's probably not going to remember the procedure. It's pretty complicated. That's why it's a good idea, armorers and First Sergeants, to go over headspacing and timing with your gunners every few months. A half hour during Sergeants' Time is an excellent time to review the procedure. And then when it's firing time at the range, review again.

PS 602 (Jan 03) had a good layout explaining M2 timing and headspacing. Make copies of it and use them for training. If you don't have PS 602, you can download the article at

<https://www.logsa.army.mil/pub/psissues/602/602-14-19.pdf>



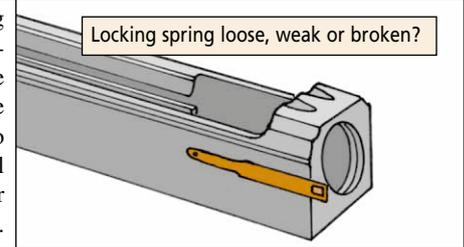
DON'T FORGET THIS PMCS FOR HEADSPACING AND TIMING!

Gauges. If the headspace and timing gauges are bent, rusted, or pitted, it's pointless to headspace and time an M2. Get new gauges with NSN 5220-00-535-1217.



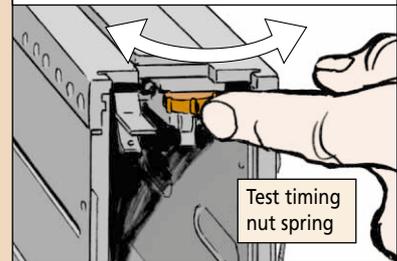
Gauges bent, rusted, pitted?

Barrel locking spring. If the spring can't hold the barrel in place, the barrel turns during firing and headspace is lost. Test the spring by setting the correct headspace and then trying to unscrew the barrel. If the barrel turns, the spring is weak or loose or the barrel locking lugs may be worn.



Locking spring loose, weak or broken?

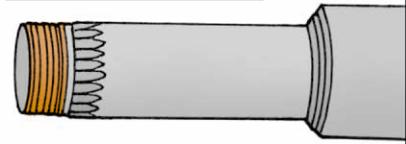
Timing nut. If the timing nut can be easily turned with one finger or it doesn't click as you move it, the nut's spring is too weak and it won't hold timing. Get the spring replaced.



Test timing nut spring

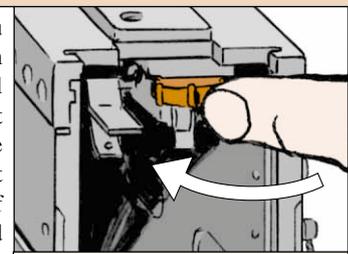
Barrel and barrel extension threads. If the threads are chipped or burred, it will be difficult to screw in the barrel. Even worse, you may think you've screwed in the barrel when you haven't. That means bad headspace. Stone any chips or burrs until they're smooth.

Burred or chipped threads?



PM ALSO INCLUDES PROPER STORAGE!

Storage. When you store an M2, loosen the timing nut all the way to the left until it touches the trigger bar. That takes tension off the nut's spring and helps the spring last longer.



Timing nut turned all the way down to the left?