

GOT THE RIGHT GAUGE?



GET THAT GAUGE AWAY FROM ME!

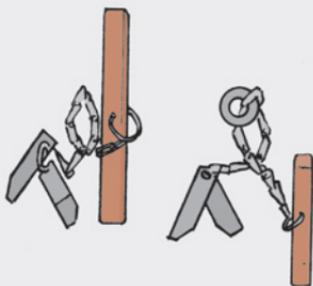
THAT GAUGE IS FOR AN M3P MACHINE GUN.

A unit recently had an M2 machine gun blow up during firing. At first, the problem appeared to be someone not following the correct headspace and timing procedure.

But that wasn't it! It was the wrong headspace and timing gauge. The unit had mixed up M2 gauges with those for the M3P, the .50-cal weapon used on the Avenger. The M2 and M3P gauges are different sizes and can't be interchanged.

M3P gauge is longer than the M2's

How do you tell the difference? The M2 gauge comes with NSN 5220-00-535-1217 and its headspace gauge is marked both NO FIRE and FIRE. The M3P gauge comes with NSN 5280-13-116-6359 and its headspace gauge is marked NO FIRE, but not FIRE. The M3P headspace gauge is also noticeably longer than the M2's.



Of course, even if you have the right gauge, it won't do you any good if it's rusted, pitted or bent. If your headspace and timing gauge is in bad shape, tell your armorer you need a new one.



I'M IN TOO BAD A SHAPE TO HELP YOU WITH TIMING AND HEADSPACING.

Armorsmen, the gauges must be calibrated every year by your local TMDE if they are to stay accurate. It's your responsibility to make sure that happens and the calibration is documented on a DA FORM 3023 with the gauge's serial number.



LOOK AT THAT CALENDAR.

YEAR'S UP AND IT'S TIME FOR ME TO BE CALIBRATED.