

# Sear Safety Check Part II

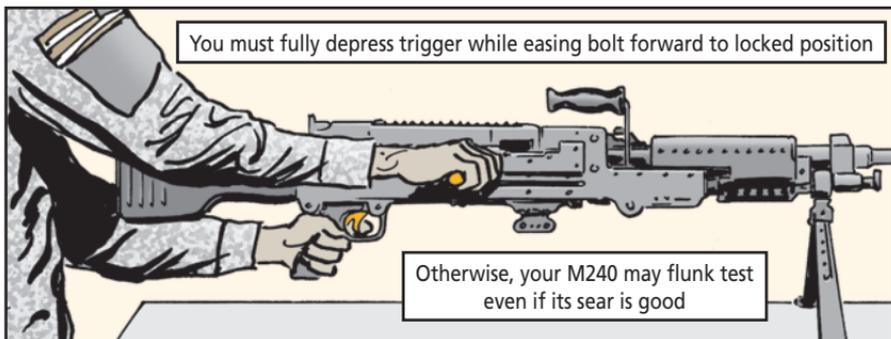


In PS 675 (Feb 09), we told you how to make sure your M240 machine gun's sear was still in good enough shape for safe firing. But an important guideline was left out that is causing M240s to flunk the test.

Here's the check: After clearing your M240, move the safety to **F** (fire) and pull the cocking handle completely to the rear to lock back the bolt. Then return the cocking handle to the forward locked position. Place the safety in the **S** (safe) position and depress the trigger. Nothing should happen.

Next move the safety to **F** and hold the cocking handle to the rear while you fully depress the trigger. Then ease the bolt forward until it locks. You should not be able to move the safety to **S**.

Here's the important guideline: **If the trigger is not fully depressed and held there while easing the bolt fully forward to the locked position, the weapon will fail this test even if the sear is good.**



If your M240 does flunk this test, it shouldn't be fired. Your field repairman needs to check it out.

The reason sears wear out fast is because gunners don't pull the trigger fully to the rear when firing and don't release the trigger fully when they're finished firing. So remember to pull the trigger completely back to keep the sear healthy. It also helps the sear to store your M240 with the safety on **F** and the bolt locked forward.