

# Steps to Safe Firing



ONE M224 MORTAR UNIT HAD A MORTAR FIRE WHEN IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO.

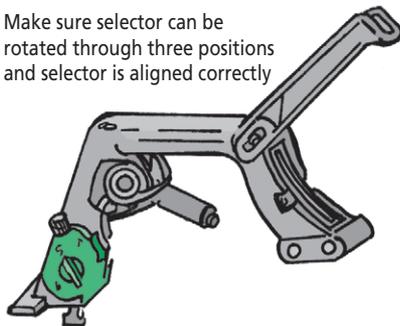
TO PREVENT THAT HAPPENING AGAIN, ALL M224 OPERATORS SHOULD ALWAYS DO THIS CHECK BEFORE THEY PREPARE TO FIRE...



Make sure the firing selector on the handle and firing mechanism can be rotated through the T (trigger fire), S (safe), and D (drop fire) positions. If it can't, the M224 needs to be sent to direct support for evaluation.

Also make sure the selector aligns correctly with the three positions. If it's in between positions, the mortar could accidentally fire on safe. If you have any doubts, the M224 needs to be sent to direct support.

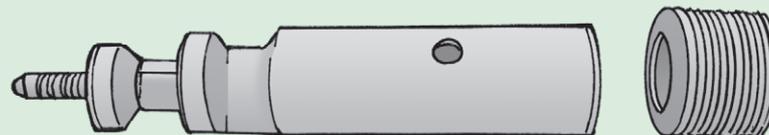
Make sure selector can be rotated through three positions and selector is aligned correctly



## New Firing Pin

M224 operators and armorers also need to be aware that the old three-piece firing pin configuration (firing pin, firing pin guide, and threaded plug) has been replaced by a two-piece configuration (firing pin and threaded plug).

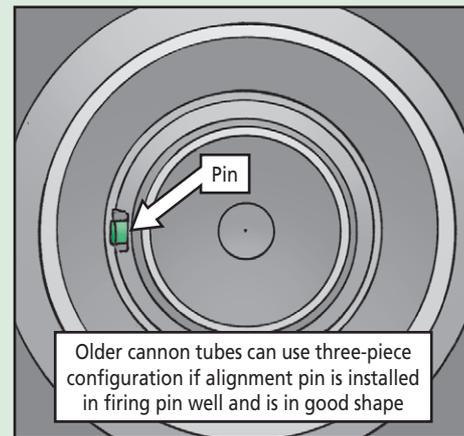
Two-piece configuration replaced old three-piece firing pin configuration



All M224s can use the new two-piece configuration, but only old mortar cannon tubes with an alignment pin in the firing pin well can use the old three-piece configuration. If you use the old configuration in a mortar missing the alignment pin, the mortar could accidentally fire.

Any cannon manufactured after 2005 and/or having a serial number higher than 3387 should use the two-piece configuration.

It's OK to continue to use the three-piece configuration in older cannons as long as they have a serviceable alignment pin in the firing well. If the alignment pin is missing or in poor condition, get the new firing pin configuration. Even if the cannon has a good alignment pin, you should replace the old configuration with the new one the next time the mortar is serviced.



Older cannon tubes can use three-piece configuration if alignment pin is installed in firing pin well and is in good shape

Purge bench stock of the old firing pin configuration and replace it with the new firing pin, NSN 1015-01-546-6617, and threaded plug, NSN 5935-01-546-6679. They must be ordered together the first time. The new firing pin can't be used with the old plug and the old firing pin won't work with the new plug.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE TACOM SAFETY OF USE MESSAGE 09-026.