

CLEANING SMALL ARMS IN CLEANING TANKS IS OK, IF DONE CORRECTLY.

BUT IMPROPER USE OF CLEANING TANKS CAN TURN A GOOD WEAPON INTO JUNK.

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?!

# Cleaning with Cleaning Tanks

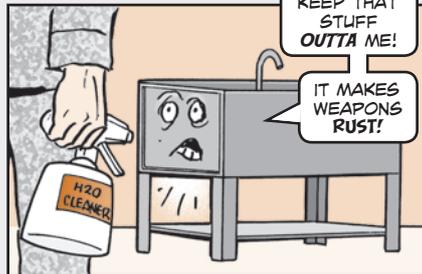


The Army doesn't recommend a specific cleaning tank. But you should **never** use an ultrasonic cleaning system. They can completely remove a weapon's protective coating, which leaves the weapon defenseless against corrosion.

You should also **never** use a water-based cleaning fluid. That leads to corrosion.

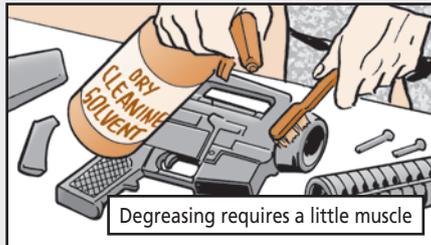
Use only the cleaning materials listed in the back of the weapons' -23&P TMs. These cleaners have been tested and approved by the Army. MIL-PRF-680 Type II dry cleaning solvent, NSN 6850-01-474-2317, is authorized by the Army.

Do not clean several weapons at once in a cleaning tank. It's too easy to mix up bolts and receivers, which would ruin headspacing.



## Applying SFL

If you need to degrease a weapon in order to touch it up with solid film lubricant (SFL), use MIL-PRF-680 Type II dry cleaning solvent. It's not enough to let the weapon's parts soak in the solvent. You also need to scrub the parts with the solvent and a non-metallic brush to clean out all dirt and grease.



- Thoroughly clean and degrease the weapon.
- Thoroughly dry the weapon.

- Apply an even coating of SFL to the areas that need touchup.

- Allow the SFL to fully cure for 24 hours before returning the weapon to service.

See the weapon's -23&P for the limits on how much of the weapon can be touched up with SFL.

NSN 9150-01-260-2534 brings a 16-oz aerosol can of SFL. You can also get a 1-qt can with NSN 9150-01-360-1908 and a 1-gal can with NSN 9150-00-142-9361. These are non-aerosol and must be applied with a brush, which will produce a more even application than spraying on SFL. Whichever kind of SFL you use, carefully follow the instructions on the can for best results.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT CLEANING TANKS OR SFL, CONTACT TACOM'S EUGENE MEADE AT DSN 786-1277; (586) 282-1277; OR EMAIL: [eugene.v.meade2.civ@mail.mil](mailto:eugene.v.meade2.civ@mail.mil)

