

Do It Yourself Thermal Targets

SAVE YOUR UNIT MONEY AND INCREASE THE **QUALITY** OF YOUR SOLDIERS' TRAINING.

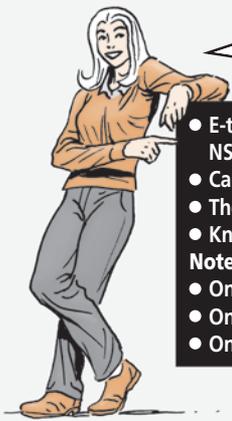


The Army's lightweight AN/PAS-13 Thermal Weapon Sight (TWS) gives Soldiers the ability to spot even a well-camouflaged enemy night or day through dust, smoke or fog, but attaining proficiency takes training and practice.

Project Manager Soldier Sensors and Lasers (PM SSL) has developed Do It Yourself (DIY) thermal targets that keep the cost of training with thermal sensors affordable.

A standard store-bought thermal target costs approximately \$60 each, while a DIY version costs approximately 24 cents each. This includes the cost of the E-type silhouette but excludes the labor hours needed to purchase and assemble them.

The DIY thermal targets requires no power and can be used at the range or in inert training locations. Thermal tape uses its natural reflective property, so even in near zero illumination the tape will be reflective. Saving money and improving Soldiers' survivability, mobility and lethality couldn't be easier. The DIY idea creates a simulated weapon-shaped thermal signature over the torso of an E-type silhouette.



HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL NEED...

- E-type silhouette target (NSN 6920-00-795-1806 or NSN 6920-00-600-6874)
 - Can of adhesive spray glue (NSN 8040-00-782-0433)
 - Thermal paper (NSN 7530-00-523-9981)*
 - Knife or scissors to cut the thermal paper
- Note:** Cut strips into the following sizes:
- One 2 inches (2") wide x 18 inches (18") long
 - One 2" wide x 4" long
 - One 2" x 2" long

*You can also substitute aluminum tape, NSN 7510-00-684-8803, for the thermal paper, eliminating the need for glue and cutting.

Thermal Target Construction Step 1: E-type Silhouette Target



Place your E-Type target on a flat surface with the green side up. Approximately 4 inches down on the left side (just below the shoulder area), spray the glue from left to right slightly angled upwards, until you reach the right shoulder. This will eventually be the upper receiver. Your glue pattern should be several inches wide.

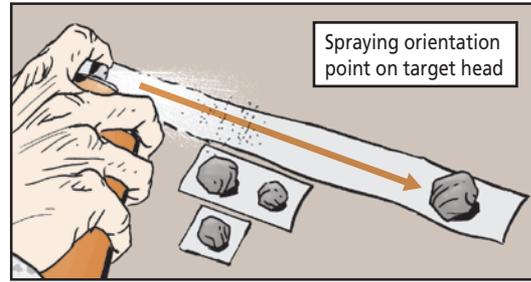


About 3 inches in from the left side, spray a 4-inch swath downward so that you can place the 2" x 4" strip on it, which will form the pistol grip.



In the center of the head, spray (either nose or eyebrow level) a 2" to 3" spot for your 2" x 2" piece of thermal tape. Allow to dry to a point that it is still tacky.

Step 2: Thermal Strips



Holding the spray gun about 6 to 8 inches away from the thermal strip, spray the backside (the uncolored side).

Step 3: Making the Target

While still tacky, take your 2" x 18" thermal strip (upper receiver) and place it on the target, ensuring that you angle it up to the right shoulder. Then place the 2" x 4" strip for the pistol grip. With the remaining 2" x 2" strip, place it in the center of the head to give the shooter a point of reference while making head shot. Your target should look like a man holding a weapon at "Port Arms."



HERE ARE SOME ADDITIONAL TIPS FOR YOUR DIY THERMAL TARGETS...

- In foul weather, place a clear plastic bag over the target but leave it open. This will help the the glue last a lot longer. **Note:** If you are zeroing the AN/PAS-13, the spotter will still see the impacts of the round through the plastic bag.
- The target needs to be tilted back 10-12 degrees in order to see the reflection through the AN/PAS-13.