

DON'T DO THAT (CONTINUED)

NOW LISTEN TO THESE GUYS AND DON'T DO THESE DON'TS.

DO YOU HEAR ME?

Dear Editor,

Here at the Fort Leonard Wood DOL we've seen your articles in the past on what *not* to do for your rifle, machine gun, or pistol. And they bear repeating.

DON'T USE:

- oven and carburetor cleaner on your weapons. They strip off the protective finish, which leads to corrosion.
- cleaning pads. They also strip off the finish.
- cotton tips or swabs. The cotton comes off and plugs things like gas ports.
- lightweight oils. They evaporate quickly and have a high flash point.
- paper towels and old rags as substitutes for cleaning patches and new cleaning rags. Paper towels and old rags shred and clog areas like the buffer tube.
- homemade cleaning tools. They scratch off the protective finish.

We fix lots of weapons at Leonard Wood and we have a few more *don'ts* to add to your list.

- *Don't* use a chamber brush attached to an electric drill. That cleans the chamber so well that it wears out the star chamber (barrel extension) and causes excessive headspace. We had to replace 90 M16 rifle barrels because of this. Just use a chamber brush attached to a cleaning rod attached to your hand. That's all the cleaning power you need.



- *Don't* use shaving cream or cleaners like Simple Green. They remove all lubricants, which leads to corrosion. Clean with CLP or RBC or any of the other cleaners listed in the operator TMs.



- *Don't* put typewriter correction fluid (the white stuff) on the front sight. Some shooters think that helps them sight better. But actually the white stuff causes a glare off the sight post that makes it harder to sight.



Editor's note: Thanks, guys. Gunners, don't forget these don'ts when it comes time to take care of your weapon. Clean the way your operator TMs tell you to. That's plenty good enough.

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