

## SAFETY

1. Never put your finger in the trigger guard unless you are ready to shoot.
2. Never point a gun, loaded or unloaded, at anyone unless you expect to shoot.
3. Never ask if a gun is unloaded; look for yourself with finger off the trigger and gun pointed safely.
4. Never dry fire except at a place provided for it and then only after rigid inspection of the weapon.
5. When on the range always carry the revolver with cylinder open, and the automatic with slide locked back and magazine withdrawn.
6. When a group is firing on the range, always put someone in charge to maintain control.
7. Use only standard loads for which the gun is designed and see that the bore is free from obstruction before loading. Keep the gun clean.
8. Never leave a loaded gun lying about where someone may pick it up.
9. Never shoot at objects which may cause the bullet to ricochet. Fire only on an approved range.

**BE A SAFE SHOOTER  
BE A COLT SHOOTER**

## CARE AND CLEANING

Using modern factory ammunition, the shooter needs only the following materials to keep his gun clean and in good working order: 1. A bristle brush; 2. Colt gun oil; 3. A clean, soft cloth; 4. An oily soft cloth; and 5. An old tooth brush; 6. A quality solvent.

The best care is to keep the weapon rust free and mechanically clean. A revolver barrel and cylinder chamber can be kept in good condition simply by running the oil laden bristle brush through the barrel and each chamber. Visibly fouled outside or inside areas should be cleaned with a toothbrush, solvent and a light film of oil applied to the gun.

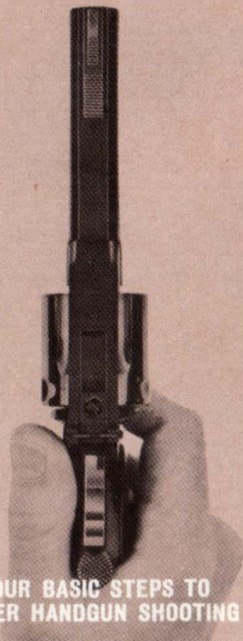
The automatic pistol should be treated in the same manner, except that after extended use partial take down is recommended for a thorough job. Instructions for disassembly for cleaning accompany all Colt automatic pistols and the procedure is simple.

*Never strip or disassemble a Colt revolver for cleaning. Colt revolvers are hand fitted to such close tolerances that any adjustments should be made at the factory.*



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# HANDLING THE HANDGUN



FOUR BASIC STEPS TO  
BETTER HANDGUN SHOOTING

# HANDLING THE HANDGUN

*The satisfaction you get from shooting a Colt is exceeded only by the satisfaction you get from shooting it well. These basic tips will give you the right start.*

## FUNDAMENTALS

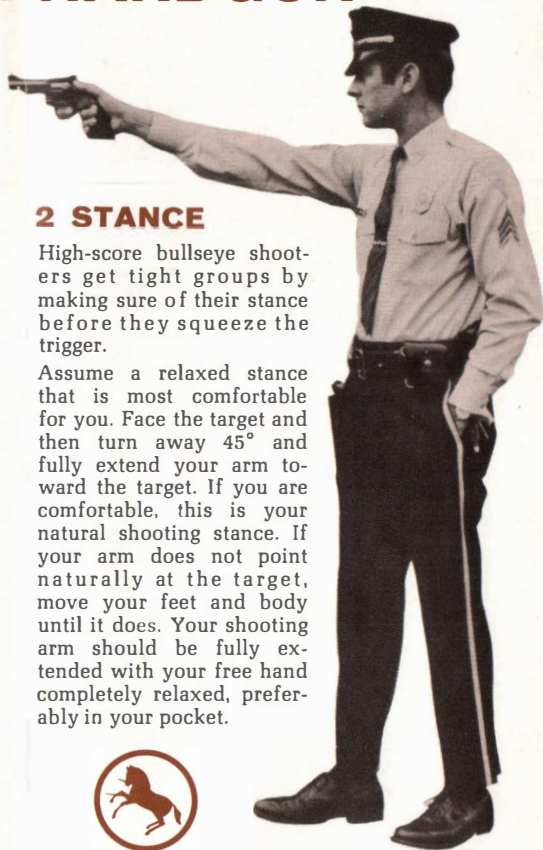
Handgun accuracy, like any other skill, stems from mastering a set of basic fundamentals and putting them into practice each time you step to the firing line.



### 1 GRIP

For single action shooting, fit the gun with Colt's human engineered grips comfortably into your shooting hand so the palm and heel of the hand form a sturdy backstop for the gun's recoil. Your thumb should rest on Colt's rearward cylinder release latch along the frame, but with as little pressure as possible. The padded portion of the first joint of the trigger finger should be squarely on the trigger while the rest of the finger between the 2nd joint and knuckle runs parallel with the frame. The entire grip should be firm but not so firm that the exertion causes the gun to tremble.

For double action shooting, the thumb should wrap around the grip with the first joint of the trigger finger squarely on the trigger.



## 2 STANCE

High-score bullseye shooters get tight groups by making sure of their stance before they squeeze the trigger.

Assume a relaxed stance that is most comfortable for you. Face the target and then turn away 45° and fully extend your arm toward the target. If you are comfortable, this is your natural shooting stance. If your arm does not point naturally at the target, move your feet and body until it does. Your shooting arm should be fully extended with your free hand completely relaxed, preferably in your pocket.



## 3 SIGHTING



(a) rear sight plus (b) front sight in exact center of rear notch, flush with top plane plus (c) a six o'clock hold on bull equals perfect sight alignment.

Colt handguns equipped with target sights have an open adjustable rectangular notch in the rear sight and a rectangular post of similar dimensions for the front sight. Properly aligned, the rear sight notch is almost completely filled by the front sight post and sights are trained on the bottom of the black bullseye. Concentrate on proper alignment.

## 4 TRIGGER CONTROL

Steady, even, straight back pressure on the trigger is the key to this most important of the basic shooting fundamentals, yet complete mastery of the foregoing is necessary if trigger control is to be perfected. Apply pressure on the trigger when sights are aligned and increase it gradually until the hammer falls. Don't jerk! Dry firing will help immeasurably in perfecting proper squeeze. When actual firing begins with a handgun, it is a good idea to leave two or three blank chambers. In this way the shooter will not know whether he is firing a live round or dry firing and will find it easier to determine his faults.